

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW BANISTERIA FROM BRAZIL AND BRITISH
GUIANA.¹

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The following species of *Banisteria* was detected while identifying a small collection of Malpighiaceae made by Mr. A. Miles Moss in Brazil. This generic name is adopted in accordance with the usage of Robinson and Small in the North American Flora, rather than that of Niedenzu in Das Pflanzenreich. Niedenzu, following Jussieu, refers all of the seven original *Banisteria* species of Linnaeus to other genera, and uses the name in quite a different sense. This procedure can not be justified under any code of nomenclature.

Robinson chose *Banisteria brachiata* L. as the type of the genus, a thoroughly satisfactory selection. The genus *Heteropterys* Kunth becomes therefore a synonym of *Banisteria* L., and the *Banisteria* of Niedenzu is *Banisteriopsis* Robinson. The species here described would come under *Heteropterys* subgenus *Euheteropterys* in Niedenzu's treatment. The subgenus, when recognized under *Banisteria*, is in need of a new name, since the type of *Banisteria* (*B. brachiata* L.), and the type of *Heteropterys* (*B. purpurea* L.) both belong to the subgenus *Eubanisteria*. The new name **Parabanisteria** may therefore be proposed as a substitute for *Euheteropterys* Niedenzu, with *Banisteria laurifolia* L. as type.

***Banisteria mossii* Morton, sp. nov.**

A woody vine; stems slightly angled, glabrous, with numerous conspicuous lenticels, about 2.5 mm. in diameter; internodes 3-4 cm. long; leaf

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blades elliptic, the largest 10.5 cm. long, 4.3 cm. wide, short-acuminate at apex, cuneate at base, entire, glabrous, lustrous, reticulate beneath, the secondary veins (6 or 7 pairs) conspicuous; petioles short (about 5 mm. long), channelled above, glabrous; flowers borne in terminal and axillary panicles, the main axis of the terminal panicle about 10 cm. long in flower, the axillary panicles smaller or reduced to simple racemes; terminal panicle without a common peduncle, 3-branched at base, the lateral branches thinner than the central, the first internode 17–20 mm. long, the upper internodes gradually reduced; rachises terete, densely reddish puberulent (the hairs minute and appressed), the principal one about 1.5 mm. in diameter; pedicels 4–6 mm. long, bibracteate at middle, slender, about 0.5 mm. in diameter, densely reddish puberulent; bracts of the inflorescence oval, obtuse, concave, somewhat twisted, the lower ones 4 mm. long, those of the pedicels similar, about 2 mm. long, densely reddish puberulent; calyx lobes oval, obtuse, recurved at apex, about 2.5 mm. long, densely reddish puberulent outside, glabrous within, 4 of them gland-bearing, the glands 2 to each sepal, distinct, black, oval, 1 mm. long; petals yellow, clawed (the claw about 1 mm. long), the blades oval, 2–2.5 mm. long, obtuse, shallowly and irregularly sinuate, not fimbriate; stamens 10, all fertile, unequal, glabrous; anthers introrse, the connective orbicular, glabrous; ovary pilose; styles 3, straight, glabrous, equal, 3 mm. long; stigmas all short-uncinate, stigmatic on the inner side only; all 3 ovaries developing into fruits or 1 or 2 abortive; fruit a samara, light yellowish-brown or greenish brown, spreading horizontally, the lower margin almost straight except toward apex, thickened, the upper margin thin, membranous, scarcely appendiculate at base, about 35 mm. long, 3 mm. high at base, 2 mm. thick, the narrow basal portion 7–9 mm. long, rather abruptly expanded into the narrowly oval, inequilateral, rounded-obtuse main blade (about 25 mm. long by 12 mm. high); seed borne horizontally, 4 mm. long, 2 mm. high, about 1.5 mm. thick.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium no. 1,442,595, collected at Pará, State of Pará, Brazil, in 1929, by A. Miles Moss (no. 15).

Banisteria mossii is a very distinct new member of the section *Stenopterys*. The most closely related species is *B. laurifolia*, with which it agrees in having the samaras borne horizontally. The samara itself, however, is very differently shaped, that of *B. laurifolia* being 30 to 35 mm. long, about 10 mm. high at base, and 5 mm. thick, and conspicuously appendiculate on the dorsal side at the base. The seed of *B. laurifolia* is borne almost vertically and is much larger; the cavity in which it is borne is about as high as long.

Two additional specimens of *Banisteria mossii*, agreeing closely with the type, are in the U. S. National Herbarium, both from British Guiana: Upper Mazaruni River, Long. about 60° 10' W., collected Sept. 22–Oct. 6, 1922, by J. S. De La Cruz (nos. 2098, 2221). They had been determined as *Heteropterys candolleana* Juss., a very different plant, which may be known as *Banisteria suberosa* Willd. var. *candolleana* (Juss.) Morton.

Identifications of other recent South American material of this family necessitate the following changes of name:

Banisteria argyrophaea (Juss.) Morton.

Heteropterys argyrophaea Juss. Malp. Syn. 234. 1840.

Banisteria anoptera (Juss.) Morton.

Heteropterys anoptera Juss. Malp. Syn. 276. 1840.