

**A NEW SPECIES OF VERBESINA (ASTERACEAE:
HELIANTHEAE) FROM GUERRERO, MEXICO**

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ABSTRACT

A collection by Breedlove from near Puerto El Gallo, Guerrero, Mexico is described as **Verbesina elgalloana** B. L. Turner, **sp. nov.** Its relationship appears to be with *V. gracilipes* and cohorts.

KEY WORDS: *Verbesina*, Asteraceae, Mexico, Guerrero

Preparation of a treatment of the genus *Verbesina* for the Comps of Mexico (cf. Turner 1997, Phytologia Memoirs 11: 1) has prompted description of the following:

VERBESINA ELGALLOANA B. L. Turner, **sp. nov.**

V. gracilipi B. L. Rob. *similis sed differt caulibus appressi-hispidis (vs longi-hirsutis), pedunculis ultimis brevioribus (1-3 cm longis vs. plerumque 4-10 cm), et foliis majoribus fere glabris (vs. inferne dense pubescentibus).*

Shrubs to 2 m high. Stems 5-sided, minutely appressed-hispid, the angles with corky wings. **Leaves** thin, alternate; petioles 2-4 mm long, the blades lanceolate-ovate, pinnately nerved, 11-14 cm long, 3-5 cm wide, sparsely hispidulous beneath, especially along the major veins, the margins remotely serrulate. **Capitulescence** terminal, 5-headed, subumbellate, the ultimate peduncles finely appressed-strigose, 1-3 cm long. Involucres 5-6 mm high, ca 10 mm across, the bracts in 3-4 subequal series, the outermost loose and subfoliose. **Receptacle** conical, ca 3 mm high, 3 mm across; bracts spatulate, ca 3 mm long,

abruptly acute at the apex. **Achenes** (immature), flattened, ca 2 mm long, the pappus of two rigid awns ca 1.6 mm long.

TYPE: MEXICO. GUERRERO: "W of Puerto El Gallo along road to Toro Muerto," along ridge with *Pinus*, *Quercus*, *Clethra* and *Cleyera*, 2530 m, 9 Oct 1986, Breedlove & Almeda 65043 (Holotype: TEX; isotypes CAS).

Verbesina is perhaps the most speciose genus of the tribe Heliantheae in North America. The present novelty brings to 142 the number of species to be recognized by me in my forthcoming treatment of the group for Mexico. Numerous additional novelties are to be anticipated.

The species name is derived from the village of Puerto El Gallo, Guerrero.

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