



OF THE
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A NEW DRYMARIA (CARYOPHYLLACEAE)
FROM MEXICO

BY F. R. FOSBERG

Among H. S. Gentry's Rio Mayo collections, no. 2669 is a slender, small-leaved species of *Drymaria*, at first glance resembling *D. leptophylla*, to which it was, indeed, referred by Standley (as *D. tenella*). Its uniform glandular puberulence, its broader leaves, and a slight difference in habit suggested that it did not belong there. Careful comparison showed that it is not especially close to that species and that it is apparently an undescribed species which may be appropriately named for the collector, whose explorations in Mexico have materially added to our understanding of its botany.

Drymaria gentryi Fosberg, n. sp.

Herba gracilis diffusa holo glandulo-puberula multiflora, foliis lanceolatis tenuis; flores pedicellati, sepalibus inaequalibus subtrinervis, petalibus sepales excedantibus valde bifidis spatulatis, staminibus 5.

Diffuse slender herb up to 12 cm. tall, branched from first node above the rosette, fundamentally trichotomous but with one lateral branch weaker or suppressed until the cyme is reached, when the central branch is replaced by a flower, vegetative parts and calyx thinly but prominently glandular puberulent; rosette leaves more or less orbicular, blade about 2 mm. across, petiole about 2 mm. long, cauline leaves lanceolate, thin, up to 1 cm. long, 2 mm. wide at middle, reduced upward on plant, obscurely 1-nerved, sub-petiolate; stipules setiform-subulate, 1-1.5 mm. long, more prominent above, not more than 4 at a node; cymes dichotomous, capillary, making up the upper third of the plant, with central flower on pedicel 5-7 mm. long, cyme with 6-7 ramifications, the ultimate ones showing only a slight tendency to become monochasial; sepals strongly unequal, the outer shortest, the longest about 2 mm. long, the green part acute or somewhat acuminate, weakly trinerved, the central nerve much the strongest; petals about one and one half times as long as the longest sepal, deeply bifid, about two thirds or three fourths the way to the base, lobes broadly spatulate; stamens 5, somewhat unequal, shorter than sepals, anthers linear-oblong; ovary about one third the length of the calyx, becoming almost as long as the calyx in fruit; seeds 6-7 in capsule, apparently dark chestnut brown (no mature ones seen). *Mexico*: Chihuahua: Los Cascarones, Rio Mayo, on cold rock of cliffs in transition

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zone, pine slope, Sept. 11, 1936, *H. S. Gentry 2669* (type sheet in U. S. National Herbarium, duplicates seen in U. S. National Arboretum, Missouri Botanical Garden). Other duplicates of this collection may probably be found elsewhere filed with *Drymaria tenella*, under which name they were originally distributed and cited by Gentry, Carn. Inst. Wash. Pub. 527:114, 1942.

This peculiar species seems more or less intermediate between the group of small annuals centering around *D. leptophylla* and the group containing *D. tenuis* and *D. anomala*. It approaches the latter group, particularly *D. tenuis*, in its tendency for one lateral branch to be suppressed, the strong mid-nerve of the sepals, and its lanceolate leaves. The latter, however, are similar also to those of *D. depressa*, of the other group. The multiflorous cymes, long petals, 5 stamens, and general appearance influence me to keep it for the present in the group with *D. leptophylla*, in which it is possibly closest to *D. effusa*. To this, however, it cannot be regarded as very close, as it differs in the broad leaves, acute sepals, puberulence and other features.