

Two new species of *Stevia* (Asteraceae: Eupatorieae) from Oaxaca, Mexico

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ABSTRACT

Two new taxa of *Stevia* are described from the state of Oaxaca, Mexico: ***Stevia miahuatlana*** B.L. Turner, **sp. nov.**, from the environs of Cerro Quiexobra, Distrito Miahuatlan; and ***Stevia serboana*** B.L. Turner, **sp. nov.**, from the Distrito Solo de Vega. Photographs of the holotypes are provided, along with maps showing their distribution. Published on-line www.phytologia.org *Phytologia* 95(3): 228-232 (August 1, 2013).

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, Mexico, Oaxaca, Distrito Miahuatlan, Cerro Quiexobra, Distrito Solo de Vega

Preoccupation with *Stevia* for the Comps of Mexico (Turner, 1997) stimulated the following account.

STEVIA MIAHUATLANA B.L. Turner, **sp. nov.** Fig. 1.

Perennial herbs, 50-80 cm high, presumably rhizomatous. **Mid-stems**, purplish, crinkly glandular-pubescent, the vestiture ca 0.5 mm high. **Leaves** (mid-stem) 4-8 cm long, 2-3 cm wide; petioles 0.5-3.0 cm long, weakly winged; blades broadly ovate to sub-deltoid, the margins irregularly dentate. **Capitulescence**, a terminal congested array of heads 3-6 cm high, 2-4 cm across; ultimate peduncles 1-4 mm long, glandular-pubescent, subtended by linear to linear-lanceolate bracts, 1.0-1.5 cm long. **Involucral bracts** 7-8 mm long, mostly linear-lanceolate, weakly to densely glandular-pubescent, their apices acute. **Corollas** rose to pale lavender (dried), pubescent without, the 5 lobes relatively small, ca 1 mm long. **Achenes** ca 5 mm long, devoid of bristles, the body black, sparsely pubescent near apex; pappus a crown of lacerate scales ca 0.5 mm high.

TYPE: MEXICO. OAXACA: Distr. Miahuatlan, Mpio. Santo Domingo Ozolotepec. "Laviche camino a la Mojonera, bosque de pino. ladera." 16 32 12.7 N. 96 20 23.5 W, ca 2861 m, 10/02/2010, *Silvia H. Salas M. 7163* (Holotype, TEX).

ADDITIONAL SPECIMENS EXAMINED: MEXICO. OAXACA: Mpio. Santo Domingo Ozolotepec, 35 km NE of Miahuatlan, 5 km NE of Santo Domingo Ozolotepec, "Timberline vegetation in open glades along ridges and in mountain saddles." Very common throughout timberline and in pine forests, 3650-3800 m, 10 Dec 1989, *McDonald 2946* (TEX); Cerro Quiexobra, "Montane vegetation on road to summit of sierra, pine forest or chaparral. Common weed in Chaparral-madrone woodland 11 km from summit of Cerro Quiexobra on logging road to La Cienegilla, 3200-3500 m, 11 Dec 1989, *McDonald 2956* (TEX).

I had previously identified the two McDonald collections, cited above, as ***S. incognito*** Grashoff, a widespread variable species (**Map 1**) to which it will key to or near in my treatment of *Stevia* for Mexico (Turner 1997). While it has achenes w/o bristles, as does the latter, it differs in having smaller heads with shorter involucral bracts.

Stevia miahuatlana is not to be confused with ***S. quiexobrana*** B.L. Turner, typified by material collected by Hinton et al. from near the top of Mount Quiexobra (3385 m) in fir and pine woodlands, this readily identified by its small, sessile leaves. Judging from the cited localities above, it appears that ***S. miahuatlana*** occurs at somewhat lower elevations. Intermediates between the two have not been noted.

STEVIA SERBOANA B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.* Fig. 2.

