

# Tetrameristaceae Hutch.

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This treatment is composed of the following taxa: Tetrameristaceae, *Pentamerista*.

## HOW TO CITE

Dressler, S. 2020. Tetrameristaceae in **Flora do Brasil 2020**. Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro. Available at: <http://floradobrasil.jbrj.gov.br/reflora/floradobrasil/FB88140>.

## DESCRIPTION

Terrestrial trees or shrubs, sometimes sparingly branched, sometimes with fluted trunk bases and buttresses (mangrove: *Pelliciera*). Nodes trilacunar. Leaves alternate, simple, estipulate, glabrous, coriaceous, margins entire, pinnately veined, extrafloral nectaries in *Pelliciera*; sclerenchymatous idioblasts in mesophyll. Inflorescences axillary, pedunculate umbelliform or corymbiform racemes or flowers solitary (*Pelliciera*). 2 prophylls directly subtending calyx. Flowers bisexual, actinomorphic, hypogynous. Sepals 4-5, unequal, free or nearly so, imbricate or quincuncial (*Pelliciera*), persistent, with scattered pits near middle of upper surface or with numerous small glands basally (*Pelliciera*). Petals 4-5, imbricate, free. Stamens 4 or 5; filaments free or basally shortly connate, uniseriate; anthers basifixed or nearly so, dithecal, tetrasporangiate, introrse or extrorse (*Pelliciera*), longitudinally dehiscent. Ovary superior, syncarpous, 2, 4 or 5-carpellate; ovules anatropous, one per locule but fruit pseudounilocular in *Pelliciera*. Fruits subglobose to napiform, apiculate, baccate or pericarp disintegrating to release the embryo (viviparous *Pelliciera*). Seeds large, long ovoid or cordate with fragmented testa (*Pelliciera*), 1 (*Pelliciera*), 4 (*Tetramerista*), 5 (*Pentamerista*) per fruit, with copious or no (viviparous *Pelliciera*) endosperm surrounding a straight embryo.

## COMMENTS

3 gen., approx. 3 spp. Tropical America and SE Asia.

According to Angiosperm Phylogeny Group III and IV: three monospecific genera with a remarkable disjunction: *Pelliciera* – a mangrove of Pacific and Atlantic (Caribbean) Central and N South America; *Tetramerista* – a large tree of tropical lowland forests in W Malesia (Malaya, Sumatra, Borneo); *Pentamerista* – shrub to small tree (to 15 m) of lowland savannah edges of Upper Orinoco-Casiquiare drainage in N South America.

### Life Form

Shrub, Tree

### Substrate

Terrestrial

## DISTRIBUTION

Native, Not endemic to Brazil

### Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest

### Vegetation Types

Amazonian Savanna

### Geographic Distribution

Confirmed occurrences

North (Amazonas)

# *Pentamerista* Maguire

This treatment is composed of the following taxa: *Pentamerista*, *Pentamerista neotropica*.

## HOW TO CITE

Dressler, S. Tetrameristaceae in **Flora do Brasil 2020**. Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro. Available at: <http://floradobrasil.jbrj.gov.br/reflora/floradobrasil/FB88141>.

## DESCRIPTION

Shrub or small tree. Leaves alternate, estipulate, simple, coriaceous, entire. Inflorescence axillary, long pedunculate corymb-like raceme, bracts caducous. Flower subtended with 1-2 bracteoles, bisexual, actinomorphic, hypogynous, pentamerous. Fruit baccate. Seed anatropous, with abundant endosperm.

## COMMENTS

A monospecific genus of shrubs or small trees occurring in lowland Amazonian savannas and forest margins in SW Venezuela, Colombia and Brazil.

The sister genus in the family Tetrameristaceae is remarkably disjunct: *Tetramerista*, a large tree occurring in lowland swamp forests over white sand in SE Asia (Malaya, Sumatra, Borneo).

### **Life Form**

Shrub, Tree

### **Substrate**

Terrestrial

## DISTRIBUTION

Native, Not endemic to Brazil

### **Phytogeographic Domains**

Amazon Rainforest

### **Vegetation Types**

Amazonian Savanna

### **Geographic Distribution**

Confirmed occurrences

North (Amazonas)

## REFERENCE

Maguire, B. & al., *Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden* 23: 187. 1972

Miller, J.S. & Berry, P.E., *Flora of the Venezuelan Guayana* 9: 309. 2005

# *Pentamerista neotropica* Maguire

## DESCRIPTION

Shrub or small tree, leaves alternate, estipulate, simple, coriaceous, glabrous, lustrous, sessile to subsessile, narrow obovate with cuneate base and retuse apex, margin entire.

Inflorescence axillary, long pedunculate corymb-like raceme, bracts caducous.

Flower subtended with 1-2 bracteoles, bisexual, actinomorphic, hypogynous, fragrant. Sepals 5, quincuncial, glandular on inner surface. Petals 5, quincuncial, oblong, greenish-yellow. Stamens 5, episealous, filaments flattened, basally connate, anthers oblong-sagittate, dehiscing longitudinally. Ovary superior, 5-carpellate, 5-locular, glabrous, style terminal, terete, with a minutely 5-lobed stigma; one anatropous ovule per locule.

Fruit baccate, obloid to ellipsoid with acute apex, purple-black, 5 seeded; seeds with abundant endosperm.

Savannas and savanna margins, forest margins on white sand. Lowland Amazonia in SW Venezuela, Colombia and Brazil.

## Life Form

Shrub, Tree

## Substrate

Terrestrial

## DISTRIBUTION

Native, Not endemic to Brazil

## Phytogeographic Domains

Amazon Rainforest

## Vegetation Types

Amazonian Savanna

## Geographic Distribution

### Confirmed occurrences

North (Amazonas)

## HERBARIUM MATERIAL

Wurdack, J.J., 42865, K (K000432563), Amazonas, **Typus**

Maguire, B., 34513, K (K000432562), Amazonas, **Typus**

Batista, J.A.N., 3108, INPA, Amazonas

Wurdack, J.J., 42865, RB,  (RB00538999), Amazonas, **Typus**

Maguire, B., 36680, K (K000432561), **Typus**

Silva, I.R., 137, INPA (INPA222144), Amazonas

## REFERENCE

Maguire, Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 23: 187, fig. 39. 1972

Miller & Berry, Fl. Venez. Guayana 9: 309, fig. 259. 2005