

# A NEW ANTHURIUM FROM PANAMA

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## *Anthurium canasas* Croat sp. nov.

Caudicula abbreviata. Petiolus lamina 4-8-plo brevior, (2)4-12 cm longus, dorso rotundatus, 3-5 constatus, antice late canaliculatus. Lamina oblanceolata vel oblanceolata-elliptica, apice acuminata, basi acuta, obtusa vel rotundata, (15) 30-60 cm longa, (6)10-18 cm lata. Inflorescentia erecta; pedunculus 30-75 cm longus; spatha linearis-lanceolata, 6-15 cm longa, 9-15 mm lata; spadix stipitatus, 8.5-15 cm longus, 4-6 mm latus, purpureus. Fructus purpureus, obovatus, circa 7 mm longus.

Epipetric, epiphytic, or terrestrial on steep rocky banks, roots numerous, closely crowded, descending, 2-5 mm diam., rounded at tip, densely pubescent, grayish to tan; caudex to ca. 15 cm long, 1-1.5 cm diam., the internodes very short, the leaf scars mostly hidden by descending roots; cataphylls to ca. 5 cm long, reddish-mottled, turning brown, remaining  $\pm$  intact except at base, gradually acuminate at apex, weakly ribbed. Leaves 4-12, clustered at apex of stem, forming a loose rosette; petioles (2)4-12 cm long, ca. 5-7 mm wide, 4-8 times shorter than the blades, minutely speckled, narrowly or broadly canaliculate,  $\pm$  bullous at base, the margins  $\pm$  sharp, subrounded adaxially usually with 3-5 sharp, low ribs, the medial rib strongest, sheath to 2.3 cm long, reddish; geniculum shaped like petiole, slightly paler, (.5)1-1.5 cm long; blades moderately thin, (15)30-65 cm long, (6)10-18 cm wide, broadest above the middle, oblanceolate to oblanceolate-elliptic, gradually acuminate and often

falcate at the apex, acute to obtuse or narrowly rounded at the base, epunctate, the margin broadly undulate to straight; the upper surface dark green, weakly glossy, midrib raised, almost flat near base, becoming convex above base, and diminishing before apex, major lateral veins 8-12 in shallow valleys (often scarcely more prominent than tertiary veins in dried specimens), arcuate-ascending, mostly free to the margin, those in the apical 1/3 of blade often uniting into loop-connected collective vein, rarely forming a collective vein from near the middle of the blade; interprimary veins present, weakly sunken; tertiary veins often clearly visible (prominently raised on drying), weakly depressed; antemarginal vein paler than upper surface, lower surface paler (B&K yellow-green 8/10), drying somewhat olive-green (B&K yellow 7/10), slightly less glossy; prophyll colored as cataphyll, 2.5-3 cm long; inflorescences 1-several, stiffly erect and held above leaves in flower, erect or drooping in fruit, peduncle 30-75 cm long, ca. 5-6 times longer than petioles, terete, firm weakly to prominently 1-ribbed beneath midrib of spathe, 4-6 mm diam.; spathe thin (often withered in age) green or green suffused with violet-purple, matte on upper surface, weakly glossy on lower surface, obliquely inserted on peduncle at 60° angle (the insertion to 2 cm long) spreading and recurving or loosely coiled,



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6-9.5 cm long, 9-15 mm wide, broadest just above the point of attachment, linear-lanceolate, narrowly acuminate at apex (the acumen inrolled) the margins joining on front side of the peduncle at 40-50° angle, the veins obscure, the midrib weakly raised beneath, stipe green, ca. 8-12 mm long at back, 22-30 mm long in front, 3.5-4 mm diam.; spathe violet-purple (B&K red-purple 2/10), narrowly cylindrical-tapered, 8.5-15 cm long, 4-6 mm diam. at base, 2.5-3 mm diam. at apex; flowers protogynous, the principle spiral right-handed, 4-5 flowers visible in right-hand spiral, 7-10 visible in left-hand spiral.

The apex square, 2.5 to 3.0 mm wide in both axes, the sides weakly sigmoid; tepals matte, weak-

ly punctate, minutely papillate, the lateral tepals 1.3-1.8 mm diam., with inner margins broadly convex to straight to concave, the alternate pair with inner margins concave; the space between the tepals oval to subquadrangular, .6-1.0 mm long in direction of axis, .9-1.4 mm wide perpendicular to axis of spadix; pistil not at all emergent, exposed from earliest stages of development, green becoming violet-purple, the stigma ellipsoid when open, .6 mm long, .2 mm wide; stamens emerging in a slow progression from base, those in all but the leading 3-5 spirals completely developed, anthers cream, ca. .4-5 mm long, .8-9 mm wide, held just above the edge of the tepals, inclined slightly inward, forming a close circle around the stigma, pollen white.

Infructescence bearing fruits only in the lower half of spadix, fruits violet-purple, obovoid, ca. 7 mm long, rounded at apex, the stigmatic area brownish, emerging in a  $\pm$  scattered pattern; seeds 2, 4.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, ca. .7 mm thick.

TYPE: Panama, Province of Veraguas, Distrito Cañasas; ca. 1 km. above Cañasas on road to Los Valles; elev. 230 m., disturbed area along stream; July 14, 1976. *Croat 37051* (HOLOTYPE: MO 2395411; ISOTYPE: F, SCZ).

Known only from Panama in tropical moist forest at ca. 250 m elevation. It appears not to be closely related to any known species of *Anthurium*. It is interesting to find a new species in tropical moist forest where the flora is otherwise well known.

The type was collected in flower and fruit in mid July. Living collections at the Missouri Botanical Garden began flowering in September and again in March of the following year.

It is placed with some reservations in the section *Pachyneurium*. It differs from most members of that section in Central America because of its thinner leaves and dark purple fruits.

*Anthurium canasas* is distinguished by its rich green, oblanceolate-elliptic leaves, which dry more or less olive-green with prominent, raised reticulate venation, and by its ribbed petioles, slender reddish-brown spadices and violet-purple fruits.

#### Literature Cited

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