

MISCELLANEOUS NEW TAXA OF BROMELIACEAE (IV)

Harry E. Luther*

COLOMBIA

Pitcairnia foreroi Luther & Varadarajan, sp. nov.

Plate 1

P. sneidernii L. B. Smith similis et affinis sed inflorescentia multilongore et pedicellis sepalisque longioribus differt.

Known from incomplete and fruiting material only; plant epiphytic (!Forero et al.); stem stout, ca. 3 cm in diameter; leaves probably polymorphic, 68 cm long; sheaths broadly elliptic, 4 cm wide, dark castaneous, brown flocculose; petioles 18 cm long, slender, serrate with 2-3 mm long, irregularly spaced spines, brown flocculose but soon glabrous; blades oblanceolate, 47 cm long, 7.5 cm broad, acute, entire; scape erect, to 80 cm high, stout, brown flocculose; the lowest scape bracts very narrow, long-acuminate, bladeless, their petioles serrate, the upper scape bracts lanceolate, acute, entire, all but the uppermost exceeding the internodes; inflorescence simple, to 35 cm long, densely brown flocculose, many-flowered; floral bracts reflexed, lanceolate, to 35 mm long, entire, thin, membranaceous, somewhat nerved; pedicels 10-12 mm long; sepals narrowly triangular, 42 mm long, carinate, obtuse, nerved; petals unknown, yellow (!Forero et al.); ovary almost entirely superior; capsule septicidal; ovules caudate.

Type: COLOMBIA: Departamento del Choco: Municipio de San Jose del Palmar, hoy del Rio Torito, alt. ca. 630-830 m, 12 March 1980, E. Forero, R. Jaramillo, J. Espina, & Z. and P. Palacios H. 7191 (Holotype: COL; Iso-type: MO).

Pitcairnia foreroi differs from the similar *P. sneidernii* L. B. Smith and *P. adscendens* L. B. Smith in having longer pedicels and much longer, carinate sepals. This new species differs from *P. dolichopetala* Harms in having narrower leaf blades, entire floral bracts and shorter sepals and can be distinguished from *P. simulans* Luther in having longer floral bracts, shorter pedicels, and yellow, not orange or red, petals.

The wet forests on the slopes of the northern Andes appear to be the center of diversity of a large complex of superficially similar *Pitcairnia* species. These share an epiphytic or hemiepiphytic habit, a simple inflorescence, and very polymorphic foliage with the larger leaves distinctly petiolate. The majority of the species would seem to be adapted to hummingbirds for pollination as their diurnal, odorless, red, yellow or orange zygomorphic corollas suggest this syndrome.

ECUADOR

Vriesea haltonii Luther, sp. nov.

Plate 2

Vriesea balanophorae (Mez) L. B. Smith & Pittd. affinis sed ramis axillaribus pererectis et sepalis majoribus differt.

Plant lithophytic or terrestrial, stemless, flowering up to 38 cm high; leaves spreading to suberect, 15 to 35 cm long, densely punctate-lepidote

