



Article

Ten new species of *Sticta* and counting: Colombia as a hot spot for unrecognized diversification in a conspicuous macrolichen genus

BIBIANA MONCADA^{1,2} & ROBERT LÜCKING³

¹Licenciatura en Biología, Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Cra. 4 No. 26B-54, Torre de Laboratorios, Herbario, Bogotá, Colombia; email lbmoncada@udistrital.edu.co

²Doctorado en Ciencias-Biología, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. email: lbmoncadac@unal.edu.co

³Department of Botany, The Field Museum, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605-2496, U.S.A. email: rlucking@fieldmuseum.org

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Abstract

As part of a systematic and taxonomic revision including molecular phylogenetic analysis, ten new species of the lichen genus *Sticta* are described from Colombia, some of them also being reported from Guatemala, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Chile: *Sticta arachnofuliginosa* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. arbuscula* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. isidiokunthii* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. maculofuliginosa* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. microcyphellata* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. papillata* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. rhizinata* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. rubropruinosa* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, *S. silverstonii* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.*, and *S. tunjensis* Moncada & Lücking, *sp. nov.* The new species represent the major morphological groups within the genus, including taxa with green or blue-green photobiont and with predominantly sexual (apothecia) or vegetative (isidia) reproduction. Detailed morphological, anatomical, and chemical descriptions are given for each species, and all taxa are briefly discussed. We also introduce several novel characters useful in the taxonomy of *Sticta*.

Key words: cyphellae, Lobariaceae, paramos, phyllidia