

Rhodospatha Poepp.

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This treatment is composed of the following taxa: *Rhodospatha*, *Rhodospatha arborescens*, *Rhodospatha latifolia*, *Rhodospatha moritziana*, *Rhodospatha oblongata*, *Rhodospatha venosa*.

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Has as synonym

Anepsias Schott

Atimeta Schott

DESCRIPTION

Evergreen, climbing hemiepiphytes or terrestrial herbs, with abundant trichosclereids, climbers producing flagelliform shoots. Leaves many, distichously arranged. Petiole geniculate apically, sheath long, persistent to marcescent. Blade usually \pm oblong to elliptic, \pm oblique, always entire; secondary veins pinnate, numerous, running into \pm distinct marginal vein, tertiary and higher order veins parallel-pinnate, with inconspicuous transverse-reticulate connections. Inflorescence usually solitary. Peduncle shorter to longer than petiole. Spathe broadly ovate or oblong-ovate, abruptly cuspidate, yellowish white, cream, purplish or pink within, caducous after anthesis. Spadix long-stipitate to sessile, cylindrical-conic, basal flowers sometimes sterile or female and laxly arranged. Flowers bisexual, perigone absent. Stamens 4, free, filaments linear-oblong, flattened, connective slender, thecae ovoid to ellipsoid, dehiscing by longitudinal slit. Pollen extruded in strands, fully zonate or inaperturate, hamburger-shaped or ellipsoid to oblong, medium-sized (mean 47 μm ., range 34–57 μm .), exine densely to sparsely foveolate and nearly psilate to obscurely fossulate or verrucate. Gynoecium compressed obconic to cylindrical, ovary 2-locular, ovules usually numerous per locule, rarely few (*R. venosa*), anatropous to hemianatropous, funicle fairly long, placenta axile, rarely subbasal, stylar region well-developed, broader than ovary, prismatic, truncate to convex apically, stigma elliptic to linear, usually longitudinal. Berry cylindrical-prismatic, truncate, many- to few-seeded. Seeds rounded-reniform, flattened, testa brittle, very hard, smooth or with verrucose crest, embryo rather large, strongly curved, endosperm present but sparse.

Life Form

Herb

Substrate

Hemiepiphytes, Terrestrial

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Not endemic to Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest, Caatinga, Central Brazilian Savanna, Atlantic Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Seasonally Semideciduous Forest, Ombrophylous Forest (Tropical Rain Forest)

Geographic DistributionConfirmed occurrences

North (Acre, Amazonas, Amapá, Pará, Tocantins)

Northeast (Alagoas, Bahia, Maranhão, Pernambuco)

Southeast (Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo)

Possible occurrences

North (Amapá)

Northeast (Alagoas)

IDENTIFICATION KEY**Key to *Rhodspatha***

1a. Climbing epiphytes

2

1b. Terrestrial

42a. Petiole not reaching geniculum; basal flowers of spadix at extreme base often laxly arranged, irregular in size and shape and often larger than normal flowers; petiole sheath margins becoming straw-coloured and marcescent ***Rhodspatha oblongata***

2b. Petiole reaching geniculum; basal flowers of spadix densely packed, similar in size and shape to other flowers; petiole sheath margins

persisting as green and herbaceous

33a. Peduncle 2-5 cm long; petiole 6-18 cm long; geniculum margins on adaxial side not shortly undulate ***Rhodspatha venosa***3b. Peduncle 11-21 cm long; petiole 23-48 cm long; geniculum margins on adaxial side often shortly undulate ***Rhodspatha latifolia***4a. Leaf blade more than 2 times longer than wide, narrowly elliptic; petiole sheath densely whitish-speckled ***Rhodspatha moritziana***4b. Leaf blade 1.6-1.9 times longer than wide, elliptic, oblong or narrowly oblong; petiole sheath not whitish-speckled ***Rhodspatha arborescens***

