Synopsis of the genus *Peperomia* Ruiz & Pav. (Piperaceae) in Roraima State, Brazil¹

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ABSTRACT - (Synopsis of the genus *Peperomia* Ruiz & Pav. (Piperaceae) in Roraima State, Brazil). *Peperomia* is the second most diverse genus of Piperaceae, with an estimated 1,600 species and a pantropical distribution. This work aims to present a taxonomic synopsis of the genus in the State of Roraima, in the extreme north of the Brazilian Amazon forest and belonging to the central-south portion of the Guayana Shield. Based on collecting expeditions and analysis of specimens in various herbaria, 23 taxa were recognized, with two new records for the State and one of them, a new record for Brazil. The taxa are differentiated mainly by phyllotaxis, shape and size of their leaves, in addition to habit and fruits. They have been found in areas of lowland, submontane, montane, tepui and floodplain (várzea) forests and mostly show a distribution restricted to the Neotropics. Some species in the state are presently known exclusively from Mount Roraima, and restricted to a few specimens.

Keywords: Amazon Forest, Guayana Shield, new records, Piperales, Tepui

RESUMO - (Sinopse do gênero *Peperomia* Ruiz & Pav. (Piperaceae) no Estado de Roraima, Brasil). *Peperomia* Ruiz & Pav. é o segundo gênero mais diverso de Piperaceae, com aproximadamente 1.600 especies que estão distribuídas na região pantropical. Este trabalho tem o objetivo de apresentar uma sinopse taxonômica do gênero no Estado de Roraima, extremo norte da Floresta Amazônica brasileira, pertencente ao centro-sul do Escudo da Guiana. Com base em expedições e análise de espécimens de vários herbários, foram reconhecidos 23 táxons, dois são novos registros no Estado e um deles é um novo registro para o Brasil. As espécies se diferenciam principalmente pela filotaxia, forma e tamanho das folhas, além do hábito e frutos. Os táxons foram encontrados em áreas de terras baixas, submontanas, montanas, tepui e planícies inundáveis (várzea) e na maioria possui distribuição Neotropical. Algumas espécies no Estado são conhecidas exclusivamente no Monte Roraima e restringidas a poucos espécimens.

Palavras-chave: Escudo das Guianas, Floresta Amazônica, novos registros, Piperales, Tepui

Introduction

The Piperaceae family has the largest number of species of the order Piperales. The order comprises four other families, among which Saururaceae is considered the sister group to Piperaceae (APG III 2009). The family includes about 3,600 species in five genera, with a pantropical distribution and its greatest diversity in the Neotropics (Arias *et al.* 2006, Quijano-Abril *et al.* 2006, Wanke *et al.* 2006, Samain *et al.* 2008). It is divided into three subfamilies, of which Piperoideae Arn., including *Peperomia* Ruiz & Pav. and *Piper* L., comprises the core of Piperaceae (Wanke *et al.* 2006, Samain *et al.* 2008).

Peperomia has about 1,600 species, more than 3,000 published names and a pantropical distribution (Wanke et al. 2006). The genus possessed several circumscriptions and hierarchical categorizations, including a separate family (Peperomiaceae, according to Heywood 1978), genera currently placed in Peperomia such as Acrocarpidium Miq. and Tildenia Miq. (Yuncker 1974) and also several subgenera and sections (Dahlstedt 1900, Trelease 1930, Wanke et al. 2006). Recently, Frenzke et al. (2015) recognized 14 subgenera, using morphological characters, mainly morphology of the fruit.

For Brazil, Miquel (1852) recognized 57 species of *Peperomia*, and later Yuncker (1974) found 163

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species for the genus in the country, organized in five subgenera and distinguished mainly by the morphology of the fruit. In both works (Miguel 1852, Yuncker 1974), some of the names listed with an Amazonian distribution are currently synonymized. According to Guimarães et al. (2015), there are 55 species of *Peperomia* in the Brazilian Amazon, 31 of them are considered endemic, with some restricted to one state. Studies of this area in Brazil have been done only by Costa & Callejas-Posada (1999) and Callejas-Posada (2008a). For the extra-Brazilian Amazon, there are some checklists (Callejas-Posada 1999, Callejas-Posada et al. 2007, Callejas-Posada 2008b), and taxonomic treatments that include Peperomia (Martínez 1997, Görts-van Rijn 2002, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Nee 2004, Görts-van Rijn 2007).

The Amazon rainforest is the largest rain forest in the world, covering more than 6 million km² and nine South American countries, where an estimated 40,000 plant species occur, 75% of which are endemic (Mittermier 2003, Silva et al. 2005). In Brazil, the Brazilian Amazon (also known as Amazônia Legal) comprises areas of nine states with a wide range of vegetation types from dense Ombrophylous Forests to Savannas (Veloso et al. 1991, IBGE 2005). Among the vegetation types found, there are tepui, which are areas above 1,000-1,200 m and located in the Guayana Shield (Huber 1988). In Brazil, prominent tepui include the Serra do Aracá and Pico da Neblina, in Amazonas State, Mount Roraima, Serra do Tepequém and Serra dos Surucucus, located in Roraima (Huber 1988).

The objective of this work is to present a taxonomic synopsis of the species of *Peperomia* found in an area of the extreme north of the Brazilian Amazon, for which collection effort and knowledge of its plant diversity have been lacking. The geographic distribution, habitat, identification key and illustrations of species are also included.

Materials and methods

The area selected for the study comprises the State of Roraima, in the extreme north of the Brazilian Amazon and belonging to the south-central portion of the Guayana Shield (1°18'48"S-5°30'51"N, 58°41'49"W-64°34'33"W), with a total area of 224,301.04 km². It has a border with Venezuela and Guyana to the north and, to the south with the States of Amazonas and Pará (Reis *et al.* 2003).

It has various vegetation types, such as open and dense Ombrophylous Lowland Forests (0-100 m), Submontane Forests (100-600 m), Montane Forests (> 600 m), Alluvial Forests of *várzea* and *igapó*, *campinaranas*, savannas and tepui (Huber 1988, Veloso *et al.* 1991, IBGE 2005).

The field trips were made from September 2011 to May 2013 in five areas: Estação Ecológica de Maracá, Parque Nacional do Viruá, Mount Roraima, Serra Grande and Serra do Tepequém (figure 1) including various vegetation types (figure 2). The specimens were handled with the usual botanical techniques (Mori *et al.* 1989), deposited at Herbarium INPA, with duplicates sent to the herbaria UFP and RB (acronyms according to Thiers 2014). The review of existing herbarium collections was done using the collections of the herbaria EAFM, HB, HUAM (Herbário da Universidade Federal do Amazonas), IAN, INPA, MG, MIRR, NY, R, RB and UFRR in addition to the online query of some holdings, specifically B, K and US.

To aid in the identification and geographic distribution of taxa, the following resources were used: Trelease & Yuncker (1950), Yuncker (1957, 1974), Görts-van Rijn (2002, 2007), Steyermark & Callejas-Posada (2003), Callejas-Posada *et al.* (2007), Callejas-Posada (2008a,b) and Guimarães *et al.* (2015), in addition to the material collected and available in the herbaria consulted. Morphological terminology followed Hickey (1974) and Harris & Harris (2001).

