

STUDIES IN THE GESNERIACEAE OF THE OLD WORLD

LI. A new *Streptocarpus* from Mozambique

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ABSTRACT. A new species of *Streptocarpus*, *S. montis-bingae*, is described from the Mozambique-Zimbabwe border. It is compared with *S. hirticapsa* B. L. Burtt from the same area and *S. rhodesianus* S. Moore from W Zambia, with which it agrees more closely in habit.

Through the kindness of the Curator of the Herbarium (LMU), Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique, we have received six sheets of *Streptocarpus* from Mozambique for examination. In addition to the interesting new species described below it is worth putting on record a gathering of *S. eylesii* S. Moore subsp. *brevistylus* Hilliard & Burtt from 1800m on Mt Chipirone (Correia & Marques 2352), as well as one of *S. goetzei* Engl. collected about 25km from the foot of Chipirone in the direction of Mongoé (Correia & Marques 2613). These are the first specimens of *Streptocarpus* from Chipirone that we have seen. Further exploration of this mountain must surely yield other species.

Streptocarpus montis-bingae Hilliard & Burtt, **species nova** *S. hirticapsae* B. L. Burtt, speciei ejusdem vicinia incolae, similis sed foliis subaequalibus du floriferis, basibus inflorescentiarum emortuarum persistentibus (nec folio uno eodem tempore petiolo elongato florifero), floribus majoribus c.2cm longis (nec minus quam 1.5cm) recognoscenda. *S. rhodesiano* S. Moore habitu affinis sed ab hac corolla fere duplo longiore, tubo lineis pilorum clavatorum in solo carente in tecto tantum pilifero differt.

Perennial, rosulate herb (no more than two leaves on specimens so far seen). *Leaves* c.8-13 × 3.25-6cm, excluding the withered tip, pilose on both surfaces, especially towards the base and on the nerves below, lateral nerves about 1cm apart, margins serrate. *Peduncles* arising in linear series on the leaf-stalk, the bases of the earlier ones persistent (on one leaf the flowering peduncle is the 10th in the series), 5-9cm long, with spreading hairs up to 0.75mm long, a few of the shorter ones glandular. *Inflorescence* up to 6-flowered; primary bracts c.2.5mm, pilose; primary pedicels c.13mm long, pilose with mixture of acute and gland-tipped hairs, elongating slightly in fruit. *Calyx* divided nearly to the base into 5 segments c.4.5 × 0.9mm, the backs of the segments with acute uniseriate hairs c.1mm long. *Corolla* overall c.2cm long, lilac with darker spots on palate and in throat, glandular-pubescent on the outside; tube cylindrical in lower 6.5mm, 2.5mm diam., very slightly swollen above the base, abruptly swelling to about 4mm diam. in the throat, bearded on the roof inside with clavate unicellular hairs c.0.4mm long, mouth 4mm diam.; lower lip 10 × 18mm, anterior lobe 7 × 6.5mm, lateral lobes spreading at right angles, 7 × 6mm; upper lip 6 × 10mm, lobes 5 × 6mm. *Stamens* arising where corolla tube expands; filaments 3mm long, glabrous; anthers 1mm long; staminodes two, 0.7mm long. *Disc* annular, yellow. *Ovary* conical, 2.7 × 1.4mm, with a mixture of glandular and eglandular hairs up to 0.4mm long. *Style* 9.5mm long, with acute ascending 0.4mm long hairs in the lower part, the uppermost 4-5mm

glabrous; stigma capitate, 1mm diam. *Capsule* after dehiscence 10×2.5 mm, spirally twisted, tipped by the persistent style-base 1.5mm. *Seeds* 0.6×0.2 mm, ellipsoid, minutely papillose, red-brown.

MOZAMBIQUE. Manica e Sofala: Marica, Mavita (Rotanda), Monte Binga, c.2440m, entre as rochas, 29 i 1966, *Pereira, Sarmento & Marques* 1317 (holo LMU, iso E).

Monte Binga ($19^{\circ}46'S$, $33^{\circ}02'E$) stands on the Mozambique-Zimbabwe border between Mavita and Melsetter. *Streptocarpus montis-bingae* has first been compared, in the Latin diagnosis above, with *S. hirticapsa*, because that species also grows in the Chimanimani mountains on both sides of the border. However, there is a marked difference in habit which we have used at lead 9 in the key in *Flora Zambesiaca* (8(3): 44, 1988) to separate two groups of species. *S. hirticapsa*, with its allies *S. cyanandrus* B. L. Burtt and *S. pumilus* B. L. Burtt, belongs to the group where the plant has one leaf that is flower-bearing, the inflorescences arising at the top of a usually elongated leaf-stalk (petiolode), and associated with it 0-3 vegetative leaves without leaf-stalks. In this group there are never more than 2-3 inflorescences and dead ones are never present. In *S. montis-bingae* it is far otherwise: it seems that a leaf will produce inflorescences in successive seasons, for on one of the four plants present in the type sheet there is a leaf on which the inflorescence in flower is the tenth in a linear series, the earlier ones being represented by dead stumps. This is more the pattern of *S. rhodesianus* (from W Zambia and adjoining parts of Angola and Zaire), from which the absence of the lines of clavate hairs on the floor of the corolla tube, and the larger corolla, as well as the less-marked indumentum of the vegetative parts, amply distinguish *S. montis-bingae*.