

DALBERGIA DARIENENSIS (Leguminosae), a new species from Panamá

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An undetermined "Machaerium" specimen from the Province of Darién, Panamá, has proved to be a hitherto undescribed species of Dalbergia. The leaves superficially resemble those of some species of Machaerium but the stamens are unmistakably dalbergiaceous.

DALBERGIA DARIENENSIS Rudd, sp. nov.

Frutex vel arbor scandens, D. inundata affinis sed foliis paucioribus latioribusque, elliptico-oblongis, acutis vel subobtusis, mucronulatis, subtus ramulis inflorescentiaque pubescentibus; floribus purpureis; staminibus 10, diadelphis 9:1; legumine non visi.

Vine; young stems fulvo-tomentulose; stipules ovate or subovate, tomentulose, 6-7 mm long, 2-3 mm wide; leaves about 9-15-foliolate, the axis tomentulose, 7-15 cm long; leaflets elliptic-oblong, 1-5.3 cm long, 0.7-2 cm wide, acute or slightly obtuse, mucronulate, rounded at the base, the upper surface puberulent along the midvein, otherwise glabrous, nitid, the lower surface moderately villous, the petiolules 1-2 mm long, tomentulose; inflorescences axillary, paniculate, the axes fulvo-tomentulose; bracts ovate to oblong-ovate, tomentulose, about 3-5 mm long, 1-3 mm wide; bracteoles lanceolate-oblong, villous, 4-5 mm long, 1 mm wide or less; flowers about 8 mm long; calyx 5 mm long, the vexillar lobes acute, the laterals sublinear, the carinal lobe linear, about 1 mm longer than the others; petals "maroon", unguiculate, the vexillum narrowly obcordate; stamens diadelphous 9:1, the vexillar filament free; ovary stipitate, villous-ciliate, otherwise glabrous; style short, glabrous; stigma capitulate; mature fruit not seen.

Type: J. A. Duke 9040 (2), Panamá, Province of Darién, hills near Pidiaque, 28 March 1966. Holotype NY.

Local name: Bejuco frijolillo.

Relationship with other species is difficult to establish. However, the greatest similarity, especially as to flowers appears to be with Dalbergia inundata Spruce ex Bentham, a species chiefly of the Amazon basin, with smaller, more numerous leaflets, flowers slightly smaller, and falcate-reniform fruit. This collection from Panamá lacks mature fruit and it is only a reasonable supposition that its fruit will likewise be somewhat falcate. Immature fruit of the two species appear to be similar.