New species of Ficus (Moraceae) from Brazil

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Berg, C. C. (The Norwegian Arboretum/Botanical Institute, University of Bergen, N-5259 Hjellestad, Norway; email: cornelis.berg@bot.uib.no) & J. P. P. Carauta (Museu Nacional, Caixa Postal 34031, 22462-970, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil). New species of Ficus (Moraceae) from Brazil. Brittonia 54: 236–250. 2002.—Eight new species from Brazil, Ficus acreana, F. bahiensis, F. duartei, F. duckeana, F. hatschbachii, F. lagoensis, F. laureola, and F. rupicola, are described and illustrated. The new species are compared with other species of the genus.

Key words: Brazil, Ficus, Moraceae.

Since the publication of the treatment of the Moraceae by Miquel (1853) in Flora Brasiliensis, the Ficus flora of extra-Amazonian Brazil had not received much attention until Carauta’s publication (1989) included it in a study of the Brazilian species. This work, however, did not include descriptions of new species. The first new species described from Brazil since Miquel’s work on material from this region is from the Pantanal, F. carautana Emidio (Nieves & Emidio de Mello Filho, 1992). A second, F. mariae, was described by Berg et al. (1999). During studies of the Ficus flora of this region, as part of a planned monograph of the genus for Flora Neotropica, several undescribed species were discovered.

The Ficus species of Amazonian Brazil were studied by Berg et al. (1986). In that study 50 species were recognized, seven of which were new for the region. On the basis of recent collections, three additional species were discovered. Eight of these new species are described and illustrated here.

The new species presently described belong to subgenus Urostigma (sect. Americanae), which implies that they produce arial adventitious roots and are potentially hemi-epiphytic (or hemi-epilithic).

Ficus acreana C. C. Berg, spec. nov. (Fig. 1)


Fic. panurensi similis, sed venatione tertiaaria scalariformi, stipulis longioribus non striatis distincta.

Tree to 20 m tall. Leafy twigs 5–10 mm thick, densely brown hirtellous to strigose to subvillose; periderm persistent. Lamina subcoriaceous, oblong to subobovate to lanceolate, 15–30 × 5.5–13 cm, symmetric; apex acuminate; base obtuse; margin entire; upper surface glabrous; lower surface densely brown substrigose to subtomentose, on smaller veins to tomentose; lateral veins (10–)13–15 pairs, the basal pair hardly different from the other pairs, up to 1/10–1/8 length of lamina, unbranched; tertiary venation scalariform with 10–20 intercostal veins in middle of lamina, prominent; petiole 1–1.5 cm long, brown substrigose; stipules 2–(4–)5 cm long, pale brown to yellowish (sub)sericeous, subpersistent. Figs axillary, solitary or in pairs, sessile; basal bracts 2, 2–3 mm long; receptacle subglobose, 0.7–1 cm diam (when dry), densely (dark) brown puberulous to subvelutinous, of unknown color at maturity; ostiole ca. 2.5 mm diam (when dry), surrounded by a 3-lobed rim. Staminate flowers: pedicel 0.2–0.4 mm long; tepals 3, 0.6–1 mm long; stamen 1; anther ca. 0.5 mm long, not apic-
ulate. *Pistillate flowers*: tepals 3, 0.6–1 mm long; stigma ca. 0.3 mm long; long-styled flowers sessile, the style 0.8–1 mm long; short-styled flowers with pedicel 0.5–1 mm long, the style 0.4–0.6 mm long. *Interfloral bracts* 0.6–1 mm long. *Internal hairs* abundant.


Several characters, in particular the 3-
lobed rim around the ostiole and the presence of abundant hairs on the inner surface of the fig receptacle, indicate that this species is related to *Ficus panurensis* Standl. and *F. trigona* L.f. *Ficus acreana* differs from the former in having distinctly scalariform venation and non-striate stipules that are 2 cm or longer; it differs from the latter in having prominent and coarser tertiary venation and subpersistent stipules that are longer than 1.5 cm. The new species is an element of the rain forest.

A collection from Peru (Madre de Dios: Tambopata Tourist Camp, junction of Río Tambopata and Río La Torre, 22 Jul 1985, st. A. Gentry et al. 51129, BG), might belong to this species. It differs from *Ficus acreana* in having more slender and angular leafy twigs, longer petioles (4 cm long), smaller (2 cm long) and probably not subpersistent stipules, and sparser indumentum.

**Ficus bahiensis** C. C. Berg & Carauta, spec. nov. (Fig. 2)


*Fico guianensis* (sensu lato) similis, sed brachyblasti desunt.

**Tree** to 15 m tall, or **shrub**. Leafy twigs 2–4 mm thick, glabrous or minutely puberulous; periderm persistent or flaking off. **Lamina** coriaceous, oblong to elliptic to (sub)obovate, (3–)6–12 × (1-)2.5–6.5 cm, symmetric; apex shortly acuminate, apiculate, obtuse, or rounded; base obtuse, subcuneate, or rounded; margin entire, usually ± revolute (toward base); upper surface minutely puberulous on midrib or glabrous, lower surface glabrous; lateral veins (7-)10–14 pairs, the basal pair up to 1/10–1/8 length of lamina, unbranched; tertiary venation reticulate; petiole (0.5-)1–3 cm long, 1.5–2.5 mm thick, glabrous or sparsely and minutely puberulous; stipules 0.5–1 cm (on opening shoots to 3 cm) long, glabrous or minutely puberulous, caducous. Figs axillary or also just below leaves, solitary or in pairs; peduncle 0.2–1 cm long, glabrous or sparsely minutely puberulous; basal bracts 2, 1.5–2.5 mm long, glabrous or sparsely minutely puberulous; receptacle subglobose, 0.6–1(–1.2) cm diam. (when dry), smooth or ± wrinkled when dry, glabrous or sparsely minutely puberulous, emaculate or maculate, greenish to yellowish or redish (?) at maturity; ostiole ca. 2–2.5 mm diam. (when dry), mostly ± umbonate. **Stamine flowers:** pedicel 0.4–0.8 mm long; tepals 3, 0.5–0.8 mm long; stamen 1; anther ca. 0.5 mm long, not apiculate. **Pistillate flowers:** tepals 3, 0.8–1 mm long; stigma ca. 0.25 mm long; long-styled flowers sessile, the style 1.5–2 mm long; short-styled flowers with pedicel 0.8–1.5 mm long, the style 0.4–0.8 mm long. **Interfloral bracts** few, ca. 1.5 mm long. **Internal hairs** absent.
