



# Flora of Espírito Santo, Brazil

## Flora of Espírito Santo: Capparaceae

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### Abstract

Capparaceae is a pantropical family of Angiosperm with about 40 to 45 genera and 700 to 900 species, which presents a wide morphological variation in flowers and fruits. There are 12 genera and 30 species of the family in Brazil, a half of it occurring in the Atlantic Forest. Here we study the species of Capparaceae occurring in Espírito Santo, with the objective of expanding the knowledge about the richness of this family in Atlantic Forest. The study was based on the analysis on herbaria collections, as well as samples collected during field collections. Capparaceae in Espírito Santo state is represented by the genera *Capparidastrum* (1 sp.), *Crateva* (1 sp.), *Cynophalla* (2 spp.), *Mesocapparis* (1 sp.), *Monilicarpa* (1 sp.) and *Neocalyptrocalyx* (2 spp.). *Cynophalla grandiflora* is first described here. Capparaceae is commonly found at a maximum altitude of 600 m in Espírito Santo, predominantly in “tabuleiros costeiros” and coastal plains, without records in mountainous regions. Morphological characteristics of such as habitat, pubescence, tertiary veins, nectaries on leaf axils and type of fruit, are fundamental for the delimitation of the species.

**Key words:** *Cynophalla*, new species, tertiary veins.

### Resumo

Capparaceae é uma família pantropical de Angiosperma com cerca de 40 a 45 gêneros e 700 a 900 espécies, as quais apresentam uma ampla variação morfológica nas flores e frutos. No Brasil, ocorrem 12 gêneros e 30 espécies, sendo que a metade ocorre na Floresta Atlântica. As espécies que ocorrem no Espírito Santo foram estudadas, com o objetivo de ampliar o conhecimento sobre a riqueza e a diversidade da família na Floresta Atlântica. O estudo baseou-se na análise de coleções de herbários, bem como em amostras coletadas em expedições de campo. Capparaceae no estado do Espírito Santo é representada pelos gêneros *Capparidastrum* (1 sp.), *Crateva* (1 sp.), *Cynophalla* (2 spp.), *Mesocapparis* (1 sp.), *Monilicarpa* (1 sp.) e *Neocalyptrocalyx* (2 spp.). *Cynophalla grandiflora* é descrita aqui pela primeira vez. Capparaceae é comumente encontrada em uma altitude máxima de 600 m no Espírito Santo, predominantemente em planícies costeiras e tabuleiros costeiros, sem registros em regiões montanhosas. As características morfológicas como habitat, pubescência, nervuras terciárias, nectários na axila das folhas e tipo de fruto, foram fundamentais para a delimitação das espécies.

**Palavras-chave:** *Cynophalla*, espécie nova, nervura terciária.

### Introduction

The family Capparaceae has a wide morphological diversity, mainly observed in the flower and fruit (Mabberley 1997). The flowers

can be actinomorphic or zygomorphic and the number of stamens can vary from one to more than 250 (Endress 1992). The protruding base of the flowers is interspersed with an elongated area

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that produces gynophores, androgynophores, and elongated stamens (Endress 1992). The fruits can be classified as amphisarca, capsules or pepos, with variations in shape, color, consistency, and dehiscence.

Described in 1789 by Jussieu in the *Genera Plantarum*, Capparaceae was represented by 12 genera. Since then, several new species and genera have been described in the family, amounting to about 40 to 45 genera and approximately 700 to 900 species distributed throughout the Pantropical region (Cronquist 1981; Heywood 1993). Neotropical species, in particular, have undergone several reorganizations as to their taxonomic position, mainly in the genus *Capparis sensu lato*, which currently does not occur in the Neotropics. This reorganization and novel taxonomic information have led to the description of new species and genera (Iltis & Cornejo 2007; Cornejo & Iltis 2008a, b, c, 2009a, b, 2010; Cornejo *et al.* 2014, 2020; Cornejo 2020; Cornejo & Vargas 2020; Mercado-Gómez & Morales-Puentes 2020), substantially increasing the richness and diversity of Capparaceae in the neotropical region to 18 genera and 110 species (Cornejo & Iltis 2010, 2012).

Twelve genera and 30 species occur in Brazil, and 11 species are endemic (Soares Neto & Luber 2020). Flora surveys have been carried out mainly in the Atlantic Forest and Caatinga biomes, in the states of Rio de Janeiro (Carvalho 1959), Pernambuco (Costa e Silva 1995), Ceará (Soares Neto *et al.* 2014), and Rio Grande do Norte (Soares Neto & Jardim 2015). A large part of the richness is recorded in Atlantic Forest biome, with records of nine genera and 15 species, four of which are endemic (Soares Neto & Luber 2020).

The project “Flora of Espírito Santo”, to which the present work is linked, seeks to fill the lack of studies on the richness and diversity of species for the state of Espírito Santo. Thus, herein a study of Capparaceae is provided, expanding the knowledge about the taxonomy, morphology, geographic distribution, and species richness of the family, and presenting an identification key, morphological descriptions, distribution maps, and illustrations. The present work also expands the knowledge about the richness of the family through the description of *Cynophalla grandiflora* Luber, a new species to science.

## Material and Methods

### Study area

The state of Espírito Santo (ES) is located in the Southeast of Brazil between the parallels 17°53'29”S and 21°18'03”S, and the meridians 39°41'18”W and 41°52'45”W, bordered by the state of Bahia to the north, Minas Gerais to the west, Rio de Janeiro to the south, and limited by the Atlantic Ocean to the east. Three geomorphological regions are recognized in the state (IPEMA 2005): the mountainous region (characterized by crystalline Precambrian rocks and altitudes that reach 2,897 m); “tabuleiros costeiros” (formed by quaternary continental sediments at altitudes that reach no more than 100 m); and coastal plains (formed by quaternary sediments at altitudes that do not exceed 15 m).

### Taxonomic treatment

The work was developed based on the analysis of collections deposited in herbaria and fieldwork. Morphological analyses were made on exsiccates from the herbaria CAP, CVRD, MBML, RB, SAMES, and VIES (acronyms according to Thiers, continuously updated), which have the best botanical collections for Espírito Santo. Additional materials from other states and other herbaria (CEPEC, INPA, MAC, and US) were used to complement the descriptions of the species. The identification was based on specialized bibliography for Capparaceae (Cornejo & Iltis 2008a; Soares Neto *et al.* 2014; Soares Neto & Jardim 2015). Online digitized material, including type material (CRIA 2015; Reflora 2015; and Global Plants 2020), were also consulted.

