

glabrous, 8 mm long; stigma small, discoid. *Fruit* obovoid to subglobose, 2–2.5 cm long, 1.8–2.5 cm diam., glabrescent, with persistent calyx lobes at the apex. *Seeds* globose, 1–1.5 cm diam., brown.

This new species of *Eugenia* was discovered only recently in coastal montane forest at several localities in Pondoland and southern Natal. The plant is usually found in rocky situations near streams or along the upper edge of Table Mountain Sandstone cliffs.

NATAL.—3130 (Port Edward): Farm Beacon Hill (–AA), *Strey* 7225; *Ross* 1850; Umtamvuna Forest Reserve (–AA), *Nicholson s.n.* 3030 (Port Shepstone): Izotsha (–CD), *Strey & Nicholson* 7171; Mgongono (–CD), *Strey & Nicholson* 7611; 80.6; 9295; *Cooper* 27; Uvongo Nature Reserve (–CB), *Strey & Nicholson* 10348♀.

CAPE.—3129 (Port St. Johns): Goss Point (–CB), *Strey & Nicholson* 10100♀; Lupatana (–BD), *Strey & Nicholson* 10240♂; Mkambati Waterfall (–BD), *Strey* 8575; Magwa Falls (–BD), *Jenkins s.n.*

*E. erythrophylla* is an erect, medium-sized tree, 3–10 m high, with a straight bole which, in older trees, is sometimes fluted and twisted. The branches are rather widely spaced. The bark is thick, light grey, scaling irregularly and very finely striate. On older branchlets the bark is ash-grey, exfoliating in thin strips. The young shoots are very distinctly reddish-velvety at the growing tips. The slash is rich dark brown.

The species appears to have no close affinity in South Africa.

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## STERCULIACEAE

### A NEW SPECIES OF HERMANNIA

*Hermannia muirii* Pillans, sp. nov. distinctissima, speciebus stipulis foliaceis pertinens.

Frutex effusus 3–5 dm altus; rami sparse hispidi et stellato-pubescentes. *Folia* 0.6–1 cm longa oblongo-oblancoolata vel oblonga, integra, sessilia, pilis simplicibus vel stellatis ciliata, supra et infra pauca pilis simplicibus munita. *Stipula* foliis simultantibus sed 5–8 mm longa. *Flores* fasciculati, terminales. *Pedunculi* subsessiles, 3-flori. *Pedicelli* ad 3 mm longi, sparse setosi. *Bracteae* 0.4–1 cm longae, lineari-lanceolatae pilis setaceae simplicibus ciliatae. *Calyx* 6 mm longus, extus pilis rectis setaceis stellatis, 1–1.5 mm longis paratus; tubus cyathiformis; lobi tubo aequilongi anguste deltoidei, acuminati, subacuti, sparse intus pubescentes. *Petala* 6–7 mm longa, albida, lamina 3.5 mm longa, obovata glabrata; unguis lamina subaequilongus, cuneatus basi angustatus dorsalis partim minute stellato-pubescent. *Filamenta* 3–3.5 mm longa, oblongo-obovata glabrata. *Anthera* 2.5 mm longa lanceolata, obtusa, minute ciliata. *Ovarium* ellipticum angulis pilis setaceis, inter angulos pilis brevioribus pubescentibus. *Styli* basi setosi. *Capsula* 4 mm longa, late elliptica vel subrotunda angulis pilis setaceis, inter angulos pilis brevioribus. *Semina* minute scabrida.

CAPE.—Riversdale District, Droogeveldvlakte, *Muir* 1882 (BOL, holo.; PRE, iso.).

A much branched spreading shrub, 3–5 dm high; stems woody about the base, rigidly wiry with spaced long or short stellate or simple hairs. *Leaves* mostly 0.6–1 cm long, oblong-oblancoolate or oblong, shortly acute or obtuse, entire, sessile, ciliate with coarse stellate or simple hairs, with a few similar hairs on the dorsal or ventral surface. *Stipules* mostly 5–8 mm long, broadly oblong- or ovate-lanceolate, obtuse or subacute, coarsely ciliate. *Flowers* in dense terminal clusters. *Peduncles* subsessile, usually 3-flowered. *Pedicels* up to 3 mm long, with dispersed coarse hairs. *Bracts* 0.4–1 cm long, linear-lanceolate, with simple coarse cilia. *Calyx* 6 mm long, with abundance of straight, coarse, pale, stellate hairs 1–1.5 mm long on the outer surface; tube cyathiform; lobes as long, narrowly deltoid tapering to a subacute apex, sparsely pubescent on the ventral surface. *Petals* 6–7 mm long, white; limb 3.5 mm long, obovate, glabrous; claw almost as long, cuneate, tapered to the base, minutely stellate-pubescent behind the upper margins. *Filaments* 3–3.5 mm long, oblong

about the base gradually widening upwards to shortly above the middle thence gradually tapering to the apex, glabrous. *Anthers* 2.5 mm long, lanceolate obtuse, with short cilia on the cells. *Ovary* elliptical, with coarse erect hairs on the angles and apex with fewer small hairs between the angles. *Styles* setose about the base. *Capsule* 4 mm long, broadly elliptic or subrotund with coarse stellate hairs on the angles, with small stellate hairs between. *Seeds* minutely scabrid.

This distinct species belongs to the comparatively small group having leaves and stipules very similar in shape. It is readily distinguished from *H. orophila* Eckl. & Zeyh., a species which is in the same group and which occurs in the same area, by the absence of distinct serrations or teeth on the leaves.

The above description and notes were taken from the manuscript of the late Mr N. S. Pillans of the Bolus Herbarium, whose work on a revision of the genus *Hermannia* was interrupted by his untimely death.

