

STEVIA CALZADANA (ASTERACEAE) A NEW SPECIES FROM OAXACA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Stevia calzadana B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.*, is described and illustrated from Oaxaca, (Mpio. Coicoyan de las Flores), México. It belongs to the series *Corymbosae* of *Stevia* where it relates to *S. jorullensis*, distinguished from the latter by its linear-lanceolate, glandular-punctate leaves and achenes with aristate pappus scales.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, systematics, *Stevia*, México

Routine identification of Mexican composites (Asteraceae) has revealed the following novelty.

STEVIA CALZADANA B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.* Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Oaxaca: Mpio. Coicoyan de las Flores, Distr. Santiago Juxtlahuaca, El Arenal, 4 km de Coicoyan de las Flores, carretera a San Martin Peras - Santiago Juxtlahuaca (17° 17' N × 98° 15' W), 1775-1890 m, 20 Nov 1994, *J.I. Calzada 19539* (HOLOTYPE: TEX).

S. jorullensis H.B.K. similis sed foliis linearibus-oblongeolatis (vs. ovatis), glanduliferis-punctatis (vs. non glanduliferis-punctatis); et pappis acheniorum aristatis (vs. coroniformibus).



Fig. 1 *Stevia calzadana*, from holotype.

Stiffly erect, mostly unbranched, perennial herbs ca. 1 m high. Stems reddish, vestiture puberulent with minute upcurved hairs ca. 0.2 mm high. Leaves opposite throughout, gradually reduced upwards; petioles 1-3 mm long. Midstem leaves linear-oblongate, 5.0-6.5 cm long, 5-6 mm wide, glabrous throughout, abundantly glandular-punctate, especially beneath, 1-nervate or weakly 3-nervate, the margins entire. Heads arranged in both terminal and axillary, mostly congested, flat-topped cymules 4-10 cm across, the ultimate peduncles mostly 1-5 mm long. Involucres cylindric, 5-6 mm long, the bracts sparsely puberulent to nearly glabrate, their apices acute. Corollas (dried) deep rose-colored, 6-9 mm long, the tube and throat indistinct, glabrous or nearly so, the lobes 1-2 mm long, glabrous without. Achenes with body 3.0-3.5 mm long, minutely hispidulous, the pappus of 3 linear aristate scales ca. 5 mm long, the upper portion barbellate for 1-2 mm, below these a crown of 3 or more united scales ca. 0.5 mm high.

This species is distinguished by its linear-oblongate leaves which are essentially glabrous, and 3-aristate achenes. In Grashoff's unpublished doctoral thesis (Univ. of Texas, Austin, 1972) the species will key to or near *Stevia jorullensis* H.B.K., but it differs from the latter in both leaf shape (linear-oblongate vs. ovate) texture (densely glandular-punctate beneath vs. not so), and pappus aristate (vs. coroniform, without aristae).

It is a pleasure to name this distinctive *Stevia* for J.I. Calzada, extraordinary collector of Mexican plants, now associated with UNAM on the flora of the Mixteca Alta region of Oaxaca.

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