

GUIDE TO THE GENERA OF LIANAS AND CLIMBING PLANTS IN THE NEOTROPICS

MONIMIACEAE

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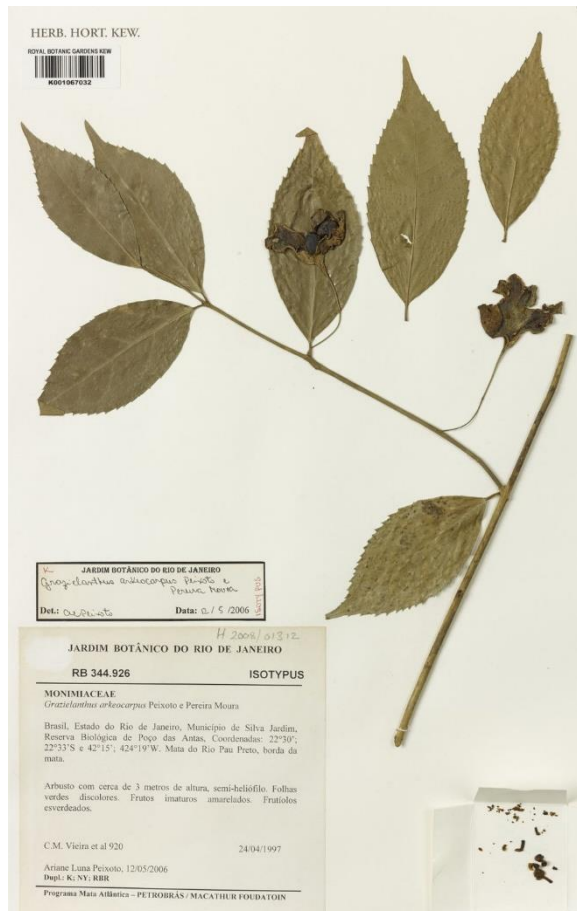
A pantropical family of trees, shrubs and lianas, with 28 genera and about 200 species, represented in the Neotropics by 5 genera and 71 species of which *Grazielanthus arkeocarpus* Peixoto & Per.-Moura, is the only species of vine. The description that follows pertains to this species since it is the only vine of Monimiaceae in the Neotropics.

General Characters

1. STEMS. Subwoody, terete, reaching 3-4 m in height. Aspects of macro anatomy not known.
2. EXUDATES. Not reported, very likely not conspicuous.
3. CLIMBING MECHANISM. *Scrambling* shrubs, leaning upon the surrounding vegetation and reaching up to 4 m in length.
4. LEAVES. Opposite, decussate, simple, chartaceous, with serrate margins and pinnate venation; petioles short; stipules absent.
5. INFLORESCENCES. Axillary, long-pedunculate; staminate inflorescence a triflorous dichasium; pistillate inflorescence of a single flower, these solitary or paired at the leaf axils.
6. FLOWERS. Unisexual (plant dioecious), actinomorphic with urceolate 4-lobed, receptacle that contains the sexual organs; stamens 35-37, sessile; carpels free, 35-37.
7. FRUITS. Small drupelets contained in a fleshy receptacle that irregularly opens at maturity to expose the fruitlets.

GENERIC DESCRIPTION

GRAZIELANTHUS Peixoto & Per.-Moura, Kew Bull. 63: 138. 2008.



G. arkeocarpus, from C.M. Vieira 920 (K)

Dioecious, decumbent or scandent shrub, 2–4 m tall. Stems slender, terete. Leaves simple, opposite, decussate, chartaceous, serrate at margins with glandular teeth, acuminate at apex, shortly petiolate. Inflorescences axillary, long-peduncled; staminate inflorescence a triflorous dichasium; pistillate flowers solitary or paired. Flowers unisexual, actinomorphic, with urceolate, internally four-lobed, non-calyptate receptacle, that is nearly closed in pistillate flowers; stamens 35–37, sessile or subsessile, inserted on the inner surface of the receptacle, anthers nearly rounded, opening by two longitudinal slits, dorsifixed; carpels 35–37, free, sessile, the style terminal, verrucose. Fruit of numerous drupelets that are enclosed in a persistent receptacle that turns yellow-green at maturity and opens irregularly into 3 or 4 parts exposing the drupelets and an internally orange and tomentose surface.

Distinctive features: Scrambling subwoody vine, with opposite, serrate leaves; fruitlets contained in a fleshy receptacle.

Distribution: A Brazilian genus of a single species, *Grazielanthus arkeocarpus* known from the central region of the coastal plain of Rio de Janeiro; moist forests; 0–200 m.

RELEVANT LITERATURE

Peixoto, A.L. and M.V.L. Pereira-Moura. 2008. A new genus of Monimiaceae from the Atlantic Coastal Forest in South-Eastern Brazil. *Kew Bulletin*. 63: 137-141.

Philipson, W.R. 1993. Monimiaceae, pages 426-437. In: Kubitzki K. (ed.) *Flowering Plants. Eudicots. The Families and Genera of Vascular Plants*. Vol. 2. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.