

Op. Hay

JOURNAL

OF THE

WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

VOL. 15

OCTOBER 19, 1925

No. 17

BOTANY.—*New species of Agave from the Republic of Salvador.*

WILLIAM TRELEASE, University of Illinois. (Communicated by
PAUL C. STANDLEY.)

Agave acuispina, sp. nov.

(TEQUILANAE.) Acaulescent (?). Leaves ensiform, flattish, grayish, rather large, 4×100 cm. or more, toothed to within 20 cm. of the end; spine chestnut-colored, glossy upward, granular, slenderly conical and sharp, very round-grooved, the margin scarcely decurrent for more than its length, little intruded into the green tissue, 3×20 mm.; teeth glossy chestnut- or garnet-colored, 10–20 mm. apart or even more, upcurved or hooked, narrowly triangular from narrow lenticular bases 3–5 mm. wide, the intervening margin nearly straight. Inflorescence tall, openly paniculate, with rather slender, purplish, glaucous branches; pedicels short (5 mm.). Flowers (?). Capsules ellipsoid, $2.5-3 \times 3$ cm., short-stipitate; seeds (?). Bulbiferous.

In hedges, Hacienda El Platanar, San Miguel, El Salvador (*Calderón* 2084; type in the U. S. National Herbarium); also *Calderón* 2082, from same locality, collected in January, 1924. Called "maguey silvestre."

Agave Letonae F. W. Taylor in litt., sp. nov.

(TEQUILANAE.) Caulescent, suckering. Trunk about 50×150 cm. Leaves oblong-lanceolate or ensiform, slightly concave, glaucous, large ($8-10 \times 125-200$ cm.); spine dull brown, rather glossy toward the end, low-granular on the back, arcuately and triquetrously conical, round-grooved, with acute edges below the middle, the acute margin very shortly decurrent, slightly intruded dorsally and ventrally into the green tissue, $4-5 \times$ about 25 mm.; teeth chestnut-colored, 15–35 mm. apart, 2–3 mm. long, mostly upcurved or hooked, slender from lenticular bases about 5 mm. wide, the intervening cartilaginous margin nearly straight. Inflorescence paniculate, about 7 meters tall, rather openly branched; pedicels about 5 mm. long. Flowers (?). Capsules ellipsoid, about 25×40 mm., slightly beaked, stipitate; seeds dull, $8-9 \times 11$ mm. Said to be bulbiferous. (Fig. 1.)

El Salvador. Source of Letona fiber. Cultivated at Sucesión Letona, San Miguel (*Milner*, October and November, 1923); from plants grown by the Indians from a very early date. Type in the herbarium of the University of Illinois.

