

**A NEW SPECIES OF *EUPATORIASTRUM* (ASTERACEAE:
EUPATORIEAE) FROM SAN ANDRÉS TUXTLA, VERACRUZ,
MEXICO**

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ABSTRACT

Description of *Eupatoriastrum johnbeamanii* sp. nov., a remarkably distinct novelty from Veracruz, Mexico, brings to seven the number of species found in the genus, well-known for possessing chaff on the receptacle, presumably a relictual trait in the tribe Eupatorieae. A photograph of the holotype is provided. *Phytologia* 92(3): 354-357 (December 1, 2010).

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, *Eupatoriastrum*, Mexico, Veracruz

Routine identification of Mexican comps has revealed the following novelty:

EUPATORIASTRUM JOHNBEAMANII B.L. Turner, sp. nov.
Fig. 1

Eupatoriastrum nelsonii Greenm. similis sed differt foliis longioribus (20-35 cm vs 10-20 cm) penninervatis (vs. 3-5-nervatis ad basim) lineari-lanceolatis latissimis prope medium (vs. late ovatis latissimis prope basim).

TYPE: MEXICO. VERACRUZ: Mpio. San Andrés Tuxtla, "Catemaco. Mapa 21.0/57.5, 2 km al E de Lago Catemaco en el camino al Bastonal," 540 m, 10 May 1972, *John H. Beaman 5911* (holotype: MSC).

Suffruticose perennial herbs or shrublets 1.0–2.5 m high. **Stems** to 1 cm thick, pubescent with short stout, spreading, trichomes, the vestiture ca 0.5 mm high. **Leaves** very large (20–35 cm long, 6–10 cm across), alternate, penninervate, linear-lanceolate, widest at or near the middle, essentially glabrous above and below, except along the major veins; petioles 1–4 cm long, grading into the blades, the margins entire below, weakly serrate above. **Capitulescence** a large (many-headed), terminal, cymose panicle, the ultimate peduncles 1–3 cm long. **Heads** broadly campanulate, ca 12 mm high, 15 mm across. **Receptacles** convex, glabrous, ca 3 mm across, paleate throughout. **Involucral bracts** 6–8 seriate, imbricate, the innermost linear-lanceolate, scarious, glabrous, the apices rounded, grading into the palea. **Florets** numerous (100+); corollas yellow, ca 6 mm long, glabrous or nearly so; tubes ca 3 mm long, the lobes ca 0.5 mm long, ornate with golden glandular globules. **Anther appendages** narrowly triangular, ca 0.5 mm long. **Achenes** black, weakly 3–5 sided, sparsely pubescent, the podia well-developed; pappus of numerous bristles 5–6 mm long.

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS: **MEXICO. VERACRUZ: Mpio. San Andres Tuxtla**, “Mapa 23.0/55.0, lado W de Cerro Mastagaga ca. 13 km al N.E. de San Andrés Tuxtla,” 1200 m, 29 Jan 1972, *Beaman* 5553 (MSC, 2 sheets).

Other than features of leaf morphology, as noted in the above diagnosis, *Eupatoriastrum johnbeamanii* differs from *E. nelsonii* in numerous other characters, including capitulescence (many-headed, terminal panicles vs. few-headed, axillary cymes), involucre 6–8 seriate (vs 3–5 seriate), and yet other features of the capitula.

Eupatoriastrum is a relatively rare genus confined largely to Mexico. Turner (1997) provided an account of the five species known to him at the time, four of these illustrated with full-page figures. An additional species was subsequently added to the genus (Turner 2008); the present novelty brings the total to seven.

The species is named for my long-time friend and colleague John Beaman. We both worked at Washington State University under the tutelage of the late Marion Ownbey at the same time (he for a

masters; me for a doctorate). John went on to obtain his doctorate under Reed Rollins at Harvard and has become widely known for his extraordinary botanical studies on Mount Kinabalu, largely working out of KEW. I have used his first name in my eponym so as to distinguish him from his son Reed, who also is widely known for his contributions to Asian Botany.

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LITERATURE CITED:

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Fig. 1. *Eupatoriastrum johnbeamanii* (holotype: MSC).