

make the endemism of the former still more interesting if not more confounding.

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### A NEW NYSSA FROM FLORIDA

JOHN K. SMALL

With the acquisition of another species of *Nyssa* to the North American flora, the two sections of the genus are evenly balanced with three species each. For many years the ratio was two and two. Then *Nyssa acuminata* of the coastal region of Georgia was added to the *aquatica-ogeeche* group. Three decades later the main subject of this note was added to the *sylvatica-biflora* group, which brought the ratio even again. The source of this gum is the Apalachicola River delta region where so many endemic species of flowering plants are harbored. It grows in company with *Cliftonia monophylla* and *Cyrilla racemiflora*, both of which it resembles in habit of growth. It may be named and described as:

✓ ***Nyssa ursina*** Small, sp. nov. A shrub with much-branched stems and numerous branchlets or sometimes a small tree with a trunk a decimeter in diameter and a narrow much-branched crown: leaves numerous; blades elliptic, often narrowly so, to spatulate, 2.5-7 cm. long, coriaceous, usually rounded at the apex, entire, deep-green and somewhat shining above, much paler beneath, glabrous, at least at maturity, short-petioled: staminate racemes numerous on slender peduncles 1-2 cm. long; sepals ovate to suborbicular, about 1 mm. long, obtuse; anthers globose-ovoid to globose-reniform, nearly 1.5 mm. long, longer



than the filaments: pistillate flowers usually 2 together, sessile in an involucre of several acute pubescent bracts; sepals ovate or elliptic, 1.5–2 mm. long, obtuse, shorter than the campanulate hypanthium: drupe globular, 9–12 mm. in diameter, very fleshy, black under a bloom: stone oval or nearly so, 8–10 mm. long, with prominent rounded ribs.

Pineland swamps, Apalachicola River delta, Fla. The type specimens, in the herbarium of The New York Botanical Garden were collected by the writer in a swamp north of Port St. Joe, Florida, April 24, 1924, 11233 for flowers, and in swamps near Port St. Joe, November 27, 1923, 10995 for fruit.

The habit, an intricately branched stem with numerous branchlets, and the myriad globular drupes distinguish *Nyssa ursina* from *N. biflora*. In addition the small coriaceous narrow leaf-blades are not duplicated in any of our other species.

The specific name refers to the fact that the bears eat large quantities of the fruit in the fall and winter seasons.

## A NEW CHAMAESYCE FROM FLORIDA

JOHN K. SMALL

The oölite limestone of tropical Florida—both the Miami and the Key West—harbors several endemic spurges of the genus *Chamaesyce*. Some, in habit resemble small kinds of thyme clinging closely to the rocks, others are merely diffuse, and still others are broom-like. All these kinds rejoice in the pinelands and shun the hammocks. It seems necessary to add another species, related to *Chamaesyce brachypoda*, to the endemic flora of the Everglade Keys.

***Chamaesyce Mosieri*** Small sp. nov. Plant with several prostrate wiry, dark, partly shining stems or branches from the top of a woody perennial root, the branchlets wiry, villous-hirsutulous, leafy, irregular: leaves opposite; blades orbicular-reniform to ovate, 4–8 mm. long, acute or obtuse, entire, loosely pubescent, rounded or subcordate at the base; petioles purple or black-purple, pubescent: involucre axillary, campanulate, about 1 mm. long, sparingly pubescent, purple; glands transversely elliptic, about 0.4 mm. wide; appendages variable, some larger than the gland, others smaller, red or deep-pink, sometimes lobed: capsule about 1.5 mm. long, very broad, sparingly pubescent, the angles rather blunt when dry: seed ovoid, about 1 mm. long, the faces only slightly uneven.



Small, John Kunkel. 1927. "A NEW NYSSA FROM FLORIDA." *Torreyana* 27(5), 92–93.

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