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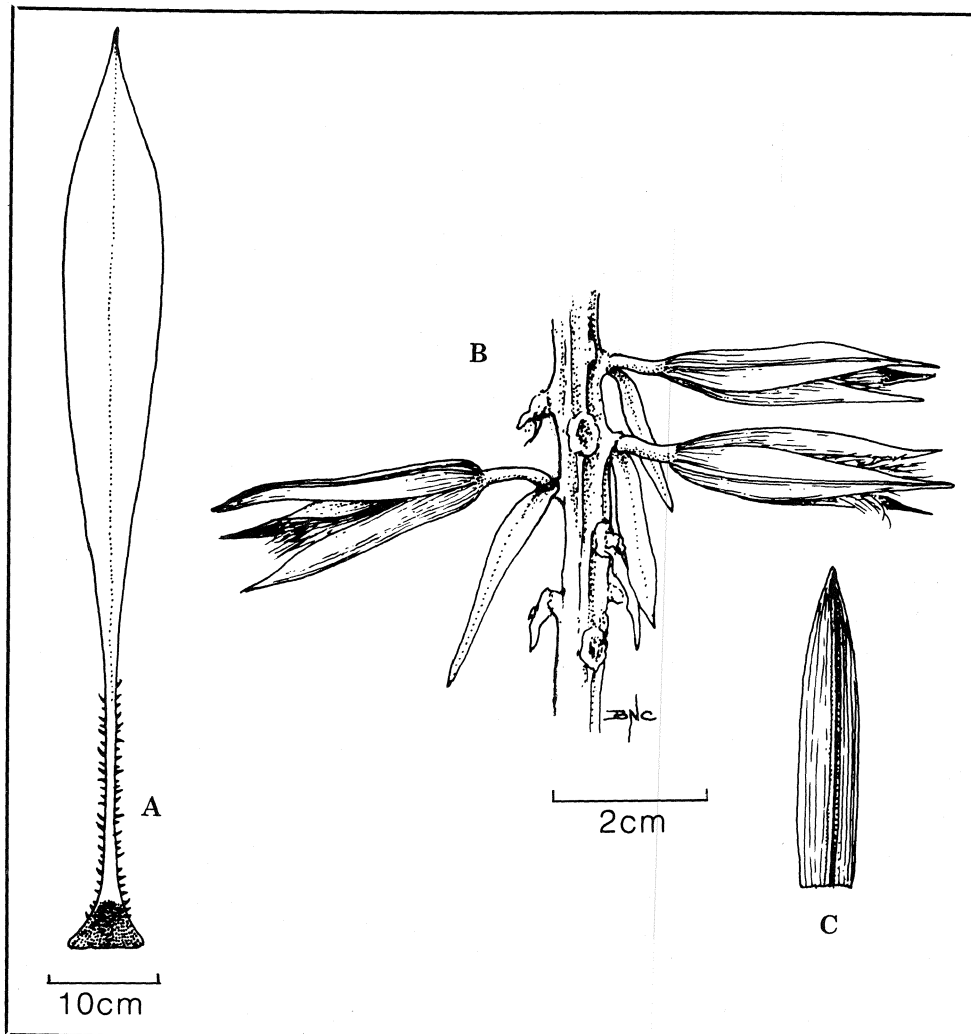


Plate 1. *Pitcairnia foreroi*. A. Leaf, adaxial surface. B. Section of inflorescence. C. Sepal.

throughout; sheaths elliptic, to 9 cm long by 5 cm broad, dark castaneous, covered with a dense coating of dark-centered cinereous trichomes; blades subligulate, 2-3.5 cm broad, acute to attenuate, pale green to soft pink, tessellated with irregular dark green or maroon lines, often flushed with maroon apically; scape erect, 3-5 mm in diameter, glabrous, strongly angled; scape bracts subfoliaceous and densely imbricate below becoming triangular and somewhat lax above, marked as the leaves; inflorescence erect, 6-10 cm long, cylindric, bipinnate; primary bracts triangular, acute, 4-5 cm long, erect to subspreading, green or flushed with maroon; branches erect to subspreading, densely two-flowered, sessile; floral bracts broadly elliptic, 9-12 mm long, coriaceous, somewhat carinate apically, drying dark castaneous; pedicels stout, 1-3 mm long; sepals elliptic, ca. 17 mm long when fresh (12-13 mm long when dried), rounded, somewhat nerved; petals ca. 3 cm long, white (! Joe Halton); capsules ca. 18 mm long, fusiform, dark castaneous.