The fieldwork consisted of expeditions carried out between January 2018 and September 2020, covering the entire state of Espírito Santo and its different phytogeographies (IPEMA 2005). Information on morphological aspects of the species and characteristics of the environment were observed and registered in the field, and a photographic record and GPS coordinates were obtained.

### Morphological descriptions

Morphological descriptions were made based on measurements taken in herborized material, always in the middle part of fully developed structures. The concepts and terminologies used in the descriptions follow Gonçalves & Lorenzi (2007). The dichotomous identification key sought

to use, in addition to reproductive characters, vegetative characters that are easy to observe.

The range geographic of distribution of the species was mapped using the Quantum-GIS program based on coordinates of the localities where each species were recorded or coordinates taken in the field. When notes on coordinates were not available, the reference point for the city of collection was used.

### Results and Discussion

Eight species of Capparaceae belonging to six different genera were registered for Espírito Santo. Amongst the species, there is *Cynophalla grandipetala* Luber, described as new to science, found in vegetation of “tabuleiros costeiro”.

The wide morphological variation and the low number of collections of Capparaceae are among the greatest difficulties in understanding the morphological limits between closely related species. However, recent morphological studies discuss in more detail the morphology of this family and contribute to ameliorate such difficulties (Cornejo & Iltis 2008a; Soares Neto *et al.* 2014; Soares Neto & Jardim 2015; Cornejo *et al.* 2020).

Capparaceae is a family that occurs mainly at low altitudes (Cardinal-McTeague *et al.* 2016). In Espírito Santo, the species were found at a maximum altitude of 600 m, thus absent in regions characterized as mountainous, and were mainly distributed on “tabuleiros costeiros” and coastal plains (Figs. 1-2).