Rhodospatha arborescens Temponi & Croat

DESCRIPTION

Stem: habit non scandent. **Leaf:** petiole length 16 to 65 cm; petiole length / blade length 0.7 to 1.7; petiole sheath length 15 to 59 cm; petiole sheath length / total petiole length pulvinus included 0.25 to 0.90; petiole sheath extension not extended to pulvinus; petiole sheath texture decomposed to persistent fibrous remnant; petiole apical pulvinus unknown; leaf blade shape elliptic/narrowly oblong/oblong; leaf blade length 21 to 25 cm; leaf blade width 11 to 15.5 cm; leaf blade length / width 1.6 to 1.9; leaf blade base shape acuminate at the very base/acute/obtuse/rounded. **Inflorescence:** spadix (without stipe) length 5.5 to 15.9 cm; spadix stipe length 0.3 to 1.5 cm; peduncle / spadix and length stipe length 0.9 to 2.2; peduncle length 12 to 38 cm. **Flower:** basal flower type dense regular in shape and size.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Terrestrial. Petiole (15.8-) 30.5-65 cm long. Petiole shorter to longer than blade: 0.75-1.71. Petiole sheath (3.9-) 15.3-58.5 cm long. Petiole sheath not reaching geniculum: 0.25-0.92 of petiole length including geniculum. Petiole sheath partially decomposing to persistent fibres. Geniculum margins ?not crisped (shortly undulate). Leaf blade elliptic, oblong to narrowly oblong. Leaf blade 21.1-25.3 cm long, 11.1-15.4 cm wide. Leaf blade 1.64-1.9 cm times longer than wide. Leaf blade base acute, obtuse to rounded and subacuminate at extreme base. Peduncle (6.3-) 12-38 cm long. Peduncle 0.9-2.2 times longer than spadix + stipe. Spadix (not including stipe) 5.5-15.9 cm long. Spadix stipe 0.3-1.5 cm long. Basal flowers of spadix densely packed, similar in size and shape to other flowers.

Life Form

Herb

Substrate

Terrestrial

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Is endemic from Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Atlantic Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Seasonally Semideciduous Forest

Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

Southeast (Minas Gerais)

HERBARIUM MATERIAL

L.G. Temponi, 220, VIC, SP, Minas Gerais

Castro, 885, HUEFS, Minas Gerais

FIELD IMAGES / ILLUSTRATIONS



Figure 1: *Rhodospatha arborescens* Temponi & Croat



Figure 2: *Rhodospatha arborescens* Temponi & Croat



Figure 3: *Rhodospatha arborescens* Temponi & Croat

Rhodospatha latifolia Poepp.

Has as synonym

heterotypic *Rhodospatha heliconiifolia* Schott

heterotypic *Rhodospatha lechleriana* Schott

heterotypic *Rhodospatha poeppigii* Schott

DESCRIPTION

Stem: habit scandent. **Leaf:** petiole length 23 to 48 cm; petiole length / blade length 0.65 to 1.2; petiole sheath length 23 to 46 cm; petiole sheath length / total petiole length pulvinus included 0.9 to 0.95; petiole sheath extension extended to pulvinus; petiole sheath texture persistent herbaceous entire; petiole apical pulvinus margin short - undulate; leaf blade shape ovate/elliptic/oblong; leaf blade length 30 to 48 cm; leaf blade width 11 to 18 cm; leaf blade length / width 1.9 to 2.8; leaf blade base shape acuminate at the very base/subacute/obtuse/rounded/truncate. **Inflorescence:** spadix (without stipe) length 12.9 to 17.6 cm; spadix stipe length 1 to 2.6 cm; peduncle / spadix and length stipe length 0.6 to 1.1; peduncle length 11 to 21 cm. **Flower:** basal flower type dense regular in shape and size.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Climbing hemiepiphyte. Petiole 23.8-48 cm long. Petiole shorter to longer than blade: 0.66-1.19. Petiole sheath 23.3-45.7 cm long. Petiole sheath reaching geniculum: 0.93-0.98 of petiole length including geniculum. Petiole sheath persisting as green and herbaceous. Geniculum margins often crisped (shortly undulate). Leaf blade oblong, oblong-elliptic, elliptic, oblong-subovate, oblong-ovate. Leaf blade 30.3-48.3 cm long, 11.3-17.7 cm wide. Leaf blade 1.97-2.77 times longer than wide. Leaf blade base subacute, obtuse or rounded or rounded-truncate, often subacuminate at extreme base. Peduncle 11-20.4 cm long. Peduncle 0.6-1.1 times longer than spadix + stipe. Spadix (not including stipe) 12.9-17.6 cm long. Spadix stipe 1-2.6 cm long. Basal flowers of spadix densely packed, similar in size and shape to other flowers.

