



Hysterionica matzenbacherii, a new species of Astereae (Asteraceae) from Brazil

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Abstract

A new species endemic to rocky cliffs in southern Brazil, *Hysterionica matzenbacherii*, is described. This species is characterized by leaves that are distally irregularly incised to parted. It is morphologically similar to the Brazilian *H. pinnatiloba* and *H. pinnatisecta* in its habit, capitula and florets, but differs from them by its leaf features. A description of *H. matzenbacherii*, together with illustrations, a distribution map, habitat description, conservation assessment and diagnostic comparison with the other Brazilian species of *Hysterionica* is presented.

Resumo. Uma nova espécie endêmica dos penhascos rochosos do Sul do Brasil, *Hysterionica matzenbacherii*, é aqui descrita. A nova espécie é caracterizada pelas folhas de margem incisa a partida, as margens incisas da porção mediana ao ápice. A nova espécie é morfologicamente similar às espécies brasileiras *H. pinnatiloba* e *H. pinnatisecta* pelo habito, capítulos e flores, mas difere pelas características das folhas. É fornecida uma descrição de *H. matzenbacherii*, junto com a ilustração, mapa de distribuição, habitat, avaliação do estado de conservação e comparação com as outras espécies brasileiras de *Hysterionica*.

Key words. Atlantic rainforest, Astereae, Compositae, endemic species, rocky outcrops

Introduction

The genus *Hysterionica* Willdenow (1807: 140) belongs to tribe Astereae (Asteraceae), subtribe Conyzinae and is closely related to the genus *Neja* Don in Sweet (1830: 299). *Hysterionica* contains approximately 10 species, which grow in southern Brazil, Uruguay and northern and central Argentina (Cabrera 1946, Nesom 2008). Recently, three species from Brazil have been described: *H. pinnatiloba* Matzenbacher & Sobral (1996: 17), *H. pinnatisecta* Matzenbacher & Sobral (1996: 16) and *H. nebularis* Deble *et al.* (2004: 9).

Cabrera (1946), in his overview of the genus *Hysterionica* for Uruguay and Argentina, cites nine species, some of which are currently included in *Neja*. Other studies of the genus were carried out by Ariza Espinar (1980), Nesom (1994a, 1994b) and Sancho & Ariza Espinar (2003). Recent molecular phylogenetic studies (e.g., Noyes 2000, Nesom 2008) indicated that *Hysterionica* and *Neja* are closely related and that the delimitation of these genera is in need of revision.

Hysterionica is characterized by annual or perennial herbs to subshrubs with a simple caudex; plants glandular or otherwise glabrous to hirsute or hispid; stems sometimes branched at the base; leaves mostly oblanceolate, entire to pinnatisect; heads 1–several; corolla of radiate florets yellow or white; cypselae 1–2 mm long, 2-nerved; pappus of scabrid bristles in two series, the outer series shorter than the inner one (Nesom 2008). The new species described here displays these features and is therefore included in *Hysterionica*.