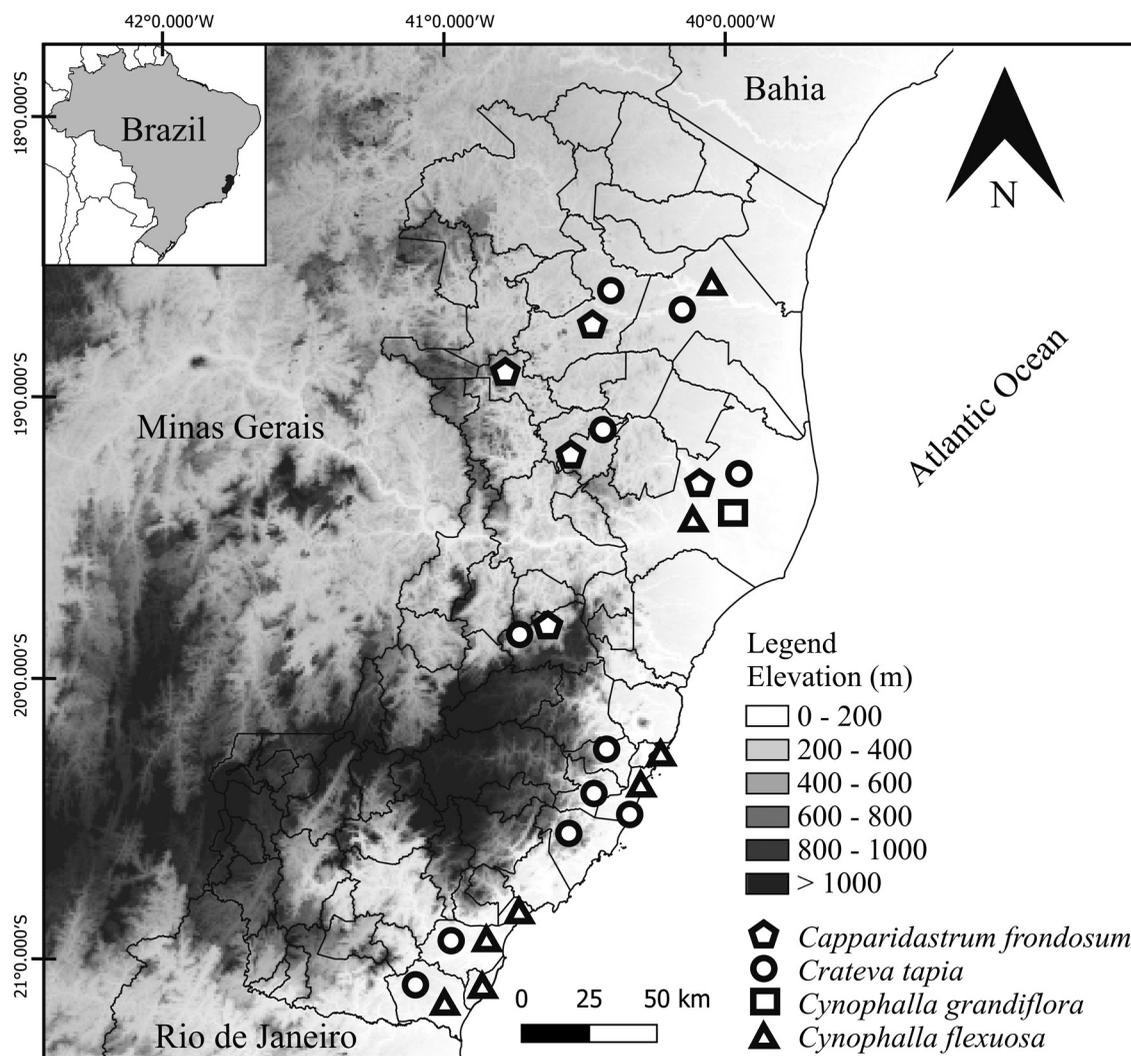


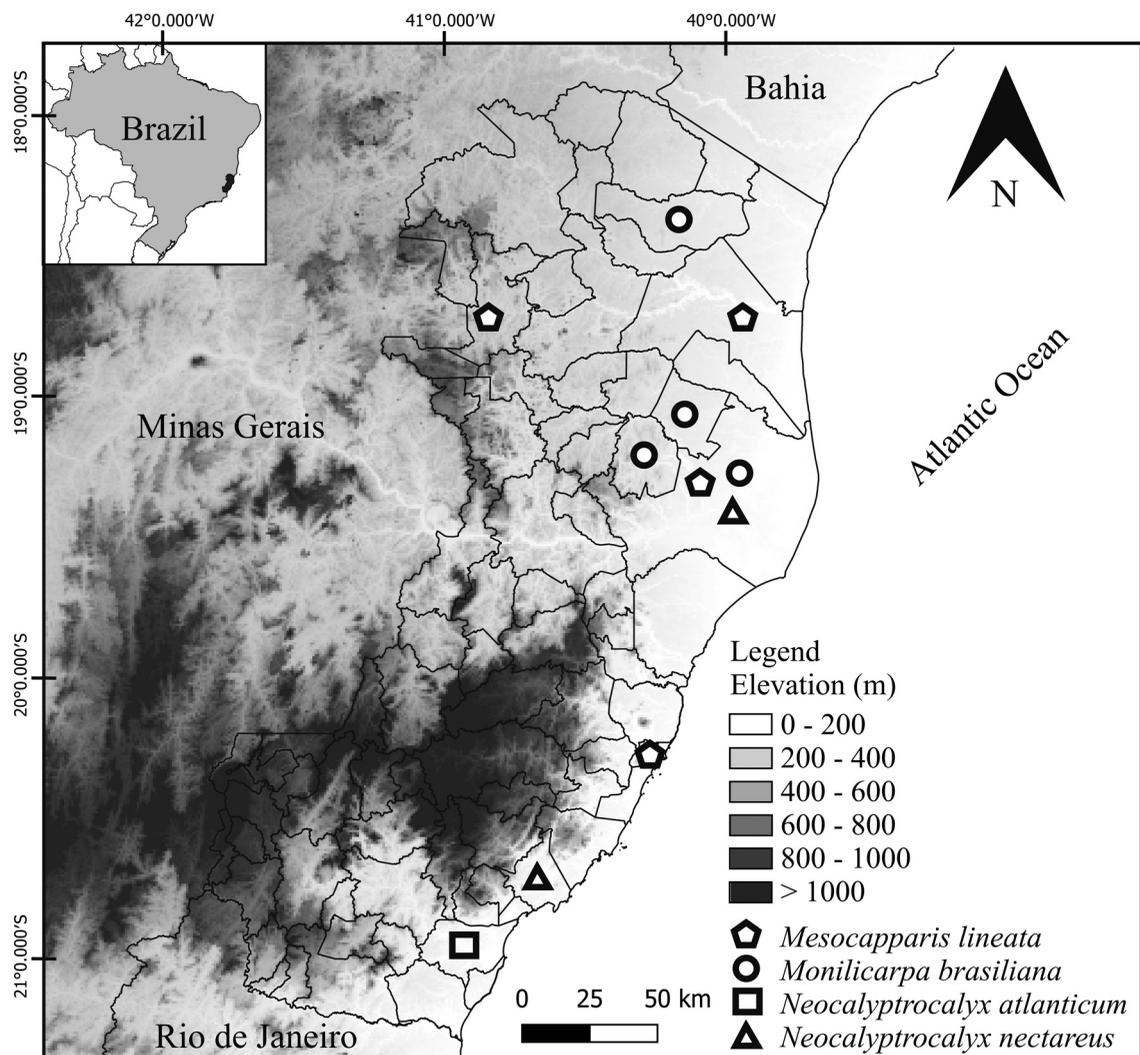
Figure 1 – Distribution of Capparaceae species in Espírito Santo, with elevation data.

### Taxonomic treatment

**Capparaceae Juss.** Genera Plantarum 242. 1789.

Tree, shrub, or herbaceous or woody liana (*Mesocapparis*). Leaves simple or 3-foliolate (*Crateva*), alternate, distichally or spirally arranged, congested at the apex of the branch; nectaries on the leaf axil present (*Cynophalla*) or absent; blade membranaceous to coriaceous, glabrous or pubescent, when pubescent with stellate trichomes; veins abaxially and adaxially impressed or prominent, tertiary veins varying from prominent and very reticulate to impressed and little reticulate or not visible. Inflorescences solitary or racemose, corymbose, or paniculate, terminal or axillary. Flowers symmetrical or

asymmetrical (*Crateva*); nectaries at the internal base of the sepals present or absent (*Monilicarpa*); calyx open at anthesis or in the form of a calyptra (*Neocalyptrocalyx*); sepals heteromorphic or homomorphic; petals 4, white, light-pink or light-yellow, unguiculate (*Crateva*) or not, reflexed at anthesis or not; stamens 17–100; filaments completely white or white and purple; anthers basifixed or dorsifixed; gynophore glabrous or partially to completely pubescent, costate or not; stigma capitate; ovary glabrous or pubescent, differentiated from the gynophore or not. Fruits follicular capsule, moniliform capsule, or elliptical or globose amphisarca, dehiscent or indehiscent, green, yellow, lilac or red.