Perennial herbs ca 50 cm high. **Stems** (upper) pubescent with crinkly white hairs ca 1 mm high. **Leaves** opposite throughout, 3-4 cm long, 2-3 cm wide; petioles 0.5-1.5 cm long; blades broadly ovate to sub-cordate, tapering into the petioles; upper surfaces greenish, moderately pubescent, lower surfaces whitened with a dense vestiture of crinkly hairs. **Capitulescence** an aggregation of 3-30 sessile heads, these borne on primary peduncles 3-6 cm long, the ultimate peduncles 0-1 mm long. **Involucral bracts**, linear-lanceolate, ca 6 mm long, their apices obtuse, pubescent with short, glandular hairs. **Florets** ca 10 mm long; corollas reportedly lilac, or rose-colored, ca 6 mm long, glabrous, or nearly so, their lobes ca 1.5 mm long. **Achenes** linear, ca 4 mm long, sparsely pubescent apically; pappus of 4 purplish bristles ca 4 mm long, between these 2-4 scales ca 0.5 mm high.

TYPE: MEXICO. OAXACA: Distrito, Solo de Vega; Mpio. Santiago Textitlan, “Tierra Blanca,” pine forests, ca 2299 m, 16 45 09 N, 97 11 24.3 W, 22 Jan 2007, *Maria Ester Jacob Salinas* (MJS) 1493 (Holotype, TEX).

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN EXAMINED: same area as Type, but “Arriba de rio Tronco.” pine-oak forests, ca 1874 m 16 41 59 N, 97 15 28.7 W, 30 Dec 2006, *Vasquez* (RTV) 1130 (TEX).

In my treatment of *Stevia* for Mexico (Turner 1997), largely because of its glandular hairs, this novelty will key to or near **S. triangularis** Grashoff, a relatively rare species of Guerrero having very unusual, triangular leaves. It might also be confused with **S. tomentosa** HBK, because of its bicolored leaves (cf. **Map 2**).

The species name derives from the anagram SERBO, the group that provided funds for the collections concerned.

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LITERATURE CITED

Turner, B.L. 1997. *Stevia*, in Comps of Mexico 1. Phytologia Memoirs 11: 170-197.



Fig. 1. *Stevia miahuatlana*, holotype (TEX).