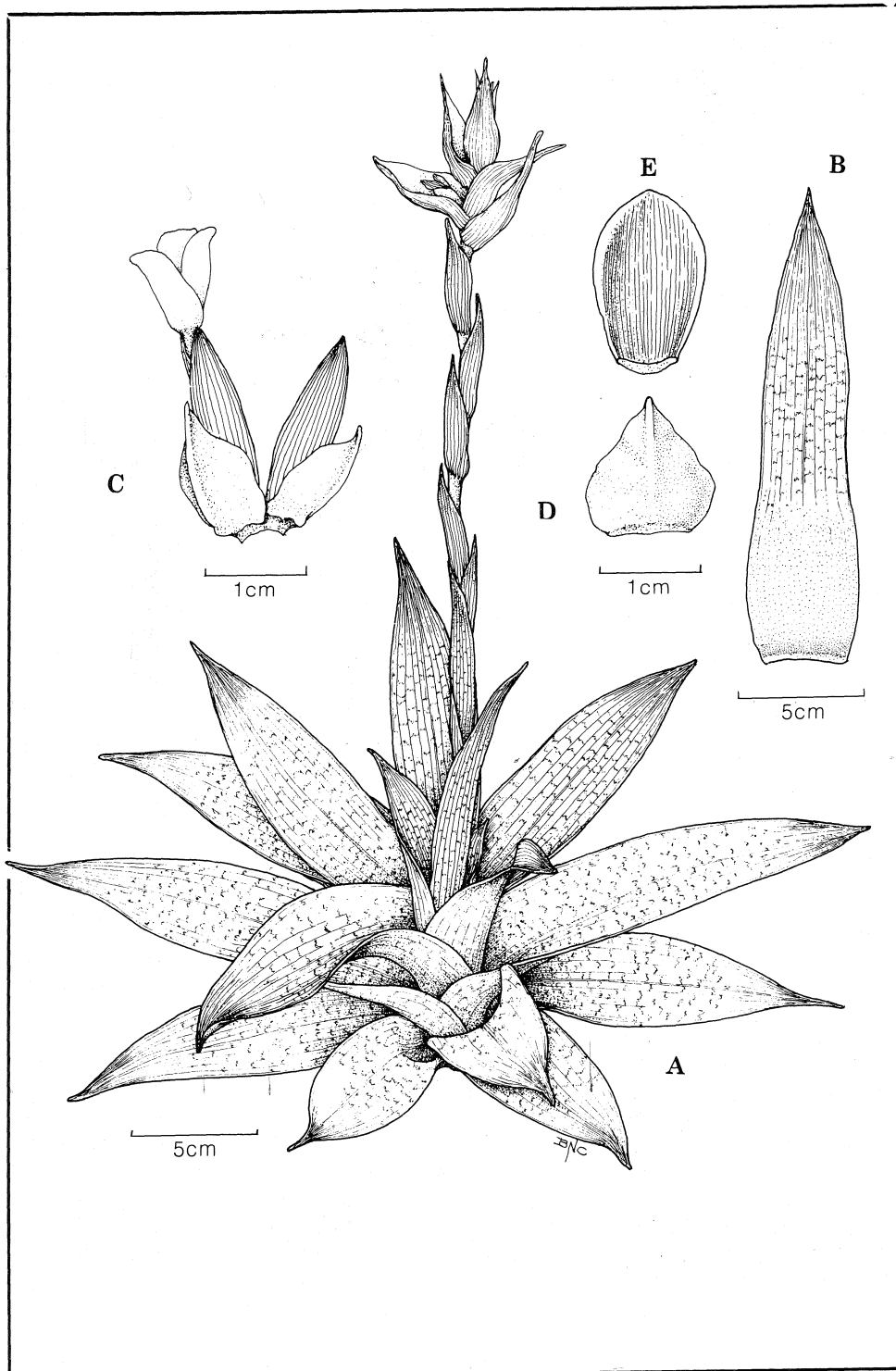


Plate 2. *Vriesea haltonii*. A. Habit. B. Leaf, abaxial view. C. Branch of inflorescence. D. Floral bract. E. Sepal.

Type: *ECUADOR*: NAPO: 30 km S of Baeza on the road to Tena, alt. ca. 2000 m, June 1981, *J. Halton s.n.* (Holotype: SEL).

Additional material examined: *ECUADOR*: NAPO: Cordillera de Guacamayo. Km 130 Quito-Tena, alt. 2150 m, 17 July 1983, *C. H. & P. M. Dodson, D. Benzing & A. Hirtz 14046* (SEL).

Vriesea haltonii can be distinguished from the Costa Rican *V. balanophora* (Mez) L. B. Smith & Pittd. [including *V. lineata* (Mez & Werckle) L. B. Smith & Pittd., fide J. Utley] by its more erect lateral branches and larger sepals. *Vriesea paupera* (Mez & Sodiro) L. B. Smith & Pittd. and *V. hygrometrica* (André) L. B. Smith & Pittd., the only other similar Ecuadorian vrieseas, can be immediately separated from this new species by their much larger floral bracts that much exceed their sepals.

Greigia atrobrunnea Luther, sp. nov.