For the species examined, one voucher is cited per municipality or for its entire distribution when scarce. For additional material when necessary, one voucher per state was included. Specimens indicated as coming from Mount Roraima were analyzed and included in this work due to the imprecision of locality (triple border among Brazil, Guyana and Venezuela), and also because it is considered very likely that the taxa occur also on the Brazilian side of the border.

Results

A total of 23 taxa of *Peperomia* were recognized from the study area, with two new records for the State of Roraima and one of them is a new record for Brazil compared to Yuncker (1974) and Guimarães *et al.* (2015): *P. lancifolia* Hook. and *P. macrostachya* (Vahl) A. Dietr. Most of the taxa found occur in the Neotropics, some of them restricted to areas of higher elevation. There are records of taxa in

lowland, montane, floodplain (*várzea*) forests, forested *campinaranas* and tepui.

Peperomia angustata Kunth, P. delascioi Steyerm. and P. reptans C. DC., although cited by Steyermark and Callejas-Posada (2003), Callejas-Posada et al. (2007) and Görts-van Rijn (2007) for the region of Mount Roraima, was neither located in the field nor in the herbaria consulted.

Taxonomic treatment

Peperomia Ruiz & Pavon, Fl. peruv. prodr. 6. 1794.

Annual or perennial herbs, terrestrial, epiphytic or saxicolous, usually succulent; stems prostrate, erect or decumbent. Leaves alternate, opposite or verticillate, entire, glabrous or pubescent, with red, yellow, brown or black glandular dots, peltate or not, of different shapes and consistencies, palmately or pinnately veined, sessile or petiolate, petiole cylindrical, sulcate or alate. Inflorescences in spikes or racemes, solitary or no, erect or pendent, axillary, terminal or leaf-opposed, rachis glabrous, pilose or papillose. Flowers numerous, minute, hermaphroditic, loosely or densely disposed; floral bracts usually orbicular, peltate, glabrous or fimbriate; stamens 2, filaments short or long; stigma 1, sessile or stylose, apical or subapical. Fruits drupaceous, sessile or stipitate, globoid, ovoid, ellipsoid, cylindric or obovoid, pseudocupulate or not, apex rounded, oblique or rostrate, occasionally the beak forming an apical hook; papillose or not.

Key to the taxa of *Peperomia* in the State of Roraima

2. Prostrate herbs	1. Leaves opposite or verticillate	
3. Leaves petiolate; petiole ≥ 0.5 cm long. 4. Leaves 1,5-2,6 cm long, densely pubescent		16. Peperomia quadrangularis
4. Leaves 1,5-2,6 cm long, densely pubsecent		
4. Leaves 4-8 cm long, sparcely pubescent		
3. Leaves sessile or short-petiolate; petiole ≤ 0.2 cm long. 5. Rachis pilose		
5. Rachis pilose	O: 1 11	4. P. decipiens
5. Rachis glabrous 6. Leaves oblong, 3-5 mm wide		
6. Leaves oblong, 3-5 mm wide	A.	22. P. tetraphylla
6. Leaves rhomboid to elliptical, 5-10 mm wide	5. Rachis glabrous	
1. Leaves alternate 7. Leaves peltate 8. Plants covered with black dots (stems, petioles, leaves, rachises, pedicels, floral bracts and fruits) 7. P. glabella 8. Plants not covered by black dots, or when present, brown in color 9. Prostrate herbs 10. Leaves > 7 cm long, obovate; spike > 5 cm long 12. P. obtusifolia 10. Leaves ≤ 1.5 cm long, orbicular to deltoid or cordiform; spikes ≤ 3 cm long. 11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally cordate to deltoid 19. P. serpens 11. Leaves and stems glabrous to hirsute; leaves generally orbicular 18. P. rotundifolia 9. Erect herbs 12. Petioles ciliate 5. P. elongata 12. Petioles eciliate 5. P. elongata 12. Petioles eciliate 5. P. elongata 14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate 2. P. alata 14. Leaves 0.8-2.5 cm long; petiole cylindrical		
 7. Leaves peltate 8. P. hernandiifolia 7. Leaves not peltate 8. Plants covered with black dots (stems, petioles, leaves, rachises, pedicels, floral bracts and fruits)	6. Leaves rhomboid to elliptical, 5-10 mm wide	17. P. quaesita
 7. Leaves not peltate 8. Plants covered with black dots (stems, petioles, leaves, rachises, pedicels, floral bracts and fruits)		
8. Plants covered with black dots (stems, petioles, leaves, rachises, pedicels, floral bracts and fruits)	7. Leaves peltate	8. P. hernandiifolia
8. Plants not covered by black dots, or when present, brown in color 9. Prostrate herbs 10. Leaves > 7 cm long, obovate; spike > 5 cm long 10. Leaves ≤ 1.5 cm long, orbicular to deltoid or cordiform; spikes ≤ 3 cm long. 11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally cordate to deltoid 12. P. obtusifolia 13. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally orbicular 14. Protundifolia 15. P. elongata 16. Petioles ciliate 17. P. glabella 18. P. obtusifolia 19. P. serpens 11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally orbicular 18. P. rotundifolia 19. Petioles ciliate 12. Petioles ciliate 13. Leaf venation palmate 14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate 14. Leaves 0.8-2.5 cm long; petiole cylindrical	7. Leaves not peltate	
8. Plants not covered by black dots, or when present, brown in color 9. Prostrate herbs 10. Leaves > 7 cm long, obovate; spike > 5 cm long 10. Leaves ≤ 1.5 cm long, orbicular to deltoid or cordiform; spikes ≤ 3 cm long. 11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally cordate to deltoid 19. P. serpens 11. Leaves and stems glabrous to hirsute; leaves generally orbicular 9. Erect herbs 12. Petioles ciliate 13. Leaf venation palmate 14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate 14. Leaves 0.8-2.5 cm long; petiole cylindrical		*
9. Prostrate herbs 10. Leaves > 7 cm long, obovate; spike > 5 cm long 10. Leaves ≤ 1.5 cm long, orbicular to deltoid or cordiform; spikes ≤ 3 cm long. 11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally cordate to deltoid 12. P. serpens 13. Leaves and stems glabrous to hirsute; leaves generally orbicular 14. Petioles ciliate 15. P. elongata 16. Petioles eciliate 17. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate 18. P. rotundifolia 19. P. serpens 19. P. serpens 19. P. serpens 19. P. totundifolia 19. P. elongata 10. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate 10. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate 11. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole cylindrical		3
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10. Leaves ≤ 1.5 cm long, orbicular to deltoid or cordiform; spikes ≤ 3 cm long. 11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally cordate to deltoid	10. Leaves > 7 cm long, obovate; spike > 5 cm long	12. P. obtusifolia
11. Leaves and stems glabrous to hirsute; leaves generally orbicular	10. Leaves \leq 1.5 cm long, orbicular to deltoid or cordiform; spikes \leq 3	cm long.
11. Leaves and stems glabrous to hirsute; leaves generally orbicular	11. Leaves and stems pilose; leaves generally cordate to deltoid	19. <i>P. serpens</i>
9. Erect herbs 12. Petioles ciliate		
12. Petioles eciliate 13. Leaf venation palmate 14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate		
13. Leaf venation palmate 14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate	12. Petioles ciliate	5. P. elongata
14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate	12. Petioles eciliate	
14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate	13. Leaf venation palmate	
14. Leaves 0.8-2.5 cm long; petiole cylindrical	14. Leaves 6-8 cm long; petiole sulcate or alate	2. <i>P. alata</i>
G. I	7 2	
13. Steins and leaves phose, spikes 2-3, fairly somaly	15. Stems and leaves pilose; spikes 2-3, rarely solitary	23. P. trinervula
15. Stems and leaves glabrous; spikes always solitary		
13. Leaf venation pinnate or with only the midvein evident		
16. Flowers congested on the spikes	*	
	17. Spikes erect	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	17. Spikes erect	

