



A new *Dyckia* species (Bromeliaceae, Pitcairnioideae) from the Brazilian Northeastern region

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Abstract

A new species of *Dyckia* (Pitcairnioideae) is described and illustrated here. *Dyckia piauiensis* sp. nov. was found in the state of Piauí, in northern Brazil, in very dry Cerrado vegetation and cultivated by the first author. This new species' closest relative is *Dyckia pernambucana*, but differs from it by its larger and retrorse spines, shorter inflorescence and floral bracts, rounded or emarginated sepals and by highly connate stamens.

Key words: Flora of Brazil, Cerrado, taxonomy

Introduction

Dyckia Schult. & Schult. f. (1830: 1194) is a large genus of the subfamily Pitcairnioideae (Bromeliaceae), comprising around 158 species (Butcher & Gouda continuously updated). The genus occurs throughout Brazil and surrounding countries like Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay (Smith & Downs 1974). For Brazil a total of 115 species and four varieties are known, with ca. 100 species being considered endemic to the country (Forzza *et al.* 2010). The centre of diversity is south-eastern Brazil with 37 species, of which 32 occur in Minas Gerais; 26 species are endemic to this state. Geographically *Dyckia* is distributed mostly in the Cerrado with the Atlantic Domain having 10 species (Forzza *et al.* 2010, Guarçoni *et al.* 2012). Recently 11 new species were described (Leme *et al.* 2012, Guarçoni *et al.* 2012) and one, *Dyckia strehliana* Büneker & Ponte (2013: 285–288), was published last year.

Material & Methods

Living material of this new species was collected at the type locality in 1978 and has been cultivated in the collection of the first author where it flowered in 2011. This material was used for this study and a voucher was preserved for the type specimen that is deposited in the herbarium UFG.

Taxonomy

Dyckia piauiensis Esteves & Gouda, sp. nov. Figs. 1, 2A–F.

This new species differs from its closest relative, *Dyckia pernambucana*, by the following combination of characters: leaf blades with retrorse spines (vs. antrorse), ca. 4 mm long (vs. 0.5–1.5 mm), shorter inflorescences (5.5–14 cm vs. 25–45 cm long), shorter floral bracts (ca. 8 mm vs. 10–12 mm long), sepals with apex rounded or emarginate (vs. acute to narrowly obtuse and apiculate) and filaments highly connate above the common tube with the petals (vs. connate for 2–2.5 mm in a common tube with the petals).

Type:—BRAZIL. Piauí: Canto do Buriti, dispersed in dry Cerrado, 335 m elevation, 8°1'9.04" S, 42°56'35.80" W, 335m, July 1978, flowered in cult. September 2011, E. E. Pereira E-375 (holotype UFG!).

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