**Figure 2** – Distribution of Capparaceae species in Espírito Santo, with elevation data.

### Identification key for Capparaceae in Espírito Santo

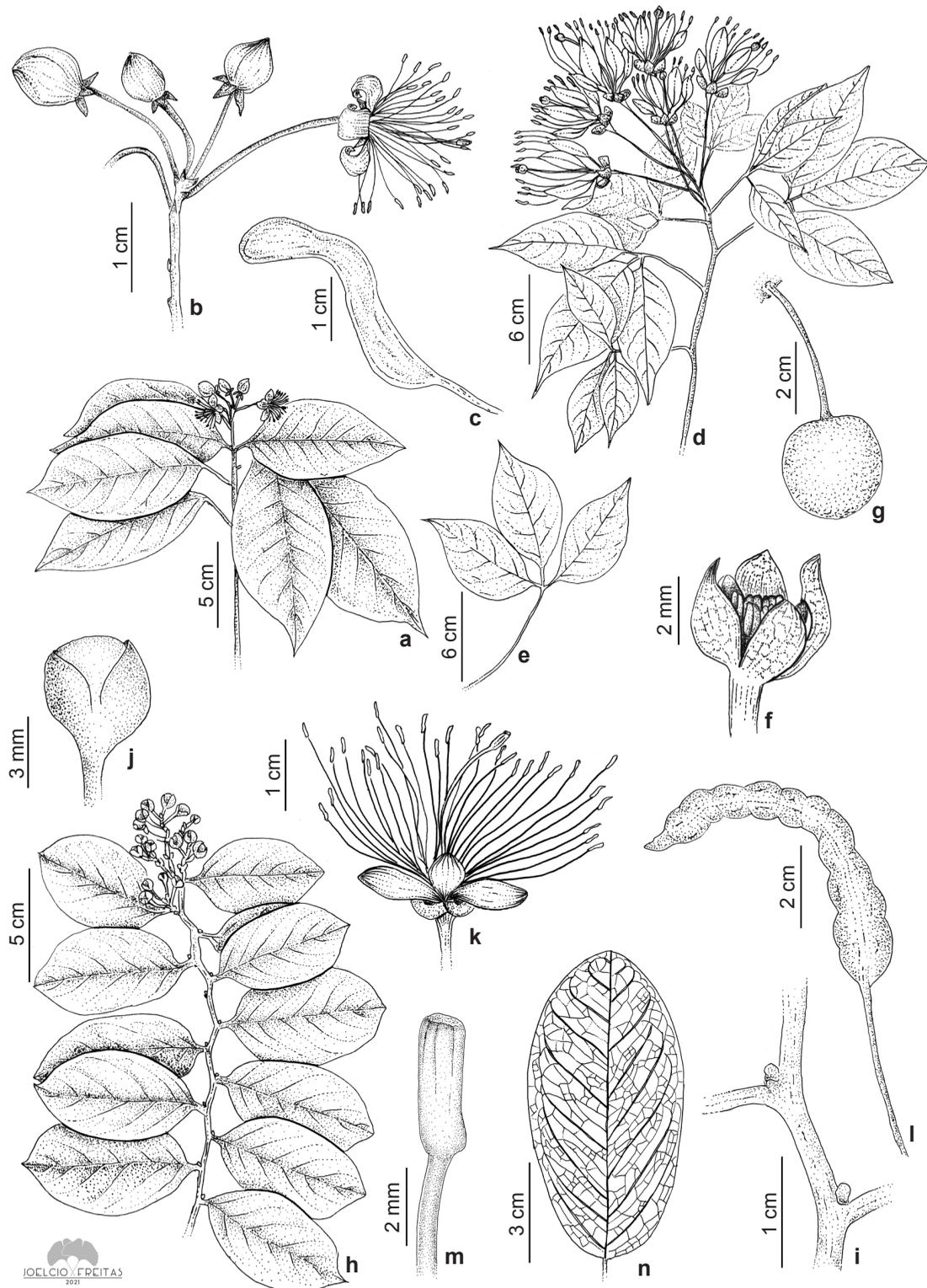
1. Leaf 3-foliolate, flowers asymmetrical, petals unguiculate ..... 2.1. *Crateva tapia*
- 1'. Leaf simple, flowers symmetrical, petals not unguiculate ..... 2
2. Sepals homomorphic ..... 3
  3. Herbaceous or woody lianas, leaf blade tomentose on the abaxial face and pubescent on the adaxial face, fruit globose amphisarca ..... 4.1. *Mesocapparis lineata*
  - 3'. Trees or shrubs, leaf blade glabrous, fruit capsule ..... 4
    4. Inflorescence with more than 26 flowers, bracts narrow-elliptical, 2–3 mm long, petals not reflexed at anthesis, filaments completely white ..... 5.1. *Monilicarpa brasiliiana*
    - 4'. Inflorescence with less than 26 flowers, bracts deltoid, 1 mm long, petals reflexed at anthesis, filaments purple at the base and white at the apex ..... 1.1. *Capparidastrum frondosum*
- 2'. Sepals heteromorphic ..... 5
  5. Leaf blade pubescent with stellate trichomes, nectaries on the leaf axil absent ..... 6 (*Neocalyptrocalyx*)
    6. Leaf blade elliptical, apex attenuate, flower buds apex thinly apiculate to broadly obtuse, 12–20 × 15 mm, petals light-pink, filaments 10–22 mm long, gynophore 3.5 mm long, ovary 3 mm long ..... 6.1. *Neocalyptrocalyx atlanticum*
    - 6'. Leaf blade lanceolate to elliptic-lanceolate, apex sharply acuminate, flower buds apex acuminate, 9–12 × 7–9 mm, petals white, filaments 23–33 mm long, gynophore 11–19 mm long, ovary 5.3–6.5 mm long ..... 6.2. *Neocalyptrocalyx nectarius*
  - 5'. Leaf blade glabrous, nectary on the leaf axil present ..... 7 (*Cynophalla*)
    7. Leaf blade membranaceous with tertiary veins impressed and slightly reticulate on both sides and slightly reticulate tertiary veins, external sepals 8–10 × 7–10 mm, internal sepals 14 × 12–13 mm, petals 20–30 × 18–22 mm, ovary not differentiated from gynophore. .... 3.2. *Cynophalla grandiflora*
    - 7'. Leaf blade coriaceous with tertiary veins abaxially prominent and adaxially prominent or impressed, densely reticulate, external sepals 5–7 × 6–8 mm, internal sepals 7 × 4–10 mm, petals 12–18 × 8–10 mm, ovary differentiated from gynophore ..... 3.1. *Cynophalla flexuosa*

**1.1. *Capparidastrum frondosum*** (Jacq.) Cornejo & Iltis, Harvard Papers in Botany 13(2): 232-233. 2008. Figs. 3a-c; 4a

Tree or shrub 1–7 m tall. Leaves alternate spiral, congested at the apex of the branch, simple, petioles 6–11 mm long, cylindrical to slightly canaliculate, glabrous; nectary on the leaf axil absent; blade 17–26.3 × 5–8.4 cm, glabrous on both sides, chartaceous, oblanceolate to elliptical, apex attenuate to obtuse, base obtuse, subcordate or cuneate; veins abaxially prominent and adaxially impressed, 10–13 pairs, tertiary veins impressed and little reticulate on both sides. Inflorescences a corymb, terminal. Flowers symmetrical, 7–12 per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 40–105 mm long; bracts 1 mm long, glabrous, chartaceous, deltoid; pedicel 14–27 mm long, glabrous; floral buds 10–14 × 9–11 mm; 4 nectaries; calyx open at anthesis; sepals homomorphic, 1.5–2 × 2 mm,

membranaceous, deltoid, glabrous, green; petals 4, 11–12 × 7–8 mm, elliptical, margin entire, membranaceous, glabrous, white, reflexed at anthesis; stamens 30–50; filaments 24–28 mm long, glabrous, purple at the base and white at the apex, 5 lines of insertion; anthers 2–2.5 mm long, dorsifixed, ovate; gynophore, 8–9 mm long, glabrous, not fenestrated; stigma capitate, black when dry; ovary 4–5.5 mm long, glabrous, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits follicular capsule, indehiscent, lilac, 4–5.2 × 0.7–1 cm; peduncle 10–12 × 1–2 mm; developed gynophore 11–14 × 1–1.5 mm.

