

A New Endemic Species of *Anthurium* (Araceae) from Brazil

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ABSTRACT

Anthurium curicuriariense Croat is described as new. The new species is a member of section *Calomyxstrum*, and is a narrow endemic known only from Cerro Curicuriari in northern Amazonas Department of Brazil near the Rio Negro.

KEY WORDS

Anthurium, new species, Araceae, Brazil, Cerro Curicuriari.

INTRODUCTION

Over twenty years ago, Selby Botanical Garden botanist Mike Madison participated in an Amazon Expedition to the upper Rio Negro in Amazonas State of Brazil. On this expedition the party visited an interesting and isolated peak, Cerro Curicuriari, which proved to have new species, including the species described here as new. Cerro Curicuriari is located in the Rio Negro Basin in Amazonia, rising to 500 m, an unusual elevation for this region, and with cloud forest at the summit according to Mike Madison. Most of the species of Araceae in northern Brazil are relatively widespread common species, such as *Anthurium bondplandii*, so it is unusual to find a narrow endemic restricted to the top of Cerro Curicuriari, in this region.

***Anthurium curicuriariense* Croat, sp. nov.** Type: BRAZIL Amazonas, Rio Negro, Cerro Curicuriari, 0°20'S, 66°50'W, 500 m, originally collected

by Madison & Kennedy (6572), cultivated plant at the Marie Selby Botanical Garden, Sarasota, Florida, USA, vouchered Mar. 27, 1980, as T. B. Croat 49738 (holotype, MO-3189425; isotypes, B, INPA, K, NY, RB, SEL, UB, US). Figure 1.

Herba terrestris; caulis brevibus, ca. 2.5–3.0 cm diam.; internodiis minus quam 1 cm longis, 4.5–5.0 cm diam.; cataphylla ca. 8 cm longa. Folium petiolo 88–120 cm longo, ad basim 1.0–1.5 cm, ad medium 8–10 mm diam., subtereti, seminitido, liniis brevibus pallidis inconspicue notato; lamina 35.5–42 (–85) cm longa, 30.5–42 (–75) cm lata, modice coriacea, late ovata, ad basim cordata, ad apicem late obtusa usque late rotundata, supra dilute nitida usque seminitida et atrovirente (in sicco flavido-brunnea usque cinereo-viridi), infra pallide flavovirente et dilute nitida; nervis lateralibus primariis utroque latere 4 vel 5. Inflorescentia erecta, effusa; pedunculo 148–162 cm longo, 7–8 mm diam.; spatha 11–13.7 cm longa, patente recurvata usque reflexa, ca. 3 cm lata, viridi usque flavovirente, subcoriacea; spadice ca. 9.7 cm longo, ad basim ca. 7 mm diam., 1 cm sub apicem ca. 5 mm diam., flavovirente (in sicco atrobrunneo), flores 5 vel 6 in quaque spirala gerente. Flos ca. 2.7 mm (in sicco ca. 2.0 mm) latus, ca. 3.0 mm (in sicco ca. 2.5 mm) longus. Baccae ante maturitatem fuscopurpleae, ad maturitatem dimidio apicali fuscoviolaceae, dimidio basali albidae.

Terrestrial herb; stems repent, short, ca.



Fig. 1. *Anthurium curicuriariense* Croat. A. Habit. B. Leaf. C. Cataphylls. D. Leaf with inflorescence. E. Close-up of spadix. A, B, D. Madison & Kennedy 6572 SEL 78-2125. C, E. Ingram 1223.

2.5–3 cm diam.; **internodes** less than 1 cm long, 4.5–5 cm diam.; **cataphylls** 8 cm long, persisting intact at upper nodes with fragments of intact epidermis, forming a loose reticulum. **Petioles** 88–120 cm long, 1–1.5 cm diam. at base, 8–10 mm diam. midway, subterete, obtusely and shallowly sulcate near base, semiglossy, firm, inconspicuously short-pale-lineate; geniculum 3.5–4 cm long, slightly thicker than petiole, sometimes slightly closely-transverse fissured; sheath 3.5–4 cm long; **blades** 35.5–42 (–85) cm long, 30.5–42 (–75) cm wide, moderately coriaceous, broadly ovate, conspicuously cordate at base, broadly obtuse to broadly rounded at base with a weak down-turned apiculum, weakly glossy to semi-glossy and dark green above, moderately paler yellow-green and weakly glossy below (dries yellowish brown to grayish green, more yellow on lower surface); basal lobes broadly rounded, 11–16 cm long, about as broad as long, directed up at midrib at a 45° angle; sinus triangular to almost closed, 7–11 cm in depth; major veins bluntly raised on both surfaces; **midrib** bluntly triangular and slightly paler above, bluntly triangular, moderately paler and thicker below; **primary lateral veins** 4–5 per side, spreading at 40–45° angle, narrowly convex and slightly paler above, narrowly convex and moderately paler below; **secondary lateral veins** scalariform in distal portions below; **tertiary veins** weakly raised, but clearly visible below (drying somewhat raised), darker than surface; **basal veins** 3 pairs, all free to base; posterior rib lacking, sometimes the lowermost basal vein naked along margin for 2–3 cm; **INFLORESCENCE** erect spreading; **peduncle** 148–162 cm long, 7–8 cm diam. midway, terete, firm; **spathe** 11–13.7 cm long, spreading-recurved to reflexed, slightly twisted to coiled, 3 cm wide, green to yellow-green, subcoriaceous, weakly glossy inside, glossy outside, fused to peduncle at 40° angle; stipe 2.1 cm in front, 3 mm in back, green; **spadix** 9.7 cm long, 7 mm

diam. at base, 5 mm diam. 1 cm from apex, yellow-green 7/7.5 (drying dark brown). Flowers 5–6 per spiral, 2.7 mm wide (2.0 mm wide on drying), 3.0 mm long (2.5 mm long on drying), sides parallel to spiral nearly straight, perpendicular to spiral, slightly smooth, sigmoid; stamen 0.8 mm long, lateral stamens open 4–5 spirals ahead of 3rd stamen; 3rd stamen opens 3–4 spirals ahead of 4th stamen; pollen white; tepals matte, drying brown. **INFLORESCENCE** with **berries** dark purple before maturity, dark purplish violet in apical half, white in lower half at maturity.

Anthurium curicuriariense is endemic to the type locality in Amazonas State of Brazil at 500 m elevation on the summit of Cerro Curicuriari. Cerro Curicuriari is an unusual area of sandstone arising out of the otherwise flat Amazon basin south of the Rio Negro along the Rio Curicuriari, SW of the city of São Gabriel da Cachoeira.

The species resembles no other species of *Anthurium* with which the authors are familiar, and certainly no other species in the Amazon lowlands. It is characterized by its long-petiolate leaves with broadly ovate-cordate blades drying yellowish-brown, as well as 3–5 primary lateral veins that arch upward and merge with the margin, three basal veins all free to the base, and yellow-green, narrowly tapered spadices.

Paratypes.—BRAZIL. **Amazonas:** Rio Negro, Serra Curicuriari, 0°20'S, 66°50'W, 500 m, 24 Oct. 1978, *M. Madison & Kennedy* 6572 (MO, SEL, US).

Cultivated plants—BRAZIL. **Amazonas:** Rio Negro, Serra Curicuriari, 0°20'S, 66°50'W, 500 m, originally *Madison & Kennedy* 6572 (SEL 78-2125), vouchered 6 Jan. 1992, *Ingram* 1223 (SEL).

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