18. Leaf apices acuminate and ciliate; spikes solitary	1. <i>P. acuminata</i>
18. Leaf apices acute and eciliate; spikes in pairs	10. <i>P. lancifolia</i>
17. Spikes pendulous	. 11. P. macrostachya
16. Flowers lax on the spikes	
19. Leaves coriaceous when dry	
19. Leaves membranaceous when dry	
20. Leaves 1-3 × 0.7-2 cm, short-petiolate (2-5 mm long)	15. P. purpurinervis
20. Leaves 6-7.5 × 3-4.5 cm, long-petiolate (15-25 mm long.)	3. <i>P. alpina</i>
21. Stems densely pilose, branched; fruits sessile and globoid	13. <i>P. ouabianae</i>
21. Stems glabrous to sparsely pilose, not branched; fruits pedice	ellate and cylindrical
22. Herbs 5-8 cm tall, stems sparsely pilose	20. P. tenella
22. Herbs 10-15 cm tall, stems glabrous	21. <i>P. tenuipes</i>

1. *Peperomia acuminata* Ruiz & Pavon, Fl. peruv. 1: 32. 1798.

Figure 3a

Terrestrial herbs up to 40 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be differentiated from other species by the leaves with an acuminate apex, in addition to the long spikes (12-30 cm long.). It can be confused with P. alpina, however P. acuminata has membranaceous leaves when dried, the flowers are congested, the rachis is greenish when fresh and the fruits are not prolonged at the apex.

Distributed in Central America, West Indies, Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). In Brazil, the species occurs in mountainous areas of the Atlantic and Amazon Forests, where it can be found in the States of Acre, Amazonas and Roraima (Yuncker 1974, Guimarães et al. 2015). In Roraima, it is known only from the region of Mount Roraima, from about 2,100 m up to 2,700 m.

Material examined: BRASIL, AMAZONAS: São Gabriel da Cachoeira, Cordilheira Pico da Neblina, Caminho para o Pico 31 de Março, 11-X-1977 (fl.), W.A. Rodrigues 9869 (INPA). [VENEZUELA. BOLÍVAR: Mount Roraima] Roraima, XII-1909, Ule 8595 (MG, missing sample); 11-II-2013 (fl.), A. Melo 1111 (UFP).

2. *Peperomia alata* Ruiz & Pavon, Fl. peruv. 1: 31. 1798.

Figures 3b-d

Epiphytic herbs up to 30 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be recognized by its leaves $(6.5-8 \times 1.8-2.3 \text{ cm})$ which are membranaceous when dry, glabrous, elliptical to lanceolate, with an acute to attenuated apex, in addition to palmate venation; petiole alate throughout their extension; spikes solitary and fruits globose. Similar to P. blanda (Jacq.) Kunth,

but can be differentiated by phyllotaxis, hairiness of the leaves and shape of the petiole.

It occurs from Mexico to Ecuador, Peru and Brazil (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). In Brazil, it is cited for the Cerrado, Atlantic and Amazon Forests, in the States of Acre, Amazonas, Amapá and Roraima (Yuncker 1974, Guimarães et al. 2015). Here it was found in areas of lowland and Montane Forests and tepui.

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Maitá Mountains, Indian trail Surucucu, 12-II-1971 (fl., fr.), G.T. Prance et al. 13644 (INPA, RB); Serra dos Surucucus, 27-X-1991 (fl.), S. Almeida & M. Cordeiro 743 (MG); São João da Baliza: Reservatório de Jatapu, s.d. (fr.), E.S. Silva 3193 (MIRR).

Additional material examined: BRASIL. AMAZONAS: [Barcelos], Pico Rondon, 4-II-1984 (fl., fr.), J.J. Pipoly et al. 6640 (INPA).

3. Peperomia alpina (Sw.) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1: 157. 1831.

Figures 3e-f

Terrestrial herbs up to 40 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be distinguished from others by its size, leaves $(6.4-7.5 \times 3-4.1 \text{ cm})$ coriaceous when dry, glabrous, long-petiolate (1.5-2.3 cm); spikes paired or grouped in threes, and fruits globoid with a long slender apical beak that may be hooked at the tip. This species can be compared to *P. acuminata*, but can be differentiated by the lax flowers on the spike, the reddish to orangish rachis when fresh, in addition to the shape of the fruit.

Distributed in West Indies, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela and French Guiana (Stevermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Callejas-Posada et al. 2007). In Venezuela, the species occurs on tepui, such as on "Auyán", "Ilú" and Mount Roraima, the latter being the only record for Brazil (Yuncker 1974, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003) in which the taxon was found from 2,100 m to approximately 2,400 m. Burger (1971), Steyermark & Callejas-Posada (2003) and Callejas-Posada (2008b) mentioned the occurrence of the species between 1,500 and 3,000 m, from Costa Rica and Venezuela, in mountains, tepui forests, as well as in the Andes Mountains.

Material examined: [VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima] Roraima, XII-1909 (fr.), *E.H.G. Ule 8594* (MG). VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima, 30-IX-1944, (fl.), *J.A. Steyermark 58990* (NY).

4. *Peperomia decipiens* C. DC., Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin-Dahlem. (Append.) 6(62): 493. 1917.

Terrestrial or saxicolous herbs up to 40 cm tall, stems erect and pubescent. This species can be differentiated by its opposite or verticillate, elliptical (or rarely obovate), sparcely pubescent leaves $(4.1-8 \times 1.7-2.9 \text{ cm long})$, palmately 3-5-nerved, 1.7-2.9 cm long petiole, axillary or terminal spikes and globoid fruits.



Figure 1. Visited areas. GRA- Serra Grande. MAR- Estação Ecológica de Maracá. Mt. RR- Mount Roraima. TEP- Serra do Tepequém. VIR- Parque Nacional do Viruá.

Endemic to Brazil (Yuncker 1974, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). It occurs in the Atlantic and Amazon Forests, in the states of Roraima, Ceará, Bahia and Minas Gerais (Guimarães *et al.* 2015). It was found in Montane Forest areas up to 700 m.

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: Pacaraima, Marco Divisor nº 10, 4-IX-1979 (fr.), *N.A. Rosa & O.C. Nascimento 3270* (MG). Surumu, Serra do Mel, VII-1909 (fl.), *E.H.G. Ule 8114* (MG).