**Specimens studied:** Águia Branca, 5.IX.2006, fl., *L.F.S. Magnago et al. 1273* (MBML). Governador Lindenberg, 5.XI.2007, fl., *V. Demuner 4444* (MBML). Linhares, 18.X.1995, fl., *D.A. Folli 2663* (CVRD). Marilândia, 28.IX.2006, fl., *L.F.S. Magnago 1470* (MBML). Nova Venécia, 16.VII.2008, fl., *A.M.A. Amorim 7503* (RB). Santa Teresa, 19.X.1999, fl., *V. Demuner 137* (MBML).



**Figure 3** – a-c. *Capparidastrum frondosum* – a. habit; b. inflorescence with emphasis on flower at anthesis with reflexed sepals; c. fruit. d-g. *Crateva tapia* – d. habit; e. leaf 3-foliolate; f. flower buds; g. fruit. h-n. *Cynophalla flexuosa* – h. habit; i. branch with emphasis on nectaries on the leaf axil; j. flower buds; k. flower at anthesis; l. follicular capsule fruit. m. gynophore and ovary differentiated; n. leaf blade with reticulate tertiary venation.

Vila Velha, 28.IX.1999, fl., *C.N. Fraga 491* (MBML). Vitória, 12.X.1984, fl., *S.S. Scolforo 303* (RB).

**Additional specimens studied (Fruit):** BRAZIL. RIO DE JANEIRO: Cabo Frio, 20.VI.1997, fr., *A. Lobão et al. 277* (RB).

Popularly known as “guaxica”, *C. frondosum* has a wide neotropical distribution, covering regions from Mexico to southern Brazil. In Brazil, the species occurs in the Amazon rainforest, Caatinga, and Atlantic Forest biomes. Along with its wide distribution, the species exhibits wide morphological variation. The specimens occurring in Espírito Santo (*C.N. Fraga 491*; *S.S. Scolforo 303*; *L.F.S. Magnago 1470*) require complementation with new collections to provide a better understanding of morphological traits.

**2.1. *Crateva tapia* L.**, Species Plantarum 1: 444. 1753. Fig. 3d-g

Tree or shrub 3–20 m tall. Leaves alternate spiral, 3-foliolate, petiole 72–165 mm long, cylindrical, glabrous; nectary on the leaf axil absent, petiole 9–13 mm long, cylindrical to slightly channeled, glabrous; blade 7.9–13.5 × 4.8–6.5 cm, glabrous on both sides, membranaceous, elliptical to ovate, apex acute to attenuated, base rounded; veins abaxially and adaxially impressed, 7–8 pairs, tertiary veins impressed and little reticulate on both sides. Inflorescences a raceme, terminal; Flowers asymmetrical, 30–60 per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 60–80 mm long; bracts not seen; pedicel 19–35 mm long, glabrous; floral bud not seen; 4 nectaries; calyx open at anthesis; sepals homomorphic, 5–6 × 3–4 mm, membranaceous, ovate, glabrous, green; petals 4, unguiculate, claw 5–6 mm long, blade 14–17 × 5–7 mm, elliptical, margin entire, membranaceous, glabrous, white, erect at anthesis; stamens 16–17; filaments 28–48 mm long, glabrous, purple, 1 lines of insertion; anthers 3 mm long, basifixed, oblong; gynophore 21–42 mm long, glabrous, not fenestrated; stigma capitate, black when dry; ovary 2–2.2 mm long, glabrous, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits globose amphisarca, indehiscent, yellow, 2.9–3.6 × 2.8–3.4 cm; peduncle 42–45 × 2 mm; developed gynophore 40–43 × 2–3 mm.

**Specimens studied:** Cariacica, 28.III.2003, fr., *A.G. Chisto et al. 218* (RB). Governador Lindemberg, 5.XI.2007, fl. and fr., *V. Demuner et al. 4454* (MBML). Guarapari, 26.XI.1992, fl., *V. de Souza 407* (CVRD). Itapemirim, 28.XII.2007, fr., *A.M. Assis et al. 1232* (MBML). Linhares, 4.III.1993, fr., *D.A. Folli 1818* (CVRD); 6.XII.2007, fl., *D.A. Folli 5795* (CVRD); 20.XI.1972, fl. and fr., *J. Spada 79* (RB); 24.X.2008,

