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A NEW SPECIES OF AGERATINA (ASTERACEAE: EUPATORIEAE) FROM CHIMALAPA, OAXACA, MÉXICO

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ABSTRACT

Ageratina chimalapana, a new species from Oaxaca, México, is described and illustrated. Because of its biseriate heteromorphic pappus and shrubby habit, it is believed to be related to the *A. mairetiana* complex of México.

KEY WORDS: Ageratina, Eupatorieae, Asteraceae, México.

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae from southern México has revealed the following novelty:

Ageratina chimalapana B. Turner, spec. nov., Figure 1. TYPE: MÉXICO. Oaxaca: Mpio. San Miguel Chimalapa, Cima del Cerro Salomon, al NO de Benito Juárez, ca 44 km en linea recta al N de San Pedro Tapanatepec (16° 46′ 15″ N, 94° 11′ 45″ O), 1770 m, 8 Apr 1986, M. Ishiki 1455 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; Isotype CHAPA!).

A. ligustrinae (DC.) King & H. Robins. similis sed caulibus et foliis ubique glabris, laminis foliorum 3-nervatis crassis, et pappo biseriato, series interior series exterior 4-5-plo longa differt.

Shrub or small glabrous trees 2 m high or more. Stems terete, glabrous. Leaves opposite, 6-9 cm long, 3-4 cm wide, glabrous throughout; petioles 1.5-2.0 cm long; blades ovate-elliptic, rather thick and markedly venose beneath, the margins entire. Heads numerous in rather congested terminal corymbs, the ultimate peduncles mostly 1-5 mm long. Involucres campanulate, the bracts more or less subimbricate in 3-4 series, the inner series 3.5-4.5 mm high, their margins minutely ciliate with soft hairs. Receptacles plane, glabrous. Florets 11-14 per head, the corollas white, glabrous, 4-5 mm long, the throat ca 2 mm long, grading into the tube. Achenes ca 3 mm long, cylindric, glabrous except for a few hispid hairs near the apex, the pappus in 2 series, an inner row of 20-30 white bristles 4-5 mm long and an outer row of much shorter delicate bristles 1 mm long or less.

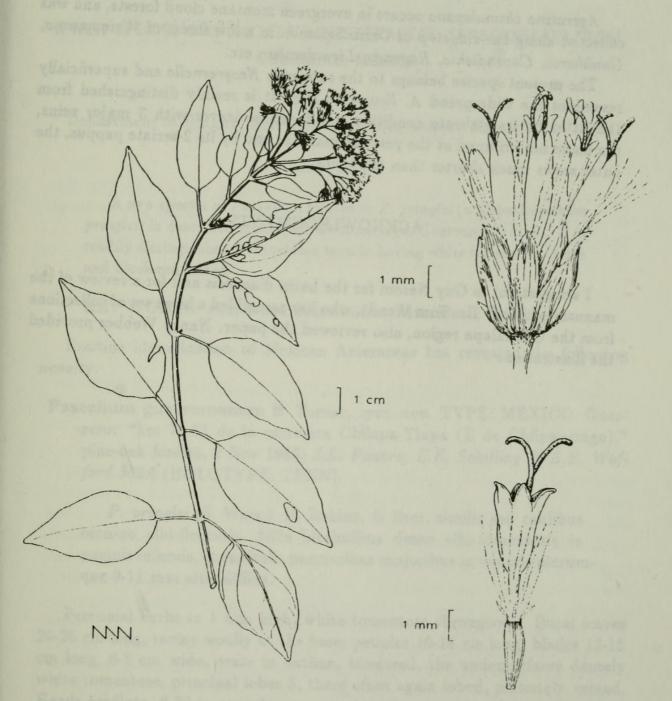


Fig. 1. Ageratina chimalapana, from holotype.

Ageratina chimalapana occurs in evergreen montane cloud forests, and was collected along the ridgetop of Cerro Salomon in a low forest of Weinmannia, Gaultheria, Cavendishia, Rapanea, Liquidambar, etc.

The present species belongs to the subgenus Neogreenella and superficially resembles the widespread A. ligustrina DC. It is readily distinguished from the latter by its glabrate condition, thick venose leaves with 3 major veins, the blade not crimped at the petiolar juncture and by its 2-seriate pappus, the outer series much shorter than the inner.

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