Peperomia elongata Kunth in H. B. K., Nov. gen. sp. 1: 62. 1815 [1816]. Figures 3g-h

Epiphytic herbs up to 30 cm tall, stems erect or decumbent. This species can be differentiated from other species by the glabrous, elliptical to lanceolate leaves $(4-9.7 \times 1.5-3.6 \text{ cm}, \text{rarely 2 cm long.})$, ciliated petiole and elliptical fruits [0.5-1.5 (2) mm long.]. It is similar to *P. macrostachya* (Vahl) A. Dietr., but can be distinguished by the size of the fruit, in addition to the ciliate petiole.

It occurs in Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana and Brazil (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). In Brazil, it occurs in Cerrado, Atlantic and Amazon Forests, from Roraima to Mato Grosso (Guimarães *et al.* 2015). Trelease & Yuncker (1950) and Steyermark & Callejas-Posada (2003) consider there to be three varieties of this species, distinguishable by the size of their leaves and hairiness. However, a strong overlap of characters was detected in the samples of the study area, thus it was not possible to use the proposed taxonomic varieties. The species was found in lowland and alluvial (*várzea*) forests.

Selected material examined: BRAZIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Ilha de Maracá, SEMA Ecological Reserve, Furo Santa Rosa, 23-III-1987 (fr.), *W. Milliken 9* (INPA, MIRR); [Alto Alegre-Mucajaí], Rio Apiaú, 29-I-1967 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 4157* (INPA, MG, R, RB); [Amajari], Uaicá, Rio Uraricoeira, 2-II-1971 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10825* (INPA, RB); Caracaraí, Parque Nacional do Viruá, Rio Anauá, 23-VIII-2012 (fr.), *A. Melo et al. 1021* (INPA, UFP).

Peperomia galioides Kunth in H. B. K., Nov. gen. sp. 1: 62. 1815 [1816]. Figure 3i

Lithophytic or terrestrial herbs up to 50 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be differentiated from other species by having verticillate, sessile, oblong

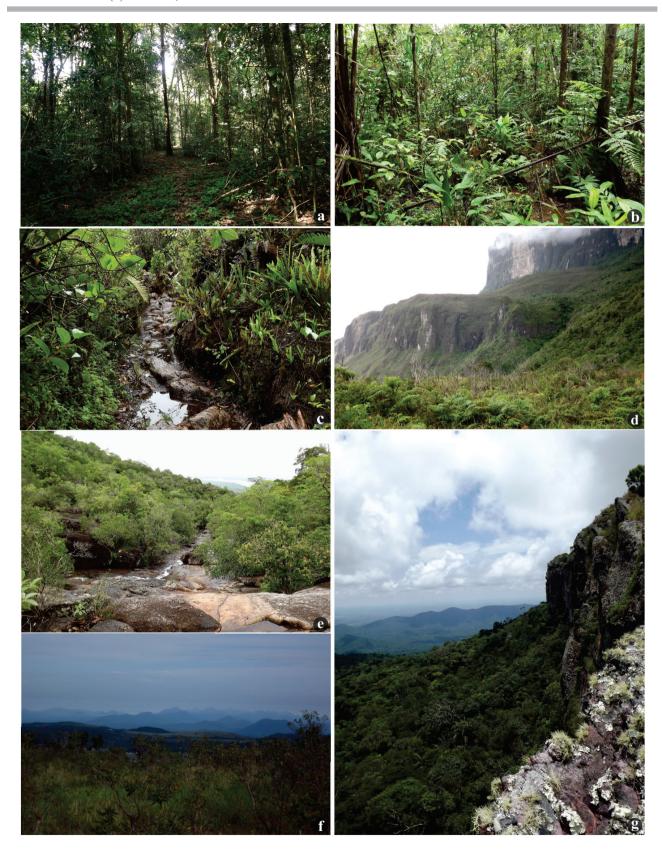


Figure 2. Visited areas. a. Estação Ecológica de Maracá (Ombrophylous Lowland Forest). b. Parque Nacional do Viruá (*campinarana*). c-d. Mount Roraima (tepui). c. Trail La rampa. d. Resting area on the base of the mountain. e. Serra Grande (Submontane Forest). f-g. Serra do Tepequém (tepui). f. View from the top of the major rocky formation. g. View of the northern side of the mountain facing the border with Venezuela.

leaves (5-11 \times 3-5 mm), which are cuneate to rounded at the base, rounded to obtuse apex and globoid fruit.

Distributed from Mexico to South America (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). In Brazil, it occurs in the Cerrado, Caatinga and Atlantic and Amazon Forests, generally in montane areas of over 1,000 m (Yuncker 1974, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). In the Brazilian Amazon, the species is registered only from Mount Roraima (Yuncker 1974), where it was found from approximately 2,100 m to 2,400 m, in lightly shaded forest areas or open areas more exposed to sunlight.

Material examined: VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima, 27-IX-1944 (fr.), *J.A. Steyermark* 58732 (NY); 26-VIII-2-IX-1976 (fl.), *J.A. Steyermark* 112585 (NY); 27-III-1984 (fr.), *J.L. Luteyn & G. Aymard* 9768 (NY); 11-II-2013 (fr.), *A. Melo* 1109 (UFP).

Additional material examined: PERU. AMAZONAS: 43 kms of Balsas towards Leimebamba, 13-II-1985 (fl.), *J.L. Luteyn & E. Cotton 11311* (MG).

7. *Peperomia glabella* (Sw.) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1: 156. 1831.

Figure 3j

Epiphytic herbs up to 30 cm tall, stems erect. This species is easy to distinguish from other species by the black dots present throughout the plant, in addition to the elliptical to lanceolate leaves $(1.5-7.4 \times 1-3 \text{ cm})$, with palmate venation, axillary or terminal, arched spikes in number of the 2-3 or rarely solitary, and globoid fruits. It can be confused with *P. alata*, however the presence of black dots is distinct.

It occurs from Central America, West Indies and South America (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). In Brazil, it occurs in the Atlantic and Amazon Forests, in the latter biome in the States of Roraima, Amapá, Amazonas, Pará and Acre (Guimarães *et al.* 2015). It is reported here for Rondônia. According to Steyermark and Callejas-Posada (2003), two varieties can be recognized based on the shape and size of the leaves, however this was not possible for the samples studied due to overlap of the proposed characters. The species is found in mountain and alluvial (*várzea*) forests.

Selected material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre-Amajari], Ilha de Maracá, SEMA Ecological Reserve, 21-V-1987 (fl., fr.), *W. Milliken & S. Bowles 241* (INPA, MIRR); [Amajari], Auaris, 6-II-1969 (fl., fr.), *G.T. Prance et al. 9640* (INPA, MG, R); Caracaraí,

Parque Nacional do Viruá, Rio Anauá, 31-VIII-2012 (fl., fr.), *A. Melo et al. 1033* (INPA, UFP); [Iracema], Rio Repartimento, Fazenda Repartimento, 31-I-1984 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 28702* (INPA, RB); Mucajaí, Rio Mucajaí, 14-III-1971 (fl., fr.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10958* (INPA, R); Rorainópolis, Rio Catrimani, 3-V-2011 (fl.), *M. Carvalho-Silva & A.E.R. Soares 1033* (UB, UFP).

Additional material examined: BRASIL. Rondônia: Ouro Preto, BR 364, Km 353, 30-VI-1984 (fl.), *C.A. Cid Ferreira et al. 4921* (INPA).