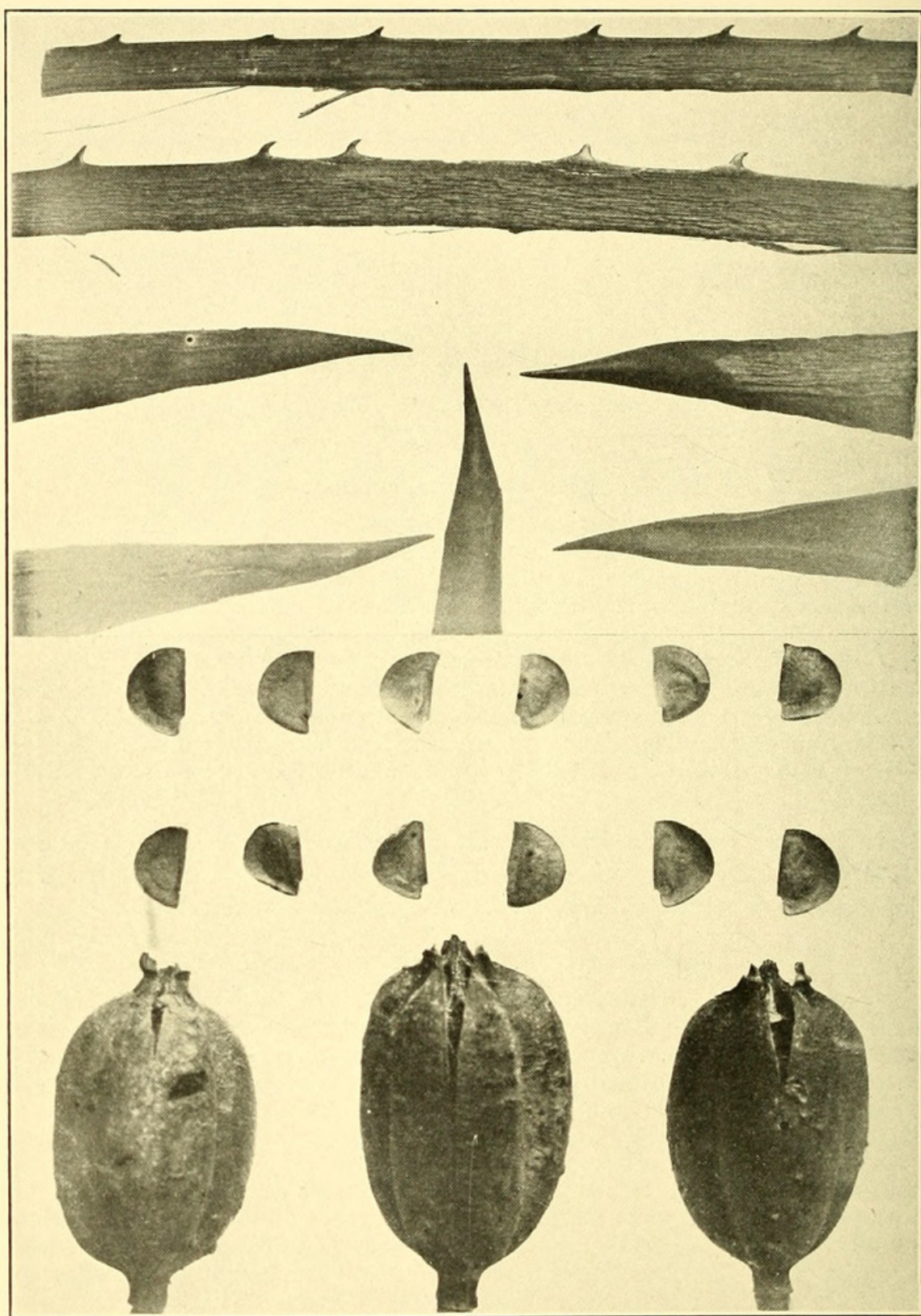


Fig. 1.—Details of leaves and fruits of *Agave Letonae*. Natural size.

Agave Letonae marginata, var. nov.

Differing from the type in having the leaves rather broadly bordered with bright yellow.

Hacienda El Platanar, San Miguel, El Salvador (*Calderón* 2081; type, sheets 1169878-9 in the U. S. National Herbarium).

Agave lempana, sp. nov.

(TEQUILANAE.) Acaulescent. Leaves prickly only at base, oblong-lanceolate, nearly flat, grayish or slightly glaucous, large (15×120 cm. or more); spine chestnut-colored, glossy upward, somewhat low-granular on the back below, broadly conical, pitted and round-grooved below the middle, the margin acutely decurrent for several times its length, somewhat intruded into the green tissue, about 6×20 mm.; teeth confined to the lower third of the leaf, glossy garnet- or chestnut-colored, 10-15 or 20 mm. apart, straight or upcurved or recurved, narrowly triangular from lenticular bases 2-4 mm. wide, the intervening green margin nearly straight. Inflorescence unknown.

El Salvador. Planted (?) at the railroad station on the Lempa River (F. W. Taylor, February 15, 1924). Type in the herbarium of the University of Illinois.

Agave parvidentata, sp. nov.

(GUATEMALENSES.) Acaulescent; not cespitose (?). Leaves slightly glaucescent, oblanceolate-oblong, acute, smooth, 15×100 cm. or more; spine brown, apparently conical, somewhat intruded into the green tissue and decurrent, 5 mm. thick; teeth dull brown, 10-25 mm. apart, thick, firm, small (scarcely 2 mm. long), from abrupt lenticular bases 3-5 mm. wide, the intervening margin somewhat concave. Inflorescence paniculate, apparently with short branches and closely bunched flowers; pedicels moderate (2×15 mm.). Flowers orange, 40-50 mm. long; ovary 20-30 mm. long, equaling or surpassing the perianth, oblong; tube conical, scarcely 5 mm. deep; segments 15 mm. long, shorter than the ovary; filaments inserted nearly in the throat, about 30 mm. long. Capsules unknown, and not known to be bulbiferous.

Cultivated in San Salvador, El Salvador (*Calderón* 2085, in 1924; type, sheets 1169884-5, in the U. S. National Herbarium), under the name "maguey."

ENTOMOLOGY.—*New termites from the Solomon Islands and Santa Cruz Archipelago.* THOS. E. SNYDER, Bureau of Entomology.

Dr. W. M. Mann visited Fiji in 1915 and the Solomon Islands and Santa Cruz Archipelago in the South Pacific Ocean in 1916. On these islands in Oceania he collected fourteen species of termites, representing seven genera or subgenera and three families; all of these species are apparently new to science. They were carefully compared with descriptions of known termites from the Ethiopian, Oriental, and Australian regions. Often, however, the descriptions and illustrations of known species are not as adequate as is necessary, without



Trelease, William. 1925. "New species of Agave from the Republic of Salvador." *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* 15, 393–395.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/123269>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/50706>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Permission to digitize granted by the rights holder

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.