

*PEPINIA MARTINELLII* (BROMELIACEAE), AN UNUSUAL NEW  
SPECIES FROM PARÁ STATE, BRAZIL

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ABSTRACT. *Pepinia martinellii* from Pará State is described. It is compared and contrasted with *P. limae* (L.B.Sm.) Varad. & Gilmartin from Ceará State.

Key words: Brazil, Pará, Bromeliaceae, *Pepinia*, new species

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Pepinia* contains 56 species (Luther, 2006), 14 so far recorded in Brazil. The genus differs from the larger *Pitcairnia* by a more restricted, mostly circum-Amazonian distribution and alate, not caudate seeds.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

*Pepinia martinelli* H. Luther sp. nov. TYPE: Brazil—Pará, Mun. Oriximiná, Rio Cachorro, Serra do Cachorro, 15 km NW of Cachoeiro Porteira, 200 m elev. Terra Firma Forest. 20 June 1980. Gustavo Martinelli 7153. (Holotype: RB; Isotypes: SEL, NY).

FIGURE 1.

A *P. limae* (L.B.Sm.) G.S. Varadarajen & Gilmartin cui affinis sed foliis per longioribus tenuibusque et flores minoribus differt.

**Plant** incompletely known, clustering. **Leaves** densely rosulate, apparently monomorphic, 25 to 30 in number, 65–100 cm long, very thin and delicate. **Leaf sheaths** ovate 5–10 × 8–10 mm, nerved, lustrous, sparsely pale stellate-lepidote especially abaxially, forming an ovoid pseudobulbous base. **Leaf blades** setaceous, 1–3 mm wide, involute, with a few brown antrorse 0.25–0.50 mm long marginal spines toward the base, elsewhere entire, very sparsely pale-lepidote especially abaxially. **Scape** incompletely known, 1.5 mm thick, stiff, fugaceously densely pale la-

nuginous-lepidote. **Scape bracts** spreading to erect, setaceous, much exceeding the internodes but not concealing them, to at least 6 cm long, entire, fugaceously pale lanuginous-lepidote. **Inflorescence** incompletely known, simple, 10 to 12-flowered. **Floral bracts** triangular 5–8 × 2–4 mm, thin, coriaceous, nerved, apically pale stellate-lepidote. **Flowers** with a slender 8–9 mm pedicel, erect preanthesis becoming secund pendant postanthesis. **Sepals** elliptic, acute, 10–11 mm, thin coriaceous, nerved, glabrous, the adaxial pair carinate, the keels continuing to the pedicel. **Corolla** semi-tubular. **Petals** ligulate, acute, 28–33 mm long, unappendaged. **Fruit** a dry capsule ca. ¼ superior, 8–10 mm long. **Seeds** narrowly winged.

**Comments.** This very odd and distinctive plant is unfortunately known only from incomplete and fragmentary material. Its relationship within *Pepinia* are uncertain, but *Pepinia limae* from Ceará seems to be a close relative regardless of whether *Pepinia* is treated at the generic or subgeneric rank (Varadarajan & Gilmartin 1988; Taylor and Robinson 1999). From this and all other taxa in *Pepinia*, this new species differs by having very long and narrow leaf blades (50–95 cm × 1–3 mm). From *P. limae* it also differs by shorter, entire floral bracts (5–8 mm vs. 25 mm), shorter sepals (10–11 mm vs. 21 mm), and shorter petals (28–33 mm vs. 55 mm). The flower color is not known for *P. martinellii*; for *P. limae* the color is red.

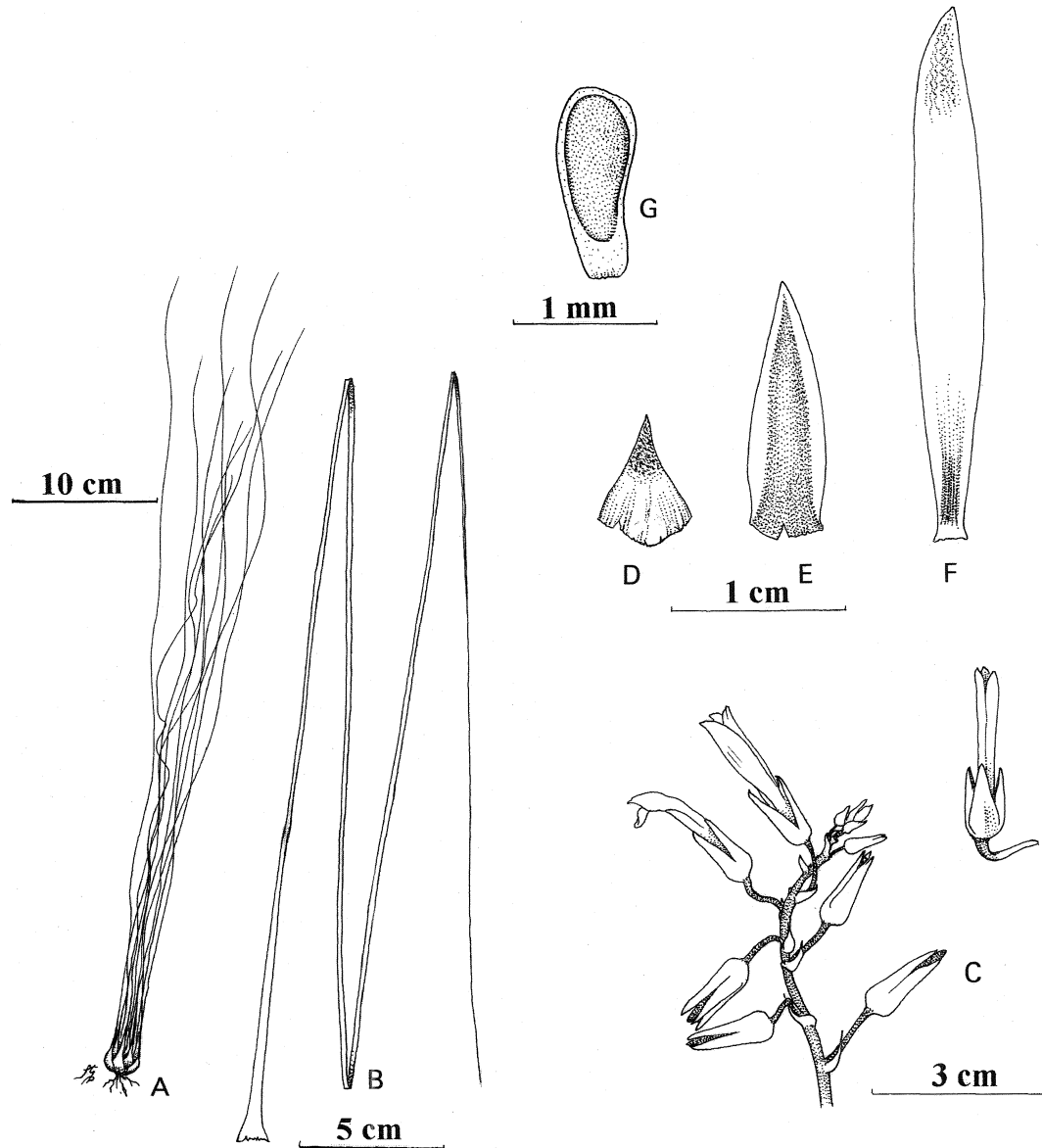


FIGURE 1. *Pepinia martinellii*. A. Habit. B. Leaf. C. Section of the inflorescence and flower. D. Floral bract. E. Sepal. F. Petal. G. seed.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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