Plate 3

Greigia stenolepis L. B. Smith affinis sed inflorescentis majoribus, bracteis primaris late ellipticis et sepalis atrobrunnis rasilibus que differt.

Plant caulescent, stem to over 2 m long; leaves ca. 1.3 m long, adpressed-lepidote throughout; leaf sheaths broadly elliptic, 7.5 cm long by 5.5 cm wide, entire, castaneous; leaf blades 3.3-4.0 cm wide, attenuate, slightly serrate toward the apex, elsewhere entire; inflorescences several, lateral, ca. 20-flowered; scape (peduncle) to 3.5 cm long, strongly compressed; scape bracts triangular to 3.5 cm long, carinate, dark castaneous; outer bracts to 5 cm long, broadly elliptic with a narrowly triangular and subulate apex, the lowest carinate apically, exceeded by the sepals, dark castaneous except for a thin pale margin, lustrous, sparsely pale lepidote, entire; floral bracts 2.7-3 cm long, lanceolate, carinate and incurved, dark castaneous except for a thin pale margin, lustrous, sparsely pale lepidote, entire; sepals ca. 2.2 cm long, acute, sparsely lepidote, mucronate, carinate, dark castaneous; petals unknown; ovary to 2 cm long by 1 cm thick, triangular, glabrous, dark castaneous.

Type: *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA: 29 km W of Quito on the road to Chiriboga, alt. 3200 m, 25 Sept. 1981, *Luther, Besse & Halton 624A* (Holotype: SEL).

Greigia atrobrunnea appears to be related to *G. stenolepis* L. B. Smith of Colombia but differs in its larger, many-flowered inflorescences, broadly elliptic outer bracts that have a triangular and subulate apex, dark and even sepals and leaves that are serrate only toward the apex.

* *Miscellaneous New Taxa of Bromeliaceae (III)* has appeared in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society, Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, 1983.

NOTEWORTHY RANGE EXTENSIONS OF BROMELIACEAE

BOLIVIA

Catopsis sessiliflora (R. & P.) Mez. *BOLIVIA*: Dpto. LA PAZ: Prov. Larecaja, km 16 Tipuani-Caranavi, new road, alt. 1250 m, 24-26 Jan. 1983, *L. Besse, C. & J. Luer, R. Vasquez 1809* (SEL).

New to Bolivia but not unexpected.