Peperomia hernandiifolia (Vahl) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1: 157. 1831.

Figure 3k-l

Epiphytic herbs up to 10 cm tall, stems prostrate. It is easy to recognize for having peltate and alternate leaves $(4.5-7.4 \times 2.9-5.1 \text{ cm})$, with long petioles (4-6 cm long), in addition to the solitary, axillary spikes and elliptical and papillose fruits.

Distributed in Mexico to Brazil (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003), where it is present in the Amazon Forest, in the States of Roraima and Amazonas, and in Atlantic Forest (Guimarães *et al.* 2015). In the study area, it was found in Montane Forests at 700-800 m, confirming the altitudinal range indicated by Trelease & Yuncker (1950) for Venezuela.

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Serra dos Surucucus, 22-II-1969 (fr.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10182* (INPA, MG, R, RB); [Amajari], Auaris, 6-II-1969 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 9642* (INPA, RB).

9. *Peperomia increscens* Miq., Linnaea 20: 124. 1847. Figure 3m

Epiphytic herbs up to 30 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be differentiated by its opposite or verticillate, elliptical to obovate, densely pubescent leaves $(1.5-2.7 \times 0.8-1.5)$, palmately 3-5-nerved, 0.5-0.8 cm petiole, axillary or terminal spikes and globoid fruits.

Distributed in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Brazil (Zanotti *et al.* 2012). This species was found in Montane Forest area up to 700 m in the state of Roraima. Although Yuncker *et al.* (1974) and Guimarães *et al.* (2015) registered *Peperomia increscens* as synonym of *Peperomia blanda* (Jacq.) Kunth, Zanotti *et al.* (2012) kept the two species apart.

Material examined: BRASIL. [RORAIMA] RIO BRANCO: [Pacaraima], Surumu, Serra do Mel, VIII-1909 (fl.), *E.H.G. Ule 8113* (MG).

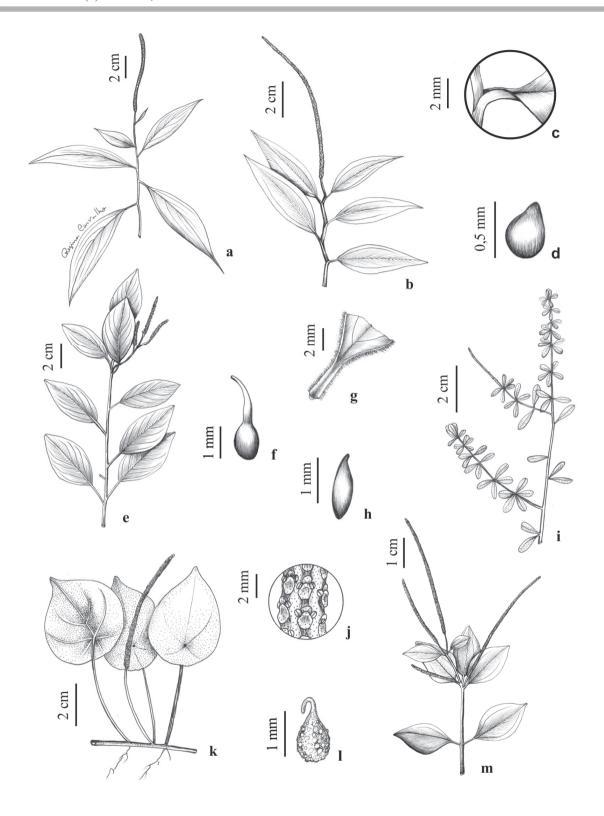


Figure 3. a. *Peperomia acuminata* Ruiz & Pavon (*W. Rodrigues 9869*). Fertile stem. b-d. *Peperomia alata* Ruiz & Pav. (*G.T. Prance et al. 13644*). b. Fertile stem. c. Detail of the petiole and base of leaf. d. Fruit. e-f. *Peperomia alpina* (Sw.) A. Dietr. (*E.H.G. Ule 8594*). e. Fertile stem. f. Fruit. g-h. *Peperomia elongata* Kunth. (*W. Milliken 9*). g. Detail of the petiole and base of leaf. h. Fruit. i. *Peperomia galioides* Kunth (*A. Melo 1109*). Fertile stem. j. *Peperomia glabella* (Sw.) A. Dietr. (*E. Pessoa & S. Vasconcelos 833*). Detail of the spike with flowers, highlighting the glands over its entire structure. k-l. *Peperomia hernandiifolia* (Vahl) A. Dietr. (*G.T. Prance et al. 10182*). k. Habit. l. Fruit. m. *Peperomia increscens* Miq. (*E.H.G. Ule 8113*). Fertile stem.

10. *Peperomia lancifolia* Hook., Icon. pl. 4: t. 332. 1841.

Figures 4a-b

Terrestrial herbs up to 1 m tall, stems erect. It is distinct from other taxa based on its size, habit, stems with quite prominent nodes, leaves $(12-16 \times 1.5-2.5 \text{ cm})$ with an attenuate base, attenuate to acuminate apex, paired spikes and elliptical fruits (1-1.5 mm long.). It is similar to *P. acuminata*, however *P. lancifolia* has leaves with an attenuate base, while *P. acuminata* has leaves with a rounded, obtuse to cuneate base and always solitary spikes.

It occurs in Mexico, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Peru, Ecuador and Brazil (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). Despite the previous authors citing the species for Brazil, Yuncker (1974) and Guimarães *et al.* (2015) did not mention it for the country. Its occurrence in Brazil is confirmed here. Despite the inaccuracy of locality indicated on collected specimens, it is believed to occur in Montane Forests, as has been cited for other countries (Trelease & Yunker 1950, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003).

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: Uiramutã, s.l., 18-IV-2007 (fr.), J. Batista 1569 (MIRR).

Additional material examined: GUYANA. CUYUNI-MAZARUNI: South of Mount Ayanganna, 26-II-1987 (fl.), *J.J. Pipoly et al. 10679* (MG).

11. *Peperomia macrostachya* (Vahl) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1:149. 1831.

Figures 4c-d

Epiphytic herbs up to 50 cm tall, stems decumbent. This species can be differentiated from other species by its elliptical to ovate leaves $(3.8-7.1 \times 1.8-4.3 \text{ cm})$, with an attenuate to acute apex, sometimes with white patches on the adaxial surface, pinnate venation, eciliate petioles and cylindrical fruits (2-3.5 mm long.). While very similar to *P. elongata*, *P. macrostachya* has larger fruits and glabrous petioles.

Distributed from Mexico to Ecuador and Brazil, where it occurs in the Atlantic Forest and widely in the Amazon Forest (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). The species is registered here for Roraima, where it was found in areas of lowland and Montane Forests.

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: Amajari, Serra do Tepequém, 1-IX-2012 (fr.), *A. Melo et al. 1063* (UFP); Alto Alegre, Environs of the Maiongon village close to the FUNAI PIN Uaikas on the Alto Rio

Uraricoera, IX-1994 (fr.), *W. Milliken 2150* (MIRR); Caracaraí, Estrada Boa Vista-Manaus, 3-V-1979 (fr.), *I.A. Rodrigues et al. 882* (IAN); Mucajaí, Rio Mucajaí, 17-III-1971 (fr.), *G.T. Prance et al. 11051* (INPA, RB); Rorainópolis, Rio Catrimani, Ponto 12, 13-II-1975 (fl.), *J.M. Pires 15122* (IAN).

