A New Species of Dasyphyllum (Asteraceae-Mutisieae) from Paraguay

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Abstract. A fourth species of Dasyphyllum sect. Dasyphyllum with a floral tube that is pilose on the outside is described here; the other three species are Dasyphyllum inerme, D. lanceolatum, and D. veprerculatum. This new species, which we name Dasyphyllum maria-lianae, is distinguished from the others by the broadly ovate leaves that are loosely villous above and densely villous below, a longer pedicel, a wider involucre, densely tomentose phyllaries, and a greater number of flowers.

As a result of recent exploratory work in Paraguay, a distinctive new species of Dasyphyllum has been collected, which we describe here. This is the fourth species of Dasyphyllum sect. Dasyphyllum [= section Microcephala (Baker) Cabrera] with the floral tube pilose outside and the first one with that feature recorded for Paraguay. The other three species of Dasyphyllum sect. Dasyphyllum with floral tube pilose on the outer surface are Dasyphyllum inerme (Rusby) Cabrera, D. lanceolatum (Lessing) Cabrera, and D. veprerculatum (D. Don) Cabrera (Cabrera, 1959). Aside from them, this feature is also known in three species of Dasyphyllum sect. Macrocephala, D. lanosum Cabrera, D. fodinarum (Gardner) Cabrera, and D. donianum (Gardner) Cabrera (Cabrera, 1959); this section is distinguished from section Dasyphyllum by the involucre larger than 2 cm high and by the heads solitary or few. With its beautiful hanging twigs covered by pale green leaves and bright yellow flowers, Dasyphyllum maria-lianae is a conspicuous part of the flora in the mountain forests of the Cordillera de Yby-tyruzu and the Cerro Naville in eastern Paraguay.

Dasyphyllum maria-lianae Zardini & Soria, sp. nov. TYPE: Paraguay. Guairá: Mbocayaity-Melgarejo, Cerro Naville, 25°43'S, 56°21'W, forest on slopes, 6 July 1992, Zardini & Guerrero 32470 (holotype, FCQ; isotype, MO). Figure 1.

Climbing shrub to 5 m tall, much branched. Stems tomentose, hanging, with paired axillary spines. Leaves alternate; petiole 5–10 mm long; blade broadly ovate acute at apex and rounded at base, trinervate, loosely villous above and densely villous below, 5–7 × 3–4 cm. Heads in paniculate corimbiform racemes. Pedicel 10–15 mm. Involucres campanulate, 10–12 mm high and wide; phyllaries ovate mucronate at apex, tomentose. Flowers ca. 28; corolla yellow, 10–12 mm long, pentasect (segments 4–6 mm long) with one incision deeper than the others, with tube and apical parts of segments pilose on outer surface. Achenes cylindrical, 4–5 mm long, dense and long white sericeous; pappus of plumose whitish bristles 12–14 mm long.


The four species of Dasyphyllum sect. Dasyphyllum with a floral tube pilose on the outside surface can be differentiated as follows:

1a. Flowers ca. 28; pedicel 10–15 mm; involucre 10–12 mm wide; phyllaries ovate; mucronate at apex, densely tomentose; leaves broadly ovate, 5–7 × 3–4 cm, loosely villous above and densely villous below; eastern Paraguay . . . .

1b. Flowers fewer than 20; pedicel 2–7 mm; involucre 6–7 mm wide; phyllaries ovate or lanceolate, mucronate or spiny at apex, loosely villous or sericeous; leaves ovate, elliptic or

Figure 1. *Dasyphyllum maria-lianae* Zardini & Soria. —A. Flowering stem. —B. Head. —C. Corolla. —D. Achene.
lanceolate, 4.5-8 × 1.5-4 cm, glabrous above and glabrous or loosely pubescent below.

2a. Phyllaries loosely villous, mucronate at apex; southern Bolivia and northwestern Argentina. 

2b. Phyllaries sericeous, with an apical spine 1-2 mm long.

3a. Leaves elliptic-lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate, loosely villous, 5-8 × 2-4 cm; involucre 12 mm high; Venezuela and northeastern Brazil. 

3b. Leaves lanceolate, loosely sericeous, 4.5 × 1-2 cm; involucre 8-10 mm high; southern Brazil.

We name this species after María Liana Gentry Zardini, daughter of the senior author.

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Literature Cited