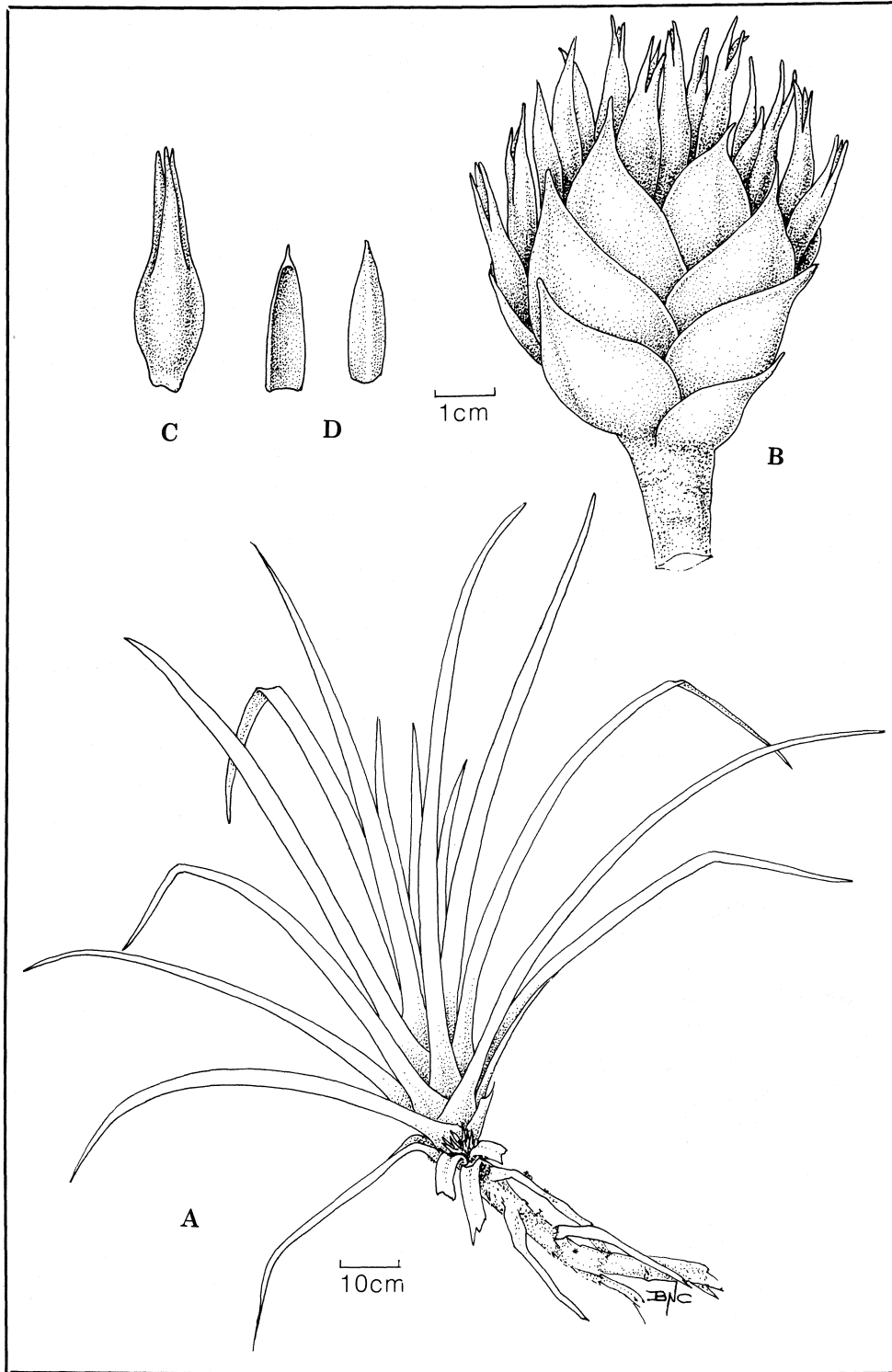


Plate 3. *Greigia atrobrunnea*. A. Habit. B. Inflorescence. C. Flower. D. Sepals.

BRAZIL

Araeococcus pectinatus L. B. Smith. BRAZIL: Terr. RORAIMA: Bela Cintra, Nov. 1982, A. Seidel 916 (SEL).

New to Brazil, previously reported only from Costa Rica and Colombia (Choco). The Brazilian collection now in cultivation at SEL is very similar in size and coloration to the old horticultural material which is apparently of Costa Rican origin.

HONDURAS

Vriesea viridiflora (Regel) Wittm. ex Mez. HONDURAS: MORAZAN: vicinity of Jutecalpa, alt. ca. 4500 feet, June 1981, C. Herzog s.n. (SEL, US).

New to Honduras. The floral bracts of this collection are conspicuously verrucose both when living and when dried.

COLOMBIA

Tillandsia narthecioides Presl. COLOMBIA: NARINO: across Rio San Juan from Chical, Ecuador. Tallambi, wet forest edge, ca. 12 km west of Maldonado, Ecuador, alt. ca. 1200 m, 23 Sept. 1979, A. Gentry & G. Shupp 26424 (SEL, MO).

First record outside of Ecuador.

VENEZUELA

Tillandsia seemannii (Bak.) Mez. VENEZUELA: Edo. MERIDA: mountains above Merida, alt. ca. 3000 m, March 1983, F. Oliva & J. Steyermark s.n. (SEL).

First collection in Venezuela for this widespread Andean species.

Selbyana 7: 353

Addendum:

Selbyana 5(3,4): 352, 1981.

Chlorospatha besseae, Madison, sp. nov.

Species lobis lateralibus foliis brevibus et inflorescentiis parvis a congeneribus diversa.

Erratum:

Selbyana 7(1): 112, 1982.

Masdevallia navicularis Garay & Dunsterv., Venez. Orchids Ill. 6: 131, 1976.

In order to clarify the first sentence, a second sentence was added after Vol. 7(1) had been received in proof. Unfortunately, two errors were made in the added sentence.

The second sentence should read:

“Therefore, *M. navicularis* Garay & Dunsterv. is not illegitimate.”