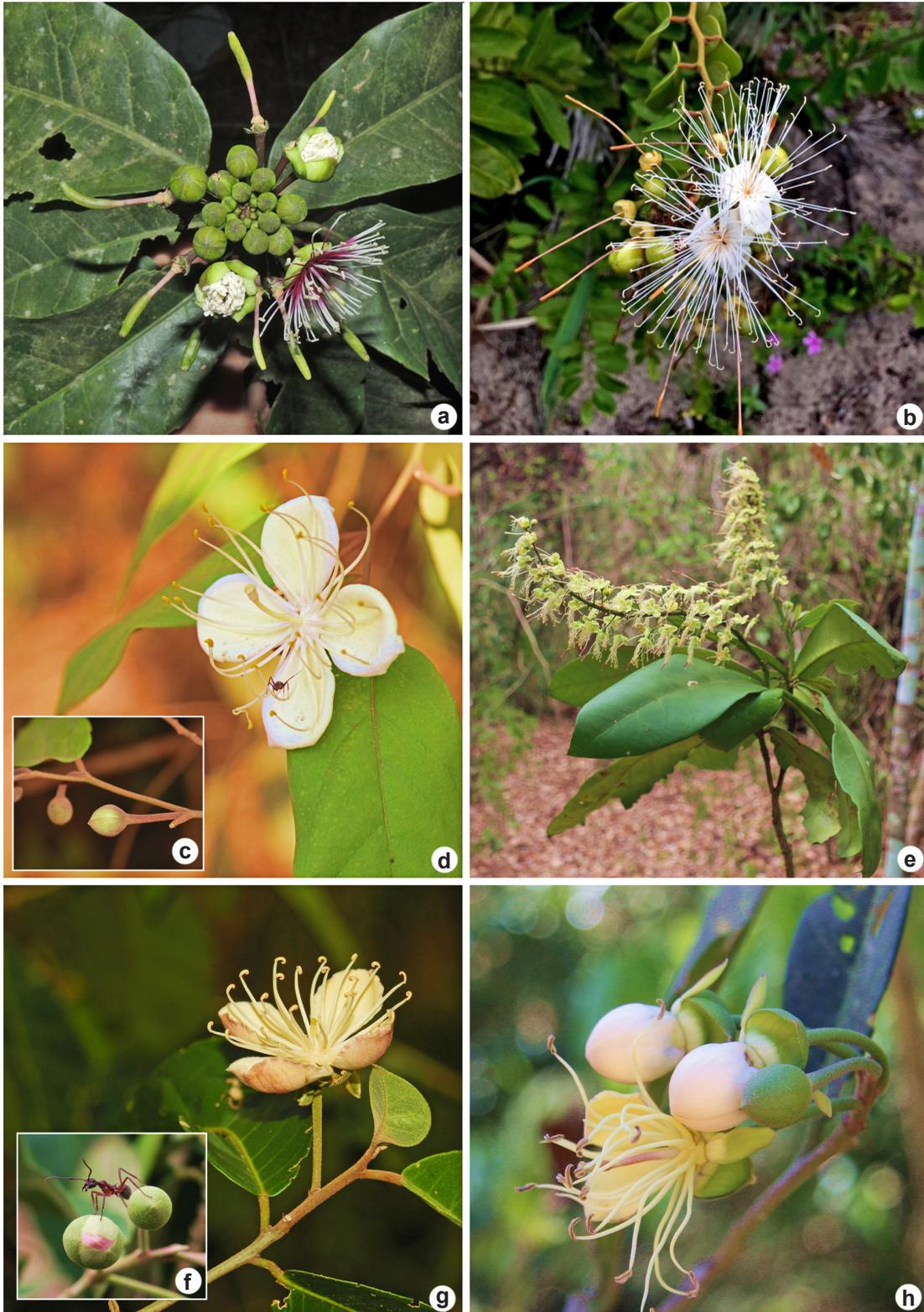
fl., *L.Kollmann et al. 11279* (MBML); 23.I.2013, fr., *R. Coelho et al. 282* (SAMES). Nova Venécia, 10.X.1996, fl., *H.Q.B. Fernandes et al. 3191* (MBML); 13.I.2009, fr., *P.H. Labiack et al. 5082* (RB). Presidente Kennedy, 1.XII.2013, fl., *G.S. Siqueira 934* (CVRD, RB). Santa Teresa, 19.X.1999, fl. and fr., *V. Demuner 125* (MBML); 10.II.2012, fr., *J. Gurtler et al. 93* (MBML). São Mateus, 6.XI.2007, fl., *C. Farney et al. 4825* (RB). Viana, 1.II.2016, fr., *M. Ribeiro et al. 1226* (RB). Vila Velha, 6.XI.1983, fl., *B. Weinberg 478* (MBML).

Popularly known as “pau-cebola”, *C. tapia* is one of the most easily recognized species of Capparaceae in the field due to the presence of very marked lenticels on its branches, 3-foliolate leaves, and zygomorphic flowers. This species occurs from Central America to Argentina, being found in almost all of the Brazilian territory with the exception of the southern region, and in the Amazon rainforest, Caatinga, Cerrado, and Atlantic Forest biomes.

**3.1. *Cynophalla flexuosa* (L.) J. Presl.**, O Půrozenosti rostlin, aneb rostlinar 2: 275. 1825.

Figs. 3h-n; 4b

Tree or shrub 2–10 m tall. Leaves alternate distichous, simple, petiole 5–10 mm long, canaliculate, glabrous; nectary on the leaf axil present; blade 6–12.5 × 3.3–6.6 cm, glabrous on both sides, coriaceous, elliptical to obovate, apex cuneate, rounded or obtuse, base obtuse, rounded, subcordate or cordate; veins adaxially and abaxially prominent, 8–11 pairs, tertiary veins abaxially prominent and adaxially prominent or impressed, densely reticulate. Inflorescences a raceme or panicle, terminal or axillary. Flowers symmetrical, 5–14(–24) per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 20–25 mm long; bracts 1 mm long, glabrous, chartaceous, deltoid; pedicel 10–15 mm long, glabrous; floral bud 10–13 × 9–11 mm; 4 nectaries, calyx open at anthesis; sepals heteromorphic; external sepals 5–7 × 6–8 mm, chartaceous, broad-elliptical, glabrous, green; internal sepals 7 × 4–10 mm, chartaceous, elliptical to wide-elliptical, glabrous, green; petals 4, 12–18 × 8–10 mm, wide-elliptical, margin entire, membranaceous, glabrous, white, reflexed or non-reflexed at anthesis; stamens 100; filaments 14–19 mm long, glabrous, white, 4–5 lines of insertion; anthers 3–3.5 mm long, basifixed, oblong; gynophore, 15–25 mm long, glabrous, slightly fenestrated; stigma capitate, black when dry; ovary 4–5 mm long, glabrous, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits follicular capsule, dehiscent, red, 5.7–13.9 × 0.8–1.24 cm; peduncle 10–17 × 1.5–3 mm; developed gynophore 37–54 × 1.1–2.3 mm.



**Figure 4** – a. *Capparidastrum frondosum*. b. *Cynophalla flexuosa*. c-d. *Mesocapparis lineata*. e. *Monilicrapa brasiliiana*. f-g. *Neocalyptrocalyx atlanticum*. h. *Neocalyptrocalyx nectarius*. Photos: a. Thiago Fernandes; b. Cássio Augusto Patrocínio Toledo; c-h. Jaqueline Luber.