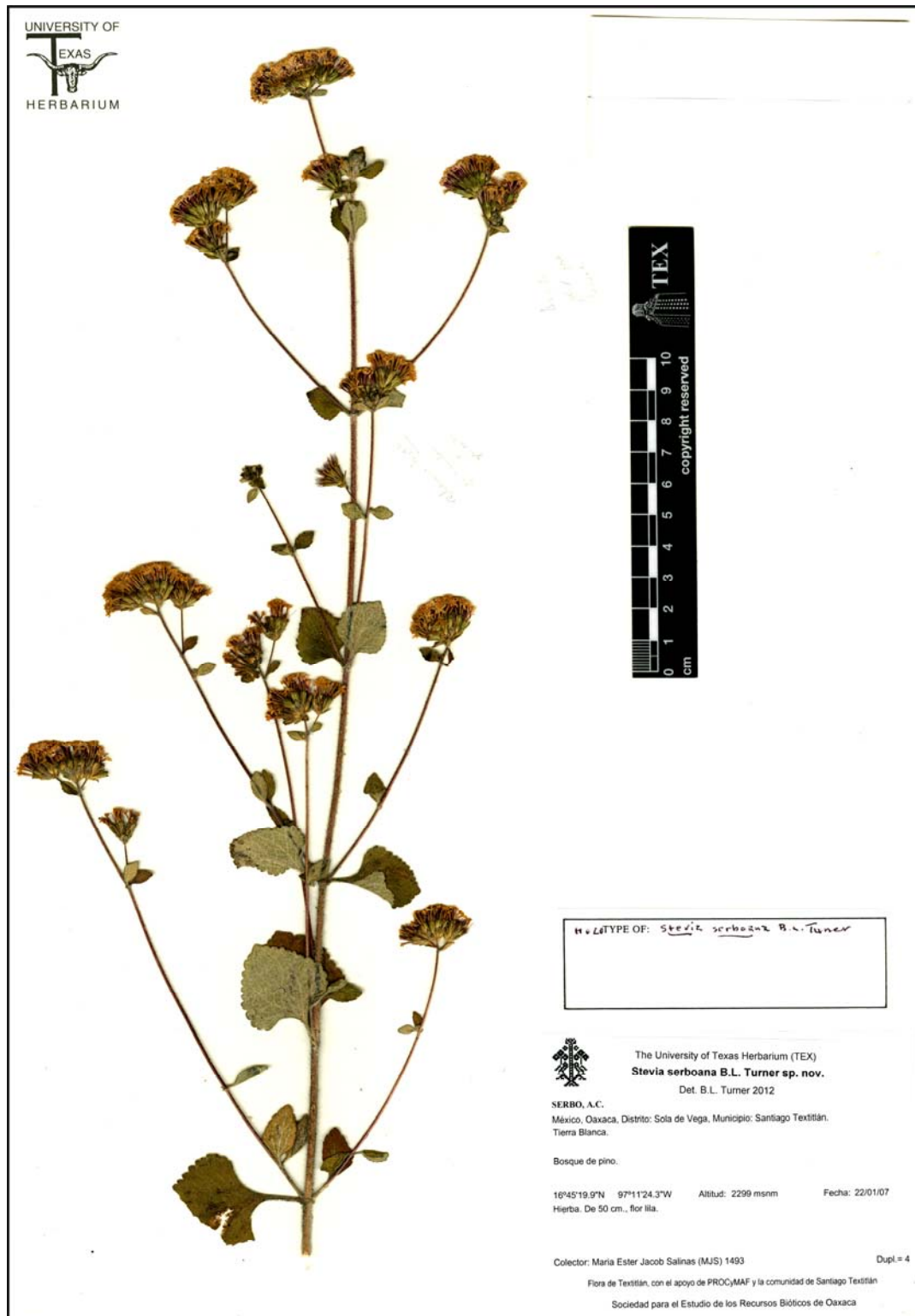
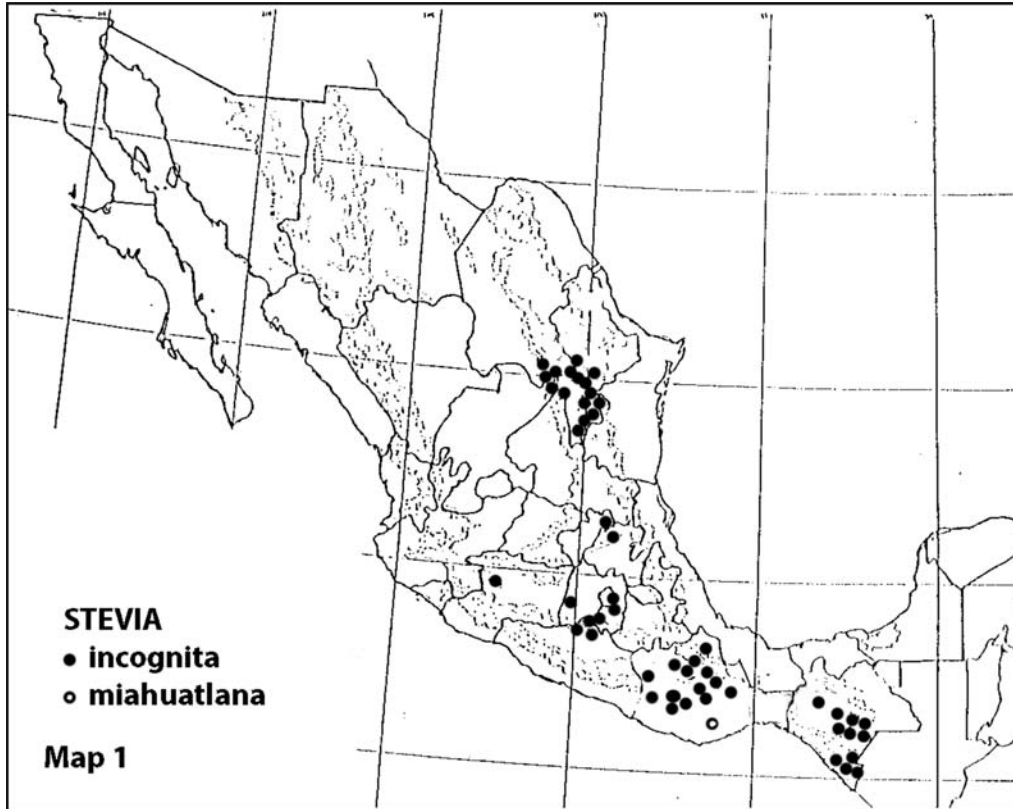
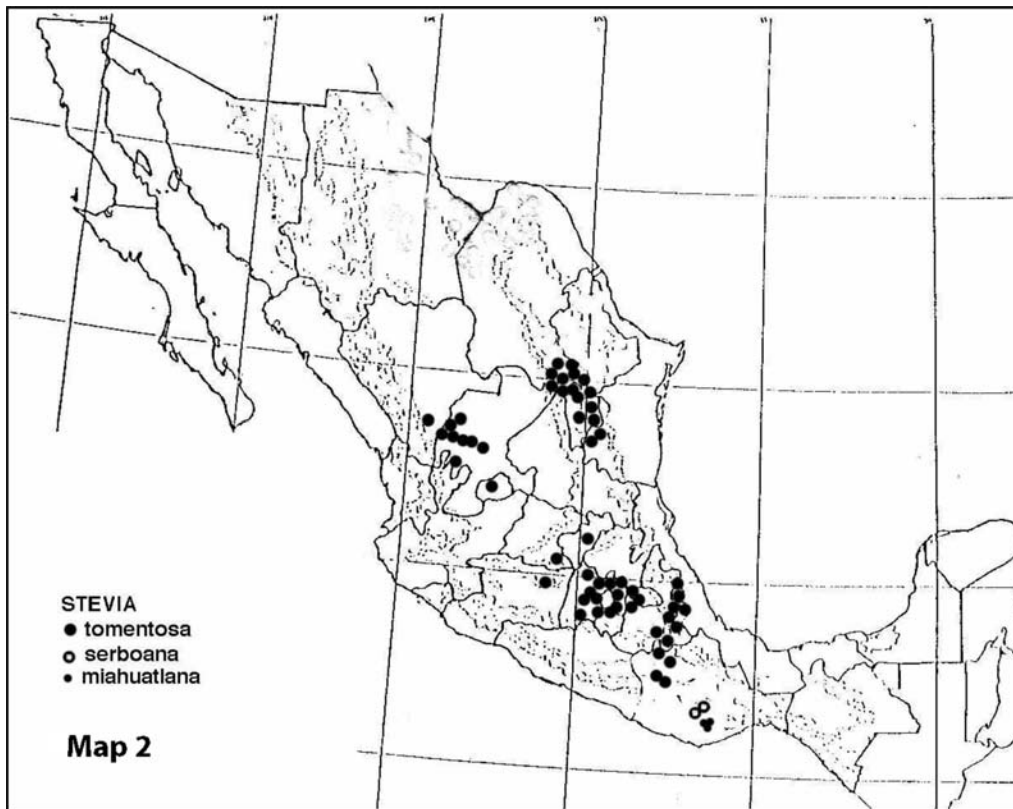


Fig. 2. *Stevia serboana*, holotype (TEX).



Map 1. Distribution of *Stevia incognita* and *S. miahutlana*.



Map 2. Distribution of *Stevia* spp.