12. *Peperomia obtusifolia* (L.) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1: 154. 1831.

Figures 4e-f

Epiphytic herbs up to 15 cm tall, stems prostrate. This species can be differentiated from other species by its obovate to rarely elliptical leaves (7.5-11.5 × 4.1-4.8 cm), coriaceous when dried, with an obtuse, rounded or rarely emarginate apex, solitary, erect and axillary spikes and elliptical, papillose fruits with an extension at the apex which can form a hook. It can be confused with *P. magnoliifolia* (Jacq.) A. Dietr., which is not found in the study area, but has hirtose peduncles and petioles and larger and fruits (0.8-1 mm long.). Comparing it to the other species of the area, *P. obtusifolia* has leaves similar to *P. alpina*, but can be distinguished by its habit and the shape of the fruits.

Distributed from Mexico to South America (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003), and in Brazil is present in the Caatinga, Cerrado and Amazon and Atlantic Forests (Guimarães *et al.* 2015). In the Brazilian Amazon, it occurs in the States of Amapá, Pará and Roraima (Yuncker 1974, Guimarães *et al.* 2015), where it was found only in areas of Montane Forest. Although no records of the species exist for the State of Amazonas, it possibly occurs in montane areas of that State.

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Serra dos Surucucus, NE of Mission station, 17-II-1969 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10008* (INPA, RB); [Pacaraima], Surumu, Serra de Mairary, IX-1909 (fr.), *E.H.G. Ule 8381* (MG).

13. *Peperomia ouabianae* C. DC., Candollea 1: 400. 1923.

Figures 4g-h

Epiphytic herbs up to 6 cm tall, stems erect and pilose. It is characterized by its small size, elliptical to orbicular leaves (0.7-1.6 cm long) and globose and sessile drupes. It is similar to *P. tenuipes*, from which it differs by the hairiness of the leaves and stems and the shape of the fruits. It is comparable to *P. rotundifolia*, however these species differ in the shape of their leaves and the hairiness of the stems.

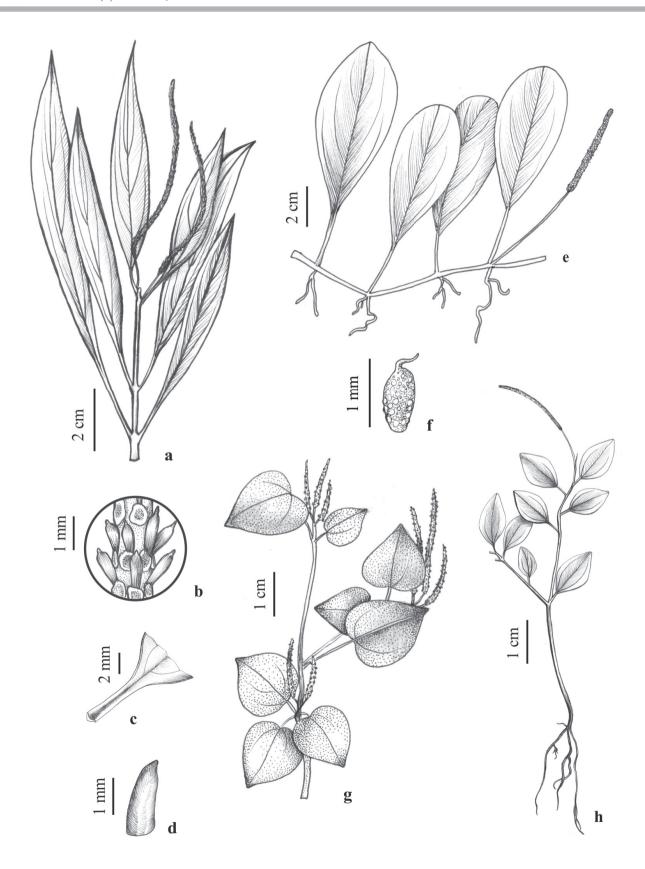


Figure 4. a-b. *Peperomia lancifolia* Hooker (*J. Batista 1569*). a. Fertile stem. b. Fruits. c-d. *Peperomia macrostachya* (Vahl) A. Dietr. (*W. Milliken 289*). c. Detail of the petiole and base of the leaf. d. Fruit. e-f. *Peperomia obtusifolia* (L.) A. Dietr. (*E.H.G. Ule 8381*). e. Habit. f. Fruit. g. *Peperomia pellucida* (L.) Kunth. (*R.I. Barbosa 130*). Fertile stem. h. *Peperomia purpurinervis* C. DC. (*E.H.G. Ule 8592*). Habit.

It occurs in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana and Brazil, it has been recorded in the Atlantic and Amazon Forests (Görts-van Rijn 2007). It is found in Montane and Tepui Forests (760-2,000 m). *P. pilicaulis* C.DC. and *P. ouabianae* are not synonymy according Görts-van Rijn (2007). These species are similar but differ in indument, leaf shape and size of fruit (Görts-van Rijn 2007).

Selected material examined: [VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima] Roraima, II-1910 (fl.), *E.H.G. Ule 8590* (MG, NY). BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Serra dos Surucucus, 18-II-1969 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10064* (INPA, R, RB); [Amajari], Auaris, 6-II-1969 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 9630* (INPA, RB); Pacaraima, Vila Pacaraima, Marco BV-8, 19-X-1991 (fr.), *S. Almeida & M. Cordeiro 577* (MG).

14. *Peperomia pellucida* (L.) Kunth, Nov. gen. sp. 1: 64. 1815 [1816]. Figures 4g

Terrestrial herbs up to 50 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be differentiated from the other species by its habit, by being glabrous, with cordate to rarely deltoid leaves $(1-2.5 \times 1.5-2 \text{ cm})$, with an acute apex, palmate venation and globoid fruits. From the shape of the leaves, it can be confused with *P. serpens* (Sw.) Loudon, but it can be distinguished as being terrestrial, usually short-petiolate (0.5-1.5 cm long.), as well as the shape of its fruits. The species can also be confused with *P. trinervula* C. DC., but it can be distinguished by the shape of its leaves and the coloration of the stem when fresh (greenish in *P. pellucida* and reddish in *P. trinervula*).

Pantropical (Trelease & Yuncker 1950) and widely distributed in Brazil (Guimarães *et al.* 2015).

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: Boa Vista, Parque Anauá, 20-VII-2004 (fr.), *R.I. Barbosa 130* (INPA); Paraviana, 4-I-2009 (fl., fr.), *A.S. Flores et al. 2197* (MIRR).

Additional material examined: BRASIL. Rondônia: Santa Bárbara, Rodovia BR-364, Km 120, 28-V-1982 (fl.), *L.O.A. Teixeira et al. 837* (INPA).

 Peperomia purpurinervis C. DC., Notizblatt des Botanischen Gartens und Museums zu Berlin-Dahlem 6: 496. 1917.

