

A NEW SPECIES OF CLATHROTROPIS FROM COLOMBIA (PAPILIONACEAE)

G. J. H. AMSHOFF

Laboratorium voor Plantensystematiek en -geografie, Wageningen

Clathrotropis brunnea Amsh. n. sp.

Arbor excelsa, usque ad 40 m alta, ramulis teretibus lenticellatis, novellis brunneo-tomentosis. Stipulae mox deciduae, lanceolatae, 3 mm longae, pubescentes. Petioli 4–12 cm longi, pubescentes, glabrescentes; petioluli circ. 1 cm longi, pubescentes; foliola (3–)5(–7), coriacea vel chartacea, oblonga vel obovato-oblonga, apice abrupte breviter acuminata, basi rotundata vel obtusa, 11–25 cm longa, 5–12 cm lata, nitida, reticulato-venosa, supra glabra, subtus in costa et nervis lateralibus pubescentia, ceterum glabrata, nervis lateralibus utrinque 9–13, supra prominulis, subtus conspicuis prominentibus. Panicula ampla, valde ramosa, circ. 25 cm longa, atro-brunneo-tomentosa, pilis brevibus flexuosis. Bracteae lanceolatae, 2 mm longae, caducissimae; bracteolas non vidi. Flores subsessiles, basi cum pedicello brevissimo articulati. Calyx campanulatus, herbaceus, basi \pm obtusus, \pm 6 mm altus, dentibus triangularibus, duobus superioribus altius connatis. Corolla glabra, atroviolacea. Vexillum orbiculare, 9 mm longum, 6 mm latum, basi biauriculatum in unguiculum 3 mm longum contractum. Alae et carinalia subaequales, oblongae, basi biauriculatae, circ. 1 cm longae, 3–4 mm latae unguiculo 3 mm longo praeditae. Filamenta 10, libera, inaequalia, basin versus paullulum dilatata et sparse puberula. Ovarium dense sericeo-villosum. Legumen oblongum, plano-compressum, lignosum, elasticè dehiscens, obsolete reticulatum, glabratum, 14–18 cm longum, 5–7 cm latum, suturis vix dilatatis. Semina 2, oblonga, immatura iam 4 cm longa, 2 cm lata.

COLOMBIA: Border between the departments Antioquia and Bolivar (\pm 74°15'W, 6°55'N). Secondary forest near the confluence of the rivers Ité and Tamar into the river Cimitarra, \pm 38 km W. of Barrancabermeja. Altitude \pm 150 m. Tree \pm 40 m tall. Buttresses up to 1 m high. Bark rough, greyish-brown. Tree with cylindrical bole and spreading crown. D.B.H. 45 cm, bark 1.5 cm. Wood: sapwood creamywhite, 3 cm, heartwood 18 cm, dark brown. First branches at 22 m. Branches greyish-brown. Leaflets papery to coriaceous, smooth, glossy, dark green above, slightly glossy and paler beneath. Scape dark brownish green, calyx dark brownish-green; corolla dark violet, filaments white, anthers white, medium brown in the middle, pistil white. Pod yellowish-green, at maturity medium to dark brown. De Bruijn 1492, *typus* (WAG), 1520, 1521, d.d. 24–27. 11. 1967; 1490 *ster.* Antioquia, \pm 30 km S.E.E. of Remedios (\pm 74°30'W, 6°55'N), altitude 600 m. Secondary ? forest. Breteler 5189 d.d. 9.6.1966, *ster.*, tree, 15 m tall. D.B.H. 13 cm. Wood pale brown. Heartwood dark brown. Leaflets coriaceous, smooth, glossy and dark green above, slightly glossy and pale green beneath. Same locality: De Bruijn 1551, fl. 2.3.1967 (WAG).

The dates of De Bruijn 1520 and 1521 are the same as those of De Bruijn 1492, except that no. 1521 is described as a tree of only 32 m height with buttresses 30 cm high.

The leaves and the pod of this new species are very similar to those of *Clathro-*

tropis brachypetala (Tul.) Kleinh., a species now known from all three Guianas, from Eastern Venezuela and from Trinidad. In Venezuela *C. brachypetala* has been collected by ir. Breteler near the border (= Rio Grande o Toto) between Estado Bolivar and Territorio delle Amacura, ca. 61° 44' W, 8° 4' N (Breteler 3887, fr. 21.4.1964); ir. Breteler informed me that the species has been collected in the same region by Steyermark. The leaflets of *Cl. brachypetala*, however, have fewer (6–9) lateral nerves which are only sparsely pubescent beneath. Flowering specimens are more different, the flowers being white and the indumentum of the inflorescence yellow-brown and more puberulous. The calyx is thick and at the base contracted into a short pedicel. The tree is not known to become as high.

Clathrotropis macrocarpa Ducke (Amazonas)¹ and *Cl. paradoxa* Sandw. (Br. Guiana) have both densely tomentose pods. The pod of *Cl. glaucophylla* Cowan (Venezuela) is not known; this species has according to the description a golden-brown tomentose indumentum, narrow, lanceolate-oblong wings, the keel only 1½ mm wide and glabrous leaves that are glaucous beneath.

Cl. nitida (Benth.) Harms, the type species of the genus *Clathrotropis*, has been collected in the eastern part of Colombia (Rio Cubiyu, affluent of the Rio Uaupes, Humbert and Schultes 27354 (P)), after being already known from Amazonas, Pará and Venezuela. *C. nitida* is very distinct by its glabrous ovary, slender pedicels, small pod, etc.

Cl. grandiflora (Tul.) Harms, finally, has recently been transferred (by Rudd in Contr. U.S. Nat. Herb. 32 (1965) p. 301) to the genus *Ormosia* Jacks.; it is a species with small pods and red seeds with hard testa.

Clathrotropis Harms has been segregated from the genus *Diplotropis* Benth.; this latter genus has an indehiscent pod and an oblong standard with an appendage at both sides above the claw, *Cl. nitida* and *C. brachypetala* are unfortunately sometimes still referred to the genus *Diplotropis*. In HUTCHINSON, Genera of flowering plants Vol. 1 (1964) p. 324 f.i., *Cl. brachypetala* is therefore named under *Diplotropis* in spite of the fact that *Clathrotropis* is accepted as a genus.

Cl. brunnea Amsh. n. sp. is the most western, and quite typical representative of the genus, though the only species with wholly violaceous corolla. The Latin name is an allusion to the dark brown indumentum, and to the name of the collector, Mr. De Bruijn.

This Colombian tree may prove to be a – locally – valuable timbertree, the wood is hard like that of the allied species, one of which is known as “Iron Mary”. It takes a fine polish. On the type locality it was forming 30% of the forest. Woodsamples have been taken. The collection was made in the course of a forest survey. Most flowers do not set fruit, but are early deciduous.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My best thanks are due to the directors of the Paris and the Utrecht herbaria, who enabled me to consult their collections.

¹ Afterwards it has been found that *Cl. macrocarpa* is also represented from Venezuela (State of Bolivar, Meyeraan 40, d.d. 25.8.1966 (WAG) and it is cited by Ducke for Colombia and Peru.