Life Form

Herb

Substrate

Hemiepiphytes

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Is endemic from Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest, Caatinga, Central Brazilian Savanna, Atlantic Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Seasonally Semideciduous Forest, Ombrophyllous Forest (Tropical Rain Forest)

Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

North (Acre, Tocantins)

Northeast (Bahia, Maranhão, Pernambuco)

Southeast (Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo)

Possible occurrences

North (Amapá)

Northeast (Alagoas)

HERBARIUM MATERIAL

T.B. Croat, 62619, MO

H.F. Leitão Filho, 34272, SP, São Paulo

Rhodospatha moritziana Schott

DESCRIPTION

Stem: habit non scandent. **Leaf:** petiole length 23 to 69 cm; petiole length / blade length unknown; petiole sheath length unknown; petiole sheath length / total petiole length pulvinus included shorter than or longer than; petiole sheath extension unknown; petiole sheath texture decomposed to persistent fibrous remnant/densely white speckled; petiole apical pulvinus margin not undulate; leaf blade shape narrowly elliptic; leaf blade length 31 to 80 cm; leaf blade width 14.5 to 34 cm; leaf blade length / width 1.9 to 2.8; leaf blade base shape unknown. **Inflorescence:** spadix (without stipe) length 8 to 15.7 cm; spadix stipe length 0.3 to 0.4 cm; peduncle / spadix and length stipe length unknown; peduncle length 20 to 51 cm. **Flower:** basal flower type unknown.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Terrestrial or ± rupicolous. Petiole 23-69 cm long. Petiole/Blade length unknown. Petiole sheath length unknown. Petiole sheath shorter or longer than petiole. Petiole sheath extension unknown. Petiole sheath densely whitish-speckled, soon-drying and becoming fibrous. Leaf blade 31-80 cm long, 14.5-34 cm wide. Leaf blade ± narrowly elliptic. Leaf blade base shape unknown. Peduncle 20-50.5 cm. Peduncle/spadix + stipe length unknown. Spadix 8-15.7 cm long. Spadix stipe 0.3 -0.4 cm long. Basal flower type unknown.

Life Form

Herb

Substrate

Hemiepiphytes

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Is endemic from Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Ombrophylous Forest (Tropical Rain Forest)

Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

North (Acre)

HERBARIUM MATERIAL

T.B. Croat, 85174, MO

Rhodospatha oblongata Poepp.

Has as synonym

heterotypic *Atimeta filamentosa* Reissek ex Schott

heterotypic *Atimeta martii* Schott

heterotypic *Atimeta videniana* Schott

heterotypic *Rhodospatha blanda* Schott

heterotypic *Rhodospatha longipes* Engl.

