

A NEW SPECIES OF *DEPREA* (SOLANACEAE) FROM VENEZUELA

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ABSTRACT

A new species from Venezuela, *Deprea paneroi*, is described and illustrated, and a taxonomic summary of the other five species of the genus is presented.

KEY WORDS: Solanaceae, *Deprea*, Venezuela

Deprea paneroi Benítez & Martínez, *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1, A-E). TYPE: VENEZUELA. Trujillo: Parque Nacional Guaramacal, 2350 m, 30 Nov 1991, Carmen Benítez de Rojas 4320, with Victor Badillo and José Panero (HOLOTYPE: MY; Isotypes: MERF,MO,NY,TEX,VEN).

Frutices usque ad 1.5 m alti, omnino dense puberuli glandibus ac trichomatibus multicellularis simplicibusque, ramis dichotome ramosis valde geniculatis. Folia ad apices ramorum ovata. Flores purpurati staminibus luteis.

Shrubs 0.7-1.5 m high, stem fistulous, profusely branched, branches persistently dichotomous and geniculate, with simple pluricellular hairs and glands throughout, leaves readily deciduous, restricted to the distal portion of the branches. Petioles 0.5-1.7 cm long. Leaves ovate to elliptic ovate, 3.5-9.0 cm long, 1.5-4.5 cm wide, the apices attenuate to abruptly acute, secondary veins 4-5 to a side, the base attenuate to abruptly attenuate with purple spots, undulate between principal veins, asperous in fresh, smooth in dried material,

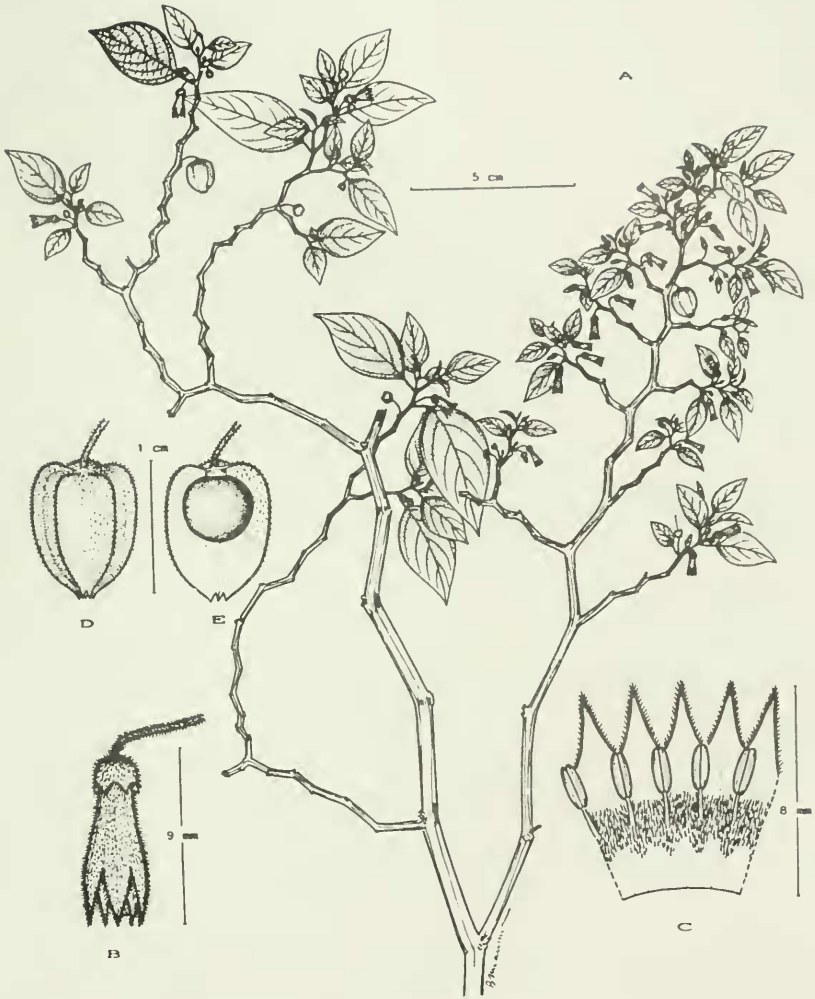


Figure 1. *Deprea paneroi*; A. habit; B. flower; C. longitudinal flower section; D. fruit; E. longitudinal fruit section. Based on Benítez, Badillo, & Panero 4320 (MY).