Investigation undertaken subsequently has shown that the species is locally common in successive valleys south of Albertinia in the Riversdale district.

#### TWO NEW VARIETIES OF *HERMANNIA FILIFOLIA*

***Hermannia filifolia* L.f.**, Suppl. 302 (1781). Type: Cape, *Thunberg* s.n. (S, holo.; PRE, photo.).

(1) var. ***grandicalyx* Verdoorn**, var. nov.

*H. linifolia* sensu Eckl. & Zeyh., Enum. 371 (1934); sensu Harv. in Fl. Cap. 1:194 (1860), non Burm.f.

Haec varietas a typica floribus majoribus, calycibus fere petalis equilongis et quam petalis palidioribus saepe cremis, foliis subcarnosis vel non-nunquam subsucculentis et glaucis, internodiis longioribus plurumque glabris et nitidis differt.

Type: Cape, Prince Albert, *Acocks* 17098 (PRE, holo.).

The most diagnostic feature of this variety is the large calyx which is about as long as, and much paler than, the usually dark red petals. It is pale pink or more often cream coloured, finely stellate pubescent and lobed to just beyond the middle with the lobes long-acuminate to the apex. The leaves are inclined to be succulent and glaucous but this feature is not constant for in some of the intermediate specimens the leaves are firmly fleshy as in the typical variety. The plant is usually heavily browsed and the shoots that spring from the woody stump are characterised by long, usually glabrous and shiny internodes. Another feature that may assist in distinguishing this variety is that the capsule is usually somewhat longer, up to 12 mm long, as against the 6–7 mm long capsule of var. *filifolia*, and 7–8 mm long in var. *robusta*.

The description in the Flora Capensis of *H. linifolia* fits this variety and the two specimens cited, *Drege* 7285 (LE, W) and *Ecklon & Zeyher*., Enum. No. 371 (L, S, W) belong here. Harvey doubtfully ascribes the species to Linnaeus but Burmann filius is the author. An examination of Burmann's type, kindly sent on loan to this Institution by the Director of the Conservatoire Botanique at Geneva, revealed that it was conspecific with the type of *Mahernia scoparia* Eckl. & Zeyh.

Harvey mentions that his concept of *H. linifolia* is "nearly allied to *H. filifolia*". A study of the complex has led to the conclusion that it is merely a variety of *H. filifolia*. While it is readily distinguished in the main area of its distribution there are bordering specimens that are not so distinct.

The area of distribution of this variety stretches from Montagu eastwards to Oudtshoorn and northwards to Sutherland and Beaufort West. The largest concentration has been recorded from the vicinity of Prince Albert.



CAPE.—3220 (Sutherland): Klein Roggeveld (-DC), *Marloth 9584*. 3221 (Merweville): Vin-dragersfontein (-DB), *Acocks 14328*; about 5 km N. of Prince Albert Road Station (-DC), *Acocks 17098*. 3222 (Beaufort West): Doornboomfontein (-AA), *Van Breda 527*. 3320 (Montagu): Josephskraal (-BA), *Van Breda 2123*; about 18 km W. of Laingsburg (-BA), *Acocks 24351*; Matjesfontein (-BA), *Cannon 166*; about 6 km N. of Matjesfontein (-BA), *Comins 1090*; Jakkalsfontein (-DA), *Van Breda 1238*. 3321 (Ladysmith): southern foot of Sevenweekspoort (-AD), *Edwards 2260*; 32 km W. of Prince Albert (-BC), *Leistner 243*; about 10 km S. of Ladysmith (-CB), *Acocks 14511*; Klein Karoo (-CD), *Muir 3754*. 3322 (Oudtshoorn): S.W. of Prince Albert (-AA), *Taylor 7330*; Zwartberg (-AA), *Bolus 11443*; Tygerberg (-AB), *Marloth 4458*; N. of Oudtshoorn (-AC), *Bolus 11722*; Zebra (-CB), *Van Breda 510*.

(2) var. **robusta** *Verdoorn*, var. nov., a var. typica omnibus partibus robustioribus differt; a var. *grandicalyce* foliis densioribus firmioribus ramulis et calycibus scabrioribus differt.

Type: Cape, Port Elizabeth, 2 km N.W. of Donkin Memorial, *Olivier 458* (PRE, holo.).

This variety is so much more robust than the majority of specimens in the typical variety that at first glance it appears to be specifically distinct. But on examination it is found to agree in the characteristic leaves, pubescence and colouring of var. *filifolia*, differing only in the size of all its parts. The plant is up to 1 m tall and the branchlets are rough with minute scales or the tubercle-bases of fallen hairs. The fascicled ericoid leaves (appearing narrowly linear in pressed specimens), together with their leaf-like stipules are 10–20 mm long and are more crowded on the branches. From var. *grandicalyx* it differs mainly in that the leaves are always firm (not subsucculent) and crowded, without long glabrescent and shiny internodes, and the calyx is not so markedly pale nor finely stellate pubescent but is rough with fairly sparse minute scales or tubercles.

Except for a few intermediate specimens in the surroundings, var. *robusta* has to date been recorded only from the Port Elizabeth district. The specimen of *Zeyher* 2004 in the National Herbarium, Pretoria, labelled as from the “Wintersbergen”, is this variety. It is cited in *Flora Capensis* under *H. filifolia*. However, the same number, *Zeyher* 2004, in the Stockholm Herbarium is rather *H. flammea* and is labelled to be from “Adow & Zwartkopsrivier”. In some cases these old specimens are rather confusing and must be treated with caution.

CAPE.—3325 (Port Elizabeth): Victoria Park (-DC), *Long 792*; Baakens River (-DC), *Long 475*; *Galpin 9930*; 2 km N.W. of Donkin Memorial (-DC), *Olivier 458*; *458a*.

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