NOTES ON NEOTROPICAL VACCINIEAE (ERICACEAE). VI. NEW SPECIES FROM THE CORDILLERA VILCABAMBA AND ADJACENT EASTERN PERU

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The botanical exploration of the northern Cordillera Vilcabamba was part of a larger program (John W. Terborgh, principal investigator) “to measure the distribution of species along extended and uniform environmental gradients that had never suffered the disturbances of civilization” (Terborgh and Dudley, 1973). As botanist on the 1968 expedition, Dr. Theodore R. Dudley (United States National Arboretum) collected large numbers of new and exciting species of plants. This paper is a report on some of the new Ericaceae. Additional new species are represented in the collections available to me; however, several are incomplete (lacking adequate floral parts) and I am postponing their descriptions until sufficient material becomes available.

From the collections available to me at this time it is obvious that the Cordillera Vilcabamba is rich in Ericaceae. The genus Demosthenesia seems particularly well represented by at least four (and possibly as many as seven) of the ten species currently recognized. In this paper I am describing three additional species: D. cordifolia, D. oppositifolia and D. vilcabambensis. The first two along with D. dudleyi Simpson (1972) are of particular interest because they possess opposite leaves—an extremely rare condition in the Ericaceae.

Cavendishia sirensis was collected in 1969 on an expedition to the Cerros del Sira (Peru: Huánuco: 9°26'S, 74°45'W), while the remaining species herein described were collected in 1968 in the Cordillera Vilcabamba region of eastern Peru (11°-13°S, 73°-74°W).

Cavendishia sirensis Luteyn, sp. nov. (Figs. 1-4)

Frutex C. morii Luteyn et C. subfasciculatae Luteyn affinis, sed ab utraque foliorum venatione distinctus.

Lianoid shrub to 2 m tall or high-climbing epiphytic vine. Mature stems terete or somewhat flattened, smooth, glaucous, glabrous, reddish-brown to tan when dry; twigs with scattered, tiny, subsphaerical glands. Petioles terete or flattened dorsally, slightly rugose, glabrous or distally puberulent, (4) 8–12 mm long and (1) 2–2.5 mm in diam, reddish-brown. Leaves coriaceous, alternate, oblong or oblong-elliptic, (8) 12–17 cm × (3) 4–6 cm, basally obtuse, rounded or rarely truncate, apically abruptly long or short caudate-acuminate, entire, short-pilose along nerves above, glabrous beneath, both surfaces with caducous glandular fimbriae; pinnatinerved with 4–6 lateral veins per side, rarely appearing plinerved, midrib noticeably thickened in the proximal half, impressed above and conspicuously raised beneath, lateral veins im-
Fig. 1. *Cavendishia sirensis*. A. Habit. B. Immature inflorescence. C. Flower in bud. D. Stamens, ventral view. E. Stamen, dorsal view. (A, C–E from Dudley 13316; B from Dudley 13231.)