

Patima Aubl.

Piero Giuseppe Delprete

Institut de Recherche pour le Développement; piero.delprete@ird.fr

This treatment is composed of the following taxa: *Patima*, *Patima guianensis*.

HOW TO CITE

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DESCRIPTION

Single-stemmed plants, rarely with 1 or 2 branches; terminal internodes hollow; *raphides* present in the calyx, developing fruits, and bark, extremely rare or lacking in most other organs (e.g., leaf blades). *Stipules* interpetiolar, free, basally deltoid and distally acuminate, persistent or subcaducous. *Leaves* opposite, long-petiolate; blades elliptic to oblong to oblanceolate, chartaceous or papyraceous; domatia of tufts of sparse hairs, or absent. *Inflorescences* axillary, supranodal, sessile, fasciculate, pauciflorous. *Flowers* bisexual, protandrous. *Hypanthium* broadly obconical or globose. *Calyx* cupular, truncate, persistent. *Corolla* actinomorphic, salverform; tube externally glabrous, glabrous at base and sparsely pubescent at medio-distal portion inside; lobes 5 or 6 (or 7), valvate, ovate at base, acuminate or caudate at apex. *Stamens* alternate to the corolla lobes, included; filaments attached at the upper part of the corolla tube, free, complanate, shorter than the corolla tube, equal, glabrous; anthers narrowly oblong, rounded at base, acute at apex, dehiscing by longitudinal slits, dorsifixed near the base. *Ovary* 5-6-locular; placenta with two lamellar extensions, with ovules attached throughout the entire length of the septum; ovules many per locule. *Style* partially exerted (only tips of branches exerted), terete, glabrous; *style branches* 5 or 6, narrowly ovate. *Fruit* a globose berry, each locule with a bilamellar placenta, the mesocarp fleshy. *Seeds* horizontal, minute, globose.

COMMENTS

Patima is a genus of two species: *P. guianensis* Aubl., occurring in Guyana, French Guiana and northern Brazil, and *P. minor*, endemic of Guyana.

Life Form

Shrub

Substrate

Terrestrial

DISTRIBUTION

Native, Not endemic to Brazil

Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest

Vegetation Types

Terra Firme Forest

Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

North (Pará)

REFERENCE

Delprete, P.G., Nee, M. & Koek-Noorman, J. (2005). Resurrection and revision of *Patima* (Rubiaceae, Cinchonoideae, Hamelieae). *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 92: 103-112.

Patima guianensis Aubl.

Has as synonym

homotype *Sabicea guianensis* (Aubl.) Baill.

heterotypic *Aegiphila gleasonii* Moldenke

heterotypic *Hoffmannia megistophylla* Standl.

heterotypic *Patima formicaria* I.M.Johnst.

DESCRIPTION

Plants to 2(-3(-4)) m tall; stems terete or faintly quadrangular, 0.7-2 cm diam., smooth, woody, glabrous throughout or puberulent at nodes; internodes hollow, frequently inhabited by ants, with minute, circular entrance holes just below the nodes. *Stipules* 5-8 x 5-9 mm, sparsely short-pubescent outside, densely pubescent and intermixed with colleters inside, subcaducous or short-persistent, leaving a scar encircling the stem just above petiole attachments. *Leaves* opposite, long-petiolate; petioles 5.5-13 cm long, canaliculate above, succulent when fresh, glabrous; blades elliptic, broadly elliptic, narrowly obovate, obovate, oblong, to oblanceolate, 18-53 x 7.5-22 cm, acute to decurrent at base, acute to obtuse at apex, chartaceous to papyraceous, drying pale brown, glabrous above, sparsely appressed-pubescent below; primary and secondary veins glabrous or sparsely pubescent above, sparsely appressed-pubescent and prominent below; secondary veins 16 to 26 on each side of midrib; tertiary veins subparallel-reticulate. *Inflorescences* (1)2- to 5-flowered, sometimes made of 2-3 units of (1)2-3(4) flowers, these subtended by 1-2 narrowly triangular bracts. *Flowers* long-pedicellate; pedicels thin and delicate, 5-8 mm long, glabrous or puberulent, slightly elongating to 8-14 mm at fruit maturity. *Hypanthium* obovoid, ca. 2 mm long, minutely puberulent. *Calyx* cupular, truncate, the margin sometimes slightly undulate, or rarely with minute teeth to 1.5 mm long, glabrous to very sparsely puberulent, without colleters inside. *Flower buds* acute and caudate at apex, with valvate aestivation. *Corolla* 2-3.1 cm long, pale yellow, yellow or pale greenish yellow; tube 1.7-2.3 cm long, 2.5-3.5 mm wide at base, 5-8 mm wide at mouth; corolla lobes 5-6(7), ovate at base and long-acuminate at apex, 5.5-6.5 mm long, glabrous throughout. *Stamens* 5-6(to 7), included, of equal length; filaments attached 6-7 mm below the lobe sinuses; filaments 2.5-3.5 mm long, complanate, glabrous, anthers 3-3.5 x 0.3-0.4 mm. *Style* with the lobes barely exerted just above lobe sinuses, terete, glabrous; lobes 5-6, narrowly ovate, stigmatic surface papillose. *Fruits* 5-6(7)-locular, globose, 6-9 x 5-9 mm when dry, crowned by the persistent calyx, yellow to orange at maturity, drying brown, smooth (not costate), glabrous. *Seeds* ca. 0.3-0.5 mm diam.; exotesta deeply reticulate, the cells of regular shape, with (4)5-6 sides.

COMMENTS

Patima guianensis Aubl. is easily recognized by the hollow internodes inhabited by several species of ants.

It known for Brazil only by the type of *Hoffmannia megistophylla* Standl. (= *Patima guianensis*), which was collected in the Akarai Mountains, State of Para.

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DISTRIBUTION

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Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

North (Pará)

HERBARIUM MATERIAL

A.C. Smith, 2930, K,  (K000424279), MO, **Typus**

Albert C. Smith, 2930, GH,  (GH00096864), **Typus**

REFERENCE

Delprete, P.G., Nee, M. & Koek-Noorman, J. (2005). Resurrection and revision of *Patima* (Rubiaceae, Cinchonoideae, Hamelieae). *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 92: 103-112.