villous on both surfaces, more so on the veins. Flowers in fasciculated clusters arising from the leaf axils, usually 4 but sometimes reduced to one. Pedicels 4-8 mm long. Calyx 2-3 mm long, light green, almost white, densely pubescent, tube 1.5-3.0 mm long, 5 lobed, the lobes acute, 0.5-1.0 mm long. Corolla purple, infundibular, 6-12 mm long, pilose externally with glandular hairs except in the portion covered by the calyx, pilose internally, tube 5.0-7.5 mm long, 5 lobed, 2.5-5.0 mm long, lobes reflexed and recurved at anthesis, margins and outer surface densely pubescent. Disc discontinuous, surrounding the ovary. Stamens 5, included, free portion of the filaments 2-3 mm long, adnate portion 2-4 mm long, anthers 1.0-2.5 mm long, yellow, dorsifixed, longitudinally dehiscent. Ovary 1.5-1.8 mm long, 1.0-1.2 mm wide, glabrous, style 3.0-4.5 mm long, glabrous, stigma clavate, bilobed, protruding beyond the anthers. Fruit a berry 6.5-10.0 mm in diameter, loosely enclosed by the accrescent calyx 10-15 mm long, 20 mm wide, 8-10 angled, clearly nerved, open apically. Seeds 20-60, ca. 4 mm long and ca. 5 mm wide, reniform, foveolate.

Deprea is probably most closely related to *Physalis*, based on their mutual production of a berry loosely enclosed by the accrescent calyx. *Deprea*, in contrast to *Physalis*, produces tubular corollas and the fruiting calyx is not invaginated at the base. The genus has never been the subject of a taxonomic summary, but as presently understood, it comprises the five South American species listed below, in addition to the new one described in the present paper.

1. *Deprea orinocensis* (Kunth) Raf., *Sylv. Tell.* 57. 1838.

Physalis orinocensis Kunth, *Nov. Gen. & Sp. Pl.* 3:12. 1818.

Presumably with yellow corollas 12 mm long, apparently restricted to lowland habitats in Venezuela.

2. *Deprea sylvarum* (Standl. & Morton) A.T. Hunz., *Kurtziana* 10:25. 1977.

Athenaea sylvarum Standley & Morton, *Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Publ.*
. Bot. 18:1036. 1938.

With pale green corollas ca. 5.5 mm long, from Costa Rica.

3. *Deprea glabra* (Standl.) A.T. Hunz., *Kurtziana* 10:25. 1977.

Athenaea glabra Standley, *Trop. Woods* 42:32. 1935.

With greenish corollas, these red within, 12 mm long, from Ecuador.

4. *Deprea cardenasiana* A.T. Hunz., Kurtziana 10:27. 1977.

With whitish corollas 17-22 mm long, from Bolivia.

5. *Deprea granulosa* (Miers) A.T. Hunz., Bol. Soc. Argent. Bot. 26(1-2):104. 1989.

Hebecladus granulatus Miers, London J. Bot. 7:352. 1848.

With yellow corollas ca. 10 mm long, from Colombia.

Deprea paneroi differs from the other species of *Deprea* in its dark purple corollas, which contrast with the yellow or greenish yellow corollas typical of the other species. In addition, the dichotomous and geniculate growth and the leaves mostly restricted to the branch apices are not seen elsewhere in *Deprea*. It occurs in cloud forest at 2000-2800 m above sea level in the Venezuelan Andes (states of Trujillo and Táchira). The species name honors José Luis Panero, who participated in its collection.

Additional specimens examined: VENEZUELA. Trujillo: Guaramacal, cerca de Boconó, 2000-2600 m, 20 Nov 1982, *Badillo 7723* (MY); Distrito Boconó, Páramo de Guaramacal W of road summit, 2800 m, 28 Apr 1988, *Dorr 5016* with Barnett, Cuello, & Diggs (VEN); Boconó-Guaramacal road, 13 km SSE of Boconó, 2750 m, 20 Jan 1978, *Luteyn, Lebron-Luteyn, Ruiz T., & Dugarte 5200* (MERF,NY); Cerro Guaramacal, Boconó, bajando hacia el caserío de Guaramacal, 26 Nov 1982, *Stergios, Aymard, & Smith 4712* (MY,PORT); Páramo de Guaramacal, 1.5 km S of turnoff to microwave station on road to Las Vegas de Guaramacal, 2850 m, 30 Nov 1991, *Panero 2647, Benítez & Badillo 2647* (TEX,MY). Táchira: Dto. Junín, Páramo Pata de Judío, 14 Feb 1973, *Antonio Fernández 1910* (MY); El Hato, carretera a Pregonero, 2700 m, 24 Feb 1968, *López P. 1968* (MERF,MY).

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