**Specimens studied:** Conceição da Barra, 9.I.1992, fl., *D.A. Folli 1551* (CVRD); 13.VI.2012, fl., *L.F.T. Menezes 2003* (SAMES); 19.VIII.1991, fr., *V. de Souza 131* (CVRD); 20.V.1999, fl., *G. Hatschbach 69185* (MBML); 8.XI.1990, fl., *E.N. Moraes 51* (CVRD); 10.VI.1992, fr., *O.J. Pereira 3490* (VIES); 20.II.2000, fl., *A.M. Assis 795* (VIES). Itapemirim, 28.XII.2007, fl. and fr., *A.M. Assis 1265* (MBML). Linhares, 1.II.1999, fl., *V.F. Mansano 41* (CVRD); 14.VII.2010, fr., *A.O. Giaretta 803* (SAMES); 1.VI.1993, fr., *D.A. Folli 1884* (CVRD); 11.IV.2006, fl., *J. Paula-Souza 5717* (RB); 10.III.1994, fl. and fr., *D.A. Folli 2247* (RB); 15.III.2007, fl., *L.F.T. Menezes 1660* (SAMES). Marataizes, 13.V.1991, fl. and fr., *V. de Souza 82* (CVRD). Piúma, 15.V.2010, fr., *F.L. Santos 191* (MBML); IX.2002, fl., *H. Pinheiro 21* (VIES); 24.X.2002, fr., *H. Pinheiro 42* (VIES). Presidente Kennedy, I.2018, fl. and fr., *J. Luber 230* (CAP); 1.XII.2013, fl., *G.S. Siqueira 932* (CVRD); 27.IV.1997, fr., *O.J. Pereira 5857* (VIES); 13.X.2011, fl., *R.T. Valadares 1004* (VIES); 27.IV.1997, fl., *O.J. Pereira 5875* (VIES); 26.VIII.1996, fr., *J.M.L. Gomes 2153* (VIES); 27.IX.2009, fr., *M. Silva 145* (RB); 17.X.2008, fl., *A.C.S. Cavalcante 270* (RB); 25.IX.2016, fr., *K.S. Valdemarin 81* (RB). São Mateus, 20.III.2008, fl. and fr., *R.F.A. Martins 199* (SAMES); 1.IX.2007, fl., *M.B. Faria 64* (SAMES); 7.XI.2007, fl., *C. Farney 4834* (RB). Vila Velha, 7.IV.2012, fl., *L.A. Silva 142* (VIES); 28.XI.1996, fl., *O.J. Pereira 5691* (VIES); 6.IV.1993, fr., *V. de Souza 479* (CVRD); 6.VII.1996, fr., *J.M.L. Gomes 2120* (VIES). Vitória, 3.I.1985, fl., *N.M. Heleodoro 274* (RB); 2004, fr., *G.N. Martins 206* (VIES); 21.I.1998, fl., *A.M. Assis 360* (VIES).

*Cynophalla flexuosa*, popularly known as “feijão-da-praia”, is the species that has the greatest morphological variation in the genus. It has a wide distribution, occurring from the United States to the south of Brazil, and its morphological variation is sometimes confused and little understood. Recent studies have shown which characters help to better define species and have led to the description of new species for the genus, such as those presented by Cornejo *et al.* (2020) and the present work. In Brazil, it occurs in the Amazon rainforest, Caatinga, Cerrado, Atlantic Forest, Pantanal biomes. In state of Espírito Santo, *C. flexuosa* has wide distribution in coastal plains.

### 3.2. *Cynophalla grandiflora* Luber *sp. nov.*

Type: BRAZIL. ESPÍRITO SANTO: Linhares, Flona de Goytacazes, Mata de tabuleiro/Mata aluvial, 21 m altitude, 20.XI.2017, fl., *D.A. Folli 7593* (Holotype: CVRD! [CVRD15806] Isotype: RB! [RB767636]).

Fig. 5

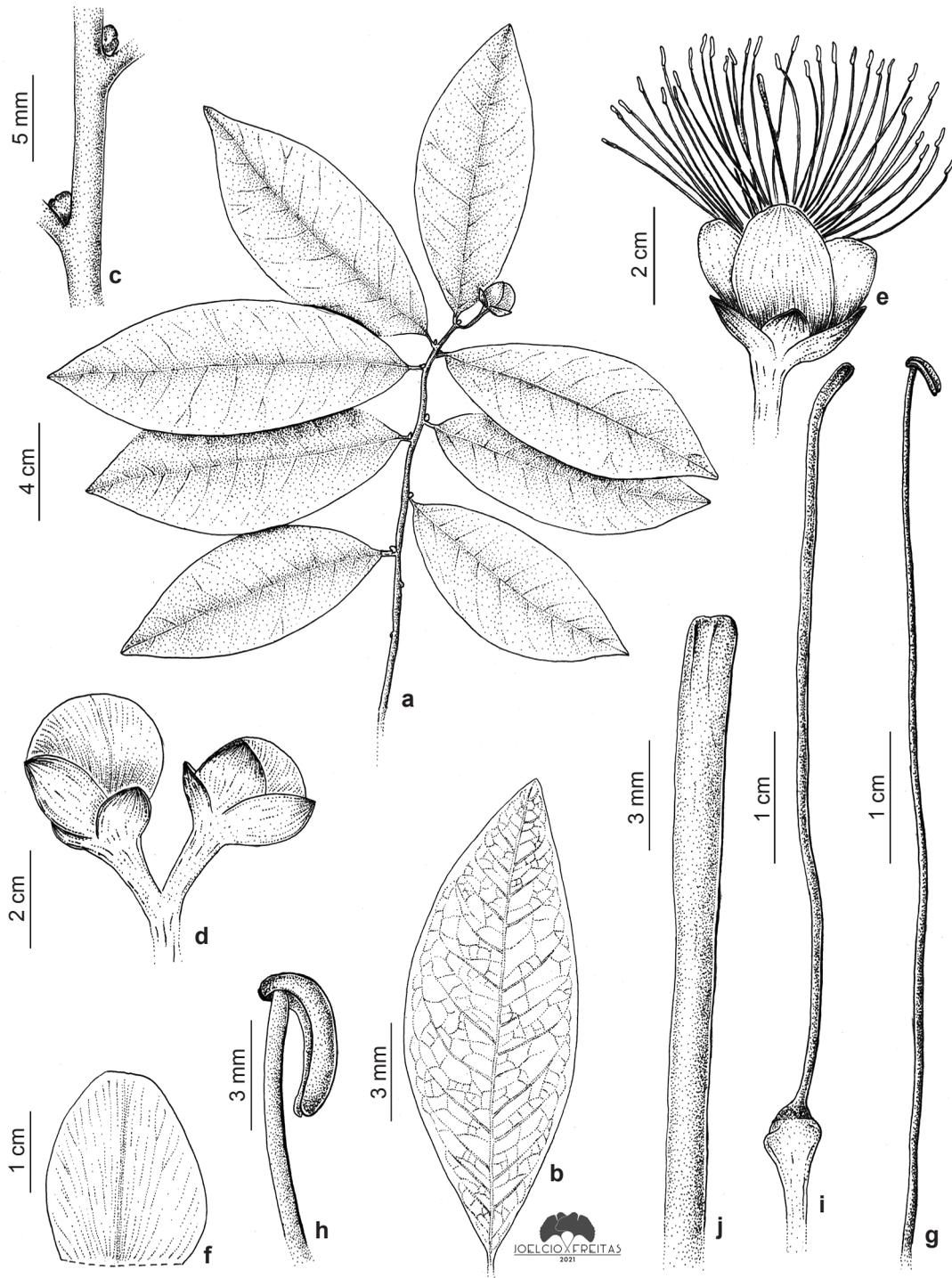
*Cynophalla grandiflora* Luber is a new species occurring in the “tabuleiros costeiros”

