CUBITANTHUS, A NEW GENUS OF GESNERIACEAE FROM BRAZIL

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RUSSELIA ALATA Cham. & Schlecht. was originally assigned to the Scrophulariaceae and was included as such in the *Flora Brasiliensis* (Schmidt, 1862). Bentham (1846) noted that this species was not a *Russelia* L. f. but did not suggest an alternative placement until 1876, when he included it under *Anetanthus* Hiern (Gesneriaceae) in *Genera Plantarum*. In all, Bentham included four species in *Anetanthus*; of these, Howard (1975) retained *A. gracilis* Hiern and *A. alatus* (Cham. & Schlecht.) Durand & Jackson and transferred the others to different genera. Wiehler (1976) also reviewed the genus but found little relationship between *A. gracilis* and *A. alatus*. He retained *A. gracilis* in a monotypic *Anetanthus* to which Skog (1982) has only recently added a second species. Wiehler rejected *A. alatus* as a gesneriad and suggested that it be placed somewhere in the Scrophulariaceae. Although Wiehler cited the type at Kew (*Sellow s.n.*), it appears that most of his observations are based on a plate published by Schmidt (1862) that misrepresents critical features of the species: the nectary is omitted, the placentation is shown as axile, and the seeds appear angular.

Dr. Mattos Silva, of the Centro de Pesquisas do Cacau (CEPEC), has recently made material of this rarely collected species available to me. Study of these specimens confirms Bentham's contention that the species should be included in the Gesneriaceae but shows that it is distinct from *Anetanthus* and merits generic status.

Cubitanthus Barringer, gen. nov.

Herbae decumbentes pilosae, caules alati, radices fibrosae saepe adventitiae. Folia opposita petiolata serrata nervis pinnatis. Flores solitarii axillares ebracteolati, calyx quinquelobus lobis liberis lanceolatis acutis interne glabris, corolla quinqueloba bilabiata labio superio subintegro labio inferno trilobo ad basem villoso, stamina 4 geniculata, antheris cohaerentibus, discus integer, ovarium superum uniloculare placentatione parietali. Capsula septicida bivalvata, semina obovoidea striata.

Decumbent herb with long multicellular hairs; stem 4-winged; roots fibrous, often adventitious. Leaves opposite; petiole slightly winged; blade serrate, venation pinnate. Flowers solitary in leaf axils; pedicel slightly winged at base, ebracteolate; calyx 5-lobed to base, the sepals lanceolate, acute, adaxially gla-

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brous; corolla cylindrical, 5-lobed, bilabiate, the upper lip subentire, not reflexed, the lower lip 3-lobed, densely villous at base; stamens 4, geniculate, adnate to base of corolla, the anthers bilocular, coherent in pairs; disc entire, annular; ovary superior, the placentation parietal, the style elongate, the stigma entire and slightly enlarged. Capsule septicidal, 2-valved, included within persistent calyx. Seeds ovoid, slightly striate.

TYPE. *Cubitanthus alatus* (Cham. & Schlecht.) Barringer.

ETYMOLOGY. From the Greek *kubitos*, bearded, and *anthos*, flower, in reference to the densely villous lower lip of the corolla.

Cubitanthus alatus (Cham. & Schlecht.) Barringer, comb. nov.

Russelia alata Cham. & Schlecht. Linnaea **3**: 3. 1828. TYPE: Brazil, *loc. ignot., Sellow s.n.* (holotype, B (destroyed); lectotype (here designated), K!).

Anetanthus alatus (Cham. & Schlecht.) Bentham & J. D. Hooker ex Durand & Jackson, Index Kew. **1**: 133. 1893.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. **Brazil.** BAHIA: Itabuna, Ilheus, CEPEC, regiao de Mata Higrophila Sul Baiana, 15 Sept. 1981, *Hage, Brito, & Argolo 1328* (CEPEC, F); Itajuipe, San Antonio, 18 km do S de Itajuipe, 3 Feb. 1970, *Dos Santos 554* (CEPEC, F).

Cubitanthus alatus is found as a weed in cacao plantations, but is known only from the cities of Ilheus and Itajuipe in Brazil. It seems likely that it will be found more extensively in the coastal forest zone. The lectotype lacks locality data, as is typical of specimens collected by Sellow, but Urban (1906) reported that Sellow had collected in the coastal forests of Bahia in 1817 and it is likely that the specimen was collected at that time.

The parietal placentation, disc, coherent anthers, and striate seeds are sufficient to place *Cubitanthus* in the Gesneriaceae. While these characters are also found in the Scrophulariaceae, they never occur in combination with each other. Both *Anetanthus* and *Cubitanthus* are decumbent herbs with entire discs and septicidal capsules. *Anetanthus* differs in having flowers in long-pedunculate cymes, glandular-pilose calyxes that also have short glandular hairs on their inner surfaces, a bilobate upper corolla lip, stomatomorphic stigmas, and flattened, winged seeds. *Cubitanthus* is unique in having a winged stem and a densely bearded lower corolla lip. Both *Cubitanthus* and *Anetanthus* are best assigned to the Beslerieae *sensu* Wiehler (1976).

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