Figure 4h

Epiphytic herbs up to 20 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be differentiated from other species by its

size, the obovate, orbicular, oval to elliptical leaves $[1.5\text{-}1.9\ (2.6) \times 0.7\text{-}1.4\ (1.9)\ cm]$ that are coriaceous when dried, with an obtuse to rounded apex, and solitary, erect and terminal spikes $(1.6\text{-}3.8\ cm\ long.)$. Its leaves are similar to those of *P. quadragularis*, however this species can be distinguished by its habit and size, in addition to its phyllotaxis.

It occurs in Venezuela, French Guiana and Brazil, where it is known only from Mount Roraima and the state of Rio de Janeiro (Yuncker 1974, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). According to Steyermark and Callejas-Posada (2003) and Callejas-Posada (2008b), it occurs in the forests of tepui and mountain ranges between 1,200 and 2,000 m.

Material examined: [VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima] Roraima, I-1910 (fl.), *E.H.G. Ule 8592* (MG).

Peperomia quadrangularis (J.V. Thomps.) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1: 169. 1831.
 Figure 5a

Epiphytic herbs, stems prostrate. It is distinguished from the other species by being prostrate, having quadrangular stems when dried, opposite or rarely 3-verticillate, ovate, orbicular to elliptic or obovate leaves, palmately 3-nerved, axillary spikes and globose fruits.

It occurs in the West Indies, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana and the Brazilian Amazon, in the States of Roraima, Amazonas and Pará (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). One of the most common species of *Peperomia* recorded in herbaria visited and found in lowland, montane and alluvial (*várzea*) forests.

Selected material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: Alto Alegre, Estação Ecológica de Maracá, 19-III-1987 (fl.), *J.A. Ratter et al. 5783* (INPA, MIRR); [Alto Alegre-Mucajaí], Rio Apiaú, 30-I-1967 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 4183* (INPA, MG, RB); [Bonfim], Serra da Lua, 23-I-1969 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 9388* (INPA, R, RB); Caracaraí, Parque Nacional do Viruá, Rio Anauá, 31-VIII-2012 (fl.), *A. Melo et al. 1030* (INPA, UFP).

17. *Peperomia quaesita* Trel., Publ. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Bot. Ser. 13(2): 83. 1936. Figure 5b

Epiphytic herbs up to 15 cm tall, erect and strigose stems. It is characterized by its rhomboid to rarely

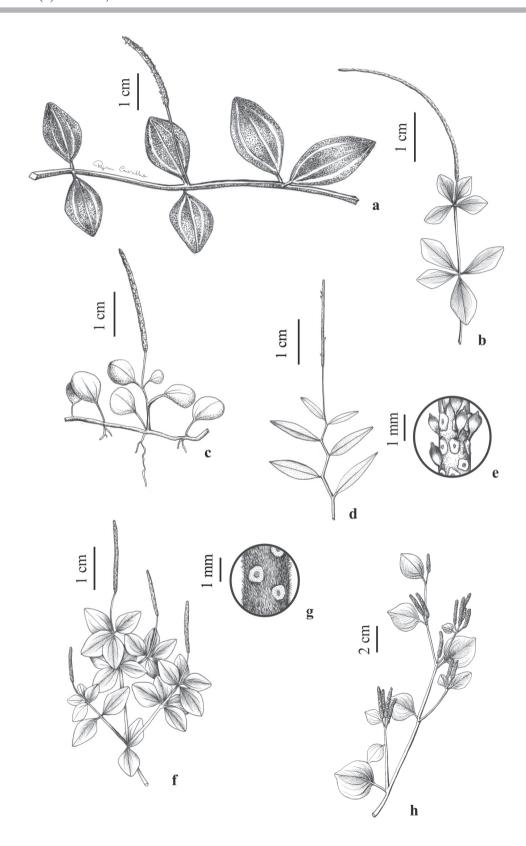


Figure 5. a. *Peperomia quadrangularis* (J.V. Thomps.) A. Dietr. (A. Melo et al. 1029). Habit. b. *Peperomia quaesita* Trel. (G.T. Prance et al. 13595). Fertile stem. c. *Peperomia rotundifolia* (L.) Kunth. (A. Melo et al. 1032). Habit. d-e. *Peperomia tenella* (Sw.) A. Dietr. (F.A. Carvalho et al. 334). f. Fertile stem. g. Fruits. f-g. *Peperomia tetraphylla* Hook. & Arn. (E.H.G. Ule 8591). f. Fertile stem. g. Detail of the spike, highlighting the hairiness of the rachis. h. *Peperomia trinervula* (C. DC.) Steyerm. (E.H.G. Ule 8593). Fertile stem.

elliptical leaves $(0.7-1.7 \times 0.4-0.8 \text{ cm})$, with an acute apex and sessile to short-petiolate (up to 0.15 mm long.). The species can be confused with *P. tetraphylla*, but can be differentiated by the shape of the leaves, larger and thinner $(5-6 \times 0.1 \text{ cm})$ spikes and glabrous rachis. It is also similar to *Peperomia psilostachya* C. DC. (which was not found in Roraima), but has a smaller (0.8-1 cm long) peduncle, while in *P. psilostachya*, this exceeds 3 cm long.

It occurs in Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil, in which it has been cited for Acre, Amazonas and Roraima (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Callejas-Posada 2008a, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). It was found in Montane Forests.

Material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], between Botamatatedi and Maitá, 10-II-1971 (fr.), *G.T. Prance et al. 13595* (INPA); [Amajari], 6-II-1969 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 9673* (INPA, MG).

18. *Peperomia rotundifolia* (L.) Kunth, Nov. gen. sp. 1: 65-66. 1815 [1816]. Figure 5c

Epiphytic herbs with prostrate, glabrous to sparsely hirtose stems. This species differs from the others mainly by being delicate herbs with usually orbicular (rarely ovate, obovate to elliptical) leaves $(0.5-1.4 \times 0.4-1.1 \text{ cm})$ and solitary and terminal spikes.

It occurs from Mexico to South America (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003), and in Brazil is present in the Atlantic and Amazon Forests, in the States of Roraima, Amazonas, Pará and Acre (Melo *et al.* 2014, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). In the study area, it was found in lowland, montane and alluvial (*várzea*) forests.

Selected material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Serra dos Surucucus, 6-II-1971 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 13517* (INPA, RB); [Amajari], Uaicá, Rio Uraricoeira, 28-II-1971 (fl., fr.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10772* (INPA, RB); Caracaraí, Parque Nacional do Viruá, Rio Barauana, 22-IX-2011 (fl.), *A. Melo et al. 909* (INPA, UFP); Mucajaí, Rio Mucajaí, 14-III-1971 (fl.), *G.T. Prance et al. 10959* (INPA).

19. *Peperomia serpens* (Sw.) Loudon, Hort. brit. 1: 13. 1830.

Epiphytic, pilose and brownish-dotted herbs, stems prostrate. It is easily recognized by its pilose, cordate to deltoid or rarely orbicular leaves $(0.9-1.5 \times 0.9-1.7 \text{ cm})$ with an obtuse apex and longpetiolate (0.6-3 cm long.). It can be confused with

P. urocarpa Fischer & C.A. Meyer (which was not found in the study area), but in *P. serpens* leaves (0.9-1.5 cm long.) and spikes (0.9-1.5 cm long.) are smaller. Moreover, in *P. serpens* the position of the inflorescences is axillary, in *P. urocarpa* it is leaf opposed.