heterotypic *Rhodospatha surinamensis* Schott

DESCRIPTION

Stem: habit scandent. **Leaf:** petiole length 22 to 36 cm; petiole length / blade length 0.6 to 0.85; petiole sheath length 19 to 27 cm; petiole sheath length / total petiole length pulvinus included 0.6 to 0.8; petiole sheath extension not extended to pulvinus; petiole sheath texture margin marcescent stramineous; petiole apical pulvinus margin not undulate; leaf blade shape ovate/elliptic/narrowly elliptic/oblanceolate; leaf blade length 33 to 48 cm; leaf blade width 8 to 17.5 cm; leaf blade length / width 1.9 to 4.7; leaf blade base shape acuminate at the very base/acute/obtuse. **Inflorescence:** spadix (without stipe) length 9.2 to 19.2 cm; spadix stipe length 1.6 to 3.6 cm; peduncle / spadix and length stipe length 1.2 to 2.2; peduncle length 23 to 34 cm. **Flower:** basal flower type some lax irregular in shape and size.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Climbing epiphyte. Petiole 21.9-35.6 cm long. Petiole usually shorter than blade: 0.58-0.85 (-1.04). Petiole sheath 19.2-27 cm long. Petiole sheath not reaching geniculum: 0.62-0.78 (-0.90) of petiole length including geniculum. Petiole sheath margins becoming straw-coloured and marcescent. Geniculum margins not crisped (shortly undulate). Leaf blade elliptic to narrowly elliptic, oblanceolate or sometimes ovate-elliptic. Leaf blade 33.1-47.5 cm long, 7.9-17.2 cm wide. Leaf blade 1.92-4.66 times longer than wide. Leaf blade base acute, sometimes slightly acuminate or sub-obtuse. Peduncle 23.3-33.3 cm long. Peduncle 1.2-2.2 times longer than spadix + stipe. Spadix 9.2-19.2 cm long. Spadix stipe 1.6-3.6 cm long. Basal flowers of spadix at extreme base often laxly arranged, irregular in size and shape and often larger than normal flowers.

Life Form

Herb

Substrate

Hemiepiphytes

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Is endemic from Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest, Caatinga, Atlantic Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Seasonally Semideciduous Forest, Ombrophyllous Forest (Tropical Rain Forest)

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Confirmed occurrences

North (Acre, Amazonas, Pará)

Northeast (Alagoas, Bahia, Maranhão)

Southeast (Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro)

Possible occurrences

North (Amapá)

HERBARIUM MATERIAL

G.T. Prance, 7601, INPA

J.M.A. Braga, 1735, RB, 533594, Rio de Janeiro
A. Quinet, 58, RB, 353210, Rio de Janeiro

Rhodospatha venosa Gleason

Has as synonym

heterotypic *Rhodospatha pachysperma* Madison

DESCRIPTION

Stem: habit scandent. **Leaf:** petiole length 6 to 18 cm; petiole length / blade length 0.3 to 0.6; petiole sheath length 6 to 17 cm; petiole sheath length / total petiole length pulvinus included 0.9 to 0.95; petiole sheath extension extended to pulvinus; petiole sheath texture persistent herbaceous entire; petiole apical pulvinus unknown; leaf blade shape ovate/elliptic/oblong/obovate; leaf blade length 19 to 41 cm; leaf blade width 8.5 to 23 cm; leaf blade length / width 1.8 to 2.3; leaf blade base shape obtuse/rounded/truncate/emarginate. **Inflorescence:** spadix (without stipe) length 6 to 9.6 cm; spadix stipe length 0 to 0.9 cm; peduncle / spadix and length stipe length 0.3 to 0.9; peduncle length 2 to 5 cm. **Flower:** basal flower type dense regular in shape and size.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Climbing hemiepiphyte. Petiole 6.1-17.8 cm long. Petiole shorter than blade: 0.3-0.6. Petiole sheath 5.9-17 cm long. Petiole sheath reaching geniculum: 0.92-0.98 of petiole length including geniculum. Petiole sheath persistent, herbaceous and entire. Geniculum margins ?not crisped (shortly undulate). Leaf blade oblong, elliptic, ovate, obovate. Leaf blade 19.5-41.4 cm long, 8.7-23.3 cm wide. Leaf blade 1.78-2.24 times longer than wide. Leaf blade base obtuse, rounded, more rarely ± truncate, emarginate. Peduncle 2.1-4.6 cm long. Peduncle 0.3-0.9 times longer than spadix + stipe. Spadix (not including stipe) 6.0-9.6 cm long. Spadix stipe 0.0-0.9 cm long. Basal flowers of spadix densely packed, similar in size and shape to other flowers.

Life Form

Herb

Substrate

Hemiepiphytes

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Not endemic to Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Ombrophylous Forest (Tropical Rain Forest)

Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

North (Amazonas, Amapá)

Northeast (Bahia)

HERBARIUM MATERIAL

Paixão, J.L., 641, CEPEC, 109694, Bahia

H.S. Irwin, 47857, MO, 362109, Amapá

M.L. Soares, 569, INPA, 215158, Amazonas

V.F. Kinupp, 1538, INPA, Amazonas