

VITACEAE

A NEW AND AN OVERLOOKED RECORD OF *CYPHOSTEMMA* IN ANGOLA

The family Vitaceae was recently catalogued for *Plants of Angola* (Figueiredo & Smith 2008) by Retief (2008), who recognised 20 species in the genus. During ongoing work on the flora of Angola, two additional species of *Cyphostemma* (Planch.) Alston were recently newly recorded for the country. These are *Cyphostemma wittei* (Staner) Wild & R.B.Drumm. and *C. congestum* (Baker) Desc. ex Wild & R.B.Drumm. *C. congestum* had already been recorded for Angola in an obscure publication that was overlooked by previous reviewers of the family in Angola.

***Cyphostemma congestum* (Baker) Desc. ex Wild & R.B.Drumm.** in *Flora zambesiaca* 2,2: 473 (1966). *Vitis congesta* Baker in *Oliv.*: 412 (1868). *Cissus congesta* (Baker) Planch. in *A.DC. & C.DC.*: 590 (1887). *Cyphostemma congestum* (Baker) Desc.: 120 (1960), comb. inval. [ICBN Art. 33.4, no clear indication of basionym]. Type: Angola, Chibiza, Meller *s.n.* (K, holo.).

Cissus fleckii Schinz: 640 (1908a). *Cyphostemma fleckii* (Schinz) Desc.: 121 (1960), comb. inval. [ICBN Art. 33.4, no clear indication of basionym]. *Cyphostemma fleckii* (Schinz) Desc.: 221 (1967). Type: South West Africa [Namibia], Hereroland, *Fleck* 762 (Z, holo.).

Cissus amboensis Schinz: 699 (1908b). Type: South West Africa [Namibia], Hereroland, *Dinter* 186 (syn.), *Amboland*, *Wulffhorst* 176 (syn.).

Cyphostemma congestum has been recorded from Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe (African Plants Database 2010). This species shows variation in the density of stem glands: in Namibia in the west, the stems can be moderately to sparsely glandular, while they are more so towards the eastern parts of its distribution range. The PRE specimens from the Angolan side of the Ruacanã Falls, cited below, have stems that are puberulous with multicellular hairs, without capitate glandular hairs.

Merxmüller & Schreiber (1969) synonymized *Cissus amboensis* with *Cyphostemma congestum* and men-

tioned the occurrence of the taxon in Angola. This was overlooked by Retief (2008). The specimens listed here confirm the occurrence of *C. congestum* in Angola.

Specimens examined

ANGOLA.—Cunene, Ruacanã Falls, 30 April 1962, *Kotze* 57 (PRE!); Cunene, top of Ruacanã Falls on Angolan side, 30 April 1962, *Rycroft* 2423 (PRE!). Figure 4.

***Cyphostemma wittei* (Staner) Wild & R.B.Drumm.** in *Kirkia* 2: 141 (1961). *Cissus wittei* Staner in *Wildeman & Staner*: 49 (1932). Type: from Congo (Katanga).

Cyphostemma wittei was previously only known from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Zambia. It is a variable species with the stems sometimes glandular, whereas in other cases they are eglandular.

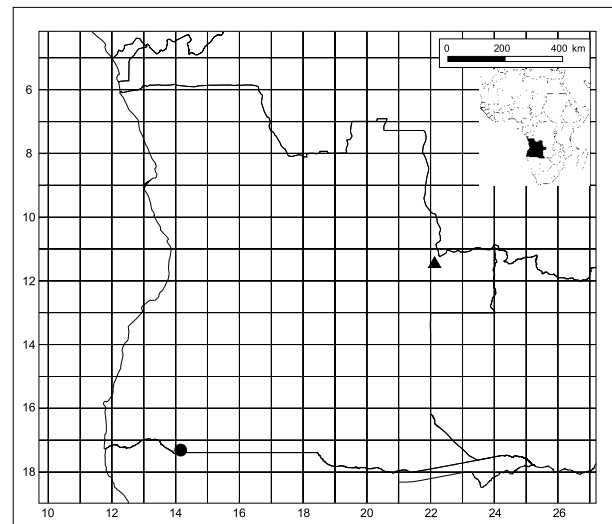


FIGURE 4.—Distribution of *Cyphostemma congestum*, ●; and *C. wittei*, ▲, in Angola.

This variation has even been encountered on the same plant (*Milne-Redhead 2839*, K, cited by Wild & Drummond 1966). The stems on the LISC specimen from Angola cited below are glandular.

Specimen examined

ANGOLA.—Moxico, Cameia, *Barros Machado ANG.XII.54–51* (LISC!). Figure 4.

The two new records bring the total number of *Cyphostemma* species known for the country, to 22. Nine of these known Angolan species of *Cyphostemma* are endemic.

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