It occurs in Central America, West Indies and South America to Peru and Brazil (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003), where it is cited for the Atlantic and Amazon Forests, from Roraima to Mato Grosso (Guimarães *et al.* 2015). It is one of the most common species of *Peperomia* in Roraima and be found in areas of montane and alluvial (*várzea*) forests.

Selected material examined: BRASIL. RORAIMA: [Alto Alegre], Serra dos Surucucus, 14-II-1971 (fl., fr.), G.T. Prance et al. 10518 (INPA, MG, RB); [Amajari], Uaicá, Rio Uraricoeira, 2-XII-1973 (fl.), G.T. Prance & J.F. Ramos 19967 (INPA, RB); [Bonfim], 10 km SE of Serra da Lua, 17-I-1969 (fl.), G.T. Prance et al. 9315 (INPA, R); [Caracaraí-Rorainópolis], Rio Branco, Ponto 8A, 1-V-1974 (fl.), J.M. Pires et al. 14523 (IAN); Rorainópolis, Comunidade Xixuaú, 6-V-2011 (fl.), T. Marinho 218 (INPA); São João da Baliza, Reservatório de Jatapu, s.d. (fl.), E.S. Silva 3123 (MIRR).

20. *Peperomia tenella* (Sw.) A. Dietr., Sp. pl. 1: 153. 1831.

Figures 5d-e

Terrestrial herbs up to 8 cm tall. This species can be differentiated from other taxa mainly by being a delicate herb with small $(6-12 \times 3-6 \text{ mm})$ and sparcely pubescent leaves, as well as the pedunculate fruits. It is very similar to P. tenuipes but that species is bigger and glabrous. It can also be confused with P. ouabianae, from which it can be differentiated by the shape of its leaves and fruits. Burger (1971) reported morphological similarity between P. tenella and P. tenuipes, treating them as a single taxon, while Steyermark & Callejas-Posada (2003) considered them as: P. tenella var. tenella (Sw.) A. Dietr. and P. tenella var. tyleri (Trel.) Steyerm. Recently, Mathieu and Callejas-Posada (2006) treated them as separate species, differentiating them by height, branching and hairiness of the stems and leaves.

It occurs from Central America to Colombia, Venezuela and Brazil (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). Although Guimarães *et al.* (2015) cite the occurrence of the species in Brazil for the Amazon (Amazonas) and Atlantic

Forest (Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Santa Catarina and Paraná), it is also found in areas of the Amazonian tepui of the States of Amazonas and Roraima (De Candolle 1917, Prance & Johnson 1992). In Roraima, the species has only been recorded from Mount Roraima, being abundantly found along the trail up to the top (between 1,900 and 2,300 m), in shaded sites, banks of waterfalls and rapids.

Material examined: BRASIL. AMAZONAS: Santa Isabel do Rio Negro, Parque Nacional Pico da Neblina, Trilha para a cachoeira do Anta, 29-XII-2004 (fl.), *F.A. Carvalho et al. 334* (INPA). VENEZUELA. BOLÍVAR: Monte Roraima, 13-II-2013 (fl.), *A. Melo 1114* (UFP).

21. *Peperomia tenuipes* Trel., Contr. U.S. Natl. Herb. 26(4): 192. 1929.

Epiphytic herbs up to 10-15 cm tall, stems erect. It is characterized by its small ($0.8-2 \times 0.4-0.9$ cm), elliptical, rarely ovate to orbicular leaves with an obtuse apex, solitary and terminal spikes and cylindrical and long-pedunculate fruits.

It occurs in Honduras, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia and Brazil, where it is known only from Mount Roraima (Yuncker 1974, Mathieu & Callejas-Posada 2006, Sutherland 2008, Callejas-Posada & Patiño 2011, Guimarães *et al.* 2015). Yuncker (1974) and Guimarães *et al.* (2015) cite the occurrence for Roraima under the name of *Peperomia tyleri* Trel., currently considered synonymous with *P. tenuipes* Trel., according to Mathieu & Callejas-Posada (2006). In Venezuela and Colombia, it is also cited for mountains and tepui between 600-2,600 m (Trelease & Yuncker 1950, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003, Callejas-Posada 2008b).

Material examined: [VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima] Roraima, I-1910 (fl.), *E.H.G. Ule 8589* (MG).

22. *Peperomia tetraphylla* Hook. & Arn., Bot. Beechey Voy 97. 1832 [1841].

Figures 5f-g

Epiphytic herbs up to 20 cm tall, stems erect. This species can be differentiated from other taxa by having verticillate, elliptical to ovate leaves $(0.8\text{-}1.5 \times 0.6\text{-}0.9 \text{ cm})$, short-petiolate (up to 2 mm long.), in addition to solitary, erect and terminals spikes, 1.5-2 mm thick and hairy rachises. It can be confused with *P. quaesita*, but differs by the shape of the leaves and hairiness of the rachis. Yuncker (1974)

proposed varieties for *P. tetraphylla*, based on the hairiness of stems and leaves and size of leaves, unlike Steyermark & Callejas-Posada (2003) who considered these as part of the natural plasticity of the taxon.

Pantropical (Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). In Brazil, it is represented in the Caatinga, Cerrado, Atlantic and Amazon Forests, in the latter it is known only from Mount Roraima (Trelease & Yuncker 1950, Yuncker 1974, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). According to Guimarães & Giordano (2004) and Monteiro & Guimarães (2008), the species occurs in montane areas of Ceará (Serra do Baturité) and high-montane forests of Rio de Janeiro (Parque Nacional do Itatiaia), respectively. The habitat of the study area is consistent with indications of Trelease & Yuncker (1950) and Steyermark & Callejas-Posada (2003), for Colombia and Venezuela, where the species can be found in areas of tepui and mountain ranges.

Material examined: [VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima] Roraima, XII-1909 (fl.), *E.H.G. Ule 8591* (MG, NY). VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Monte Roraima, 11-II-2013 (fl., fr.), *A. Melo 1106* (UFP).

23. *Peperomia trinervula* C. DC. *in* A. DC., Prod. 16(1): 420. 1869.

Figure 5h

Epiphytic herbs up to 50 cm tall, stems erect and pilose. It is characterized mainly by its orbicular to ovate or rarely elliptical leaves $[(0.9) \ 1.2-2.4 \times (0.6) \ 1.2-2.8 \ cm]$ and axillary spikes, grouped in twos to threes (rarely solitary). From the shape of its leaves and campilodromous venation, it can be confused with *P. pellucida*, but *P. trinervula* has spikes grouped in twos or threes, rarely solitary, and its stems when fresh are usually reddish in color.

It occurs in Honduras, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Brazil, where it is known exclusively from Mount Roraima (Yuncker 1974, Callejas-Posada 1999, Steyermark & Callejas-Posada 2003). It is found from 2,000 to 2,700 m, which is similar to the citations for other countries, where it occurs in the areas of mountains, tepui and mountain ranges. *P. rotundata var. trinervula* is synonymy of *P. trinervula*, according Callejas & Patiño (2011).

Material examined: [VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima] Roraima, I-1910 (fl.), *Ule 8593* (MG). VENEZUELA. Bolívar: Mount Roraima, 13-II-2013 (fl.), *A. Melo 1113* (UFP).

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