of the Atlantic Forest. The species resembles *Cynophalla flexuosa*, but differs from it mainly by the membranaceous leaves and the impressed and slightly reticulate tertiary veins (*versus* chartaceous leaves with strongly prominent and more reticulate tertiary veins in *C. flexuosa*), the size of the flowers, with external sepals measuring 8–10 × 7–10 mm (*versus* 5–7 × 6–8 mm in *C. flexuosa*), internal sepals 14 × 12–13 mm (*versus* 7 × 4–10 mm in *C. flexuosa*), petals 20–30 × 18–22 mm (*versus* 12–18 × 8–10 mm in *C. flexuosa*) and by the ovary that is not differentiated from the gynophore (*versus* ovary strongly differentiated from the gynophore in *C. flexuosa*).

Tree 6 m tall. Leaves alternate distichous, simple, petiole 5–5.5 mm long, canaliculate, glabrous; nectary on the leaf axil present; blade 9–13.9 × 4.2–5.5 cm, glabrous on both sides, membranaceous, elliptical, apex attenuate, base cuneate; veins abaxially prominent and adaxially impressed, 9–10 pairs, tertiary veins impressed and slightly reticulate on both sides. Inflorescences a raceme, terminal. Flowers symmetrical, 4–7 per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 7–22 mm long; bracts 1 mm long, glabrous, chartaceous, deltoid; pedicel 14–15 mm long, glabrous; floral buds 21 × 19 mm; 4 nectaries; calyx open at anthesis; sepals heteromorphic; external sepals 8–10 × 7–10 mm, chartaceous, broad-elliptical, glabrous, green; internal sepals 14 × 12–13 mm, chartaceous, broad-elliptical, glabrous, green; petals 4, 20–30 × 18–22 mm, wide-elliptical, margin entire, membranaceous, glabrous, white, not reflexed at anthesis; filaments 66 mm long, glabrous, white, 4 lines of insertion; stamens ca. 120; anthers 3.5 mm long, basifixed, oblong; gynophore, 37–50 mm long, glabrous, slightly fenestrated; stigma capitate, black when dry; ovary 8 mm long, glabrous, not differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits not seen.

The epithet refers to the size of the flowers which is larger than that of the flowers of closely related species.

*Cynophalla grandiflora*, a new species for science, was previously included within the circumscription of *C. flexuosa sensu lato*, that among the species of the genus, it is the one that most resembles morphologically with *C. grandiflora*. However, its larger flowers and more delicate leaves have drawn attention to more detailed studies. This species has a smaller reticulation of the tertiary veins (Fig. 5b), differing from *C. flexuosa*, which has a more reticulate tertiary veination (Fig. 3i). This characteristic is



**Figure 5** – a-j. *Cynophalla grandiflora* – a. habit; b. leaf blade with less reticulate tertiary veins; c. nectary on the leaf axil; d. flowers buds; e. flower at anthesis; f. petal; g. filament; h. anther in detail; i. gynecium; j. gynophore and ovary not differentiated.

important for the identification of the species, particularly when sterile; the nectaries in the leaf axil (Figs. 3j; 5c) help to identify the genus *Cynophalla*, and the tertiary veins are key to identify the species. So far this species is restricted to one collection, being then endemic to “tabuleiro costeiro” forest in Espírito Santo. Its classification as to the degree of threat cannot be determined due to lack of data.

**4.1. *Mesocapparis lineata* (Dombey ex Pers.)**  
Cornejo & Iltis, Harvard Papers in Botany 13(1): 115-116, f. 4. 2008. Figs. 4c-d; 6a-g

Herbaceous or woody liana. Leaves alternate distichous, simple, petiole 5–12 mm long, cylindrical, tomentose with stellate trichomes; nectary on the leaf axil absent; blade 5.3–8.6 × 2.7–4.1 cm, tomentose on the abaxial face and pubescent on the adaxial face, chartaceous, ovate, apex attenuate to cuneate, base rounded to cuneate; veins abaxially prominent and adaxially grooved, 5–7 pairs, tertiary veins impressed on both sides, barely reticulate, and barely visible. Inflorescences solitary, axillary. Flowers symmetrical; bracts absent; pedicel 9–19 mm long, tomentose; floral buds 7–10 × 6–9 mm; 4 nectaries; calyx open at anthesis; sepals 4, homomorphic, 6.3–13 × 5–8 mm, membranaceous, oblong, glabrous, green; petals 4, 14–16 × 10–15 mm, obovate, slightly bulging, membranaceous, glabrous, white, light yellow, not reflexed at anthesis; stamens 20–24; filaments, 26–39 mm long, glabrous, white, 2 lines of insertion; anthers 2–2.6 mm, basifixed, triangular; gynophore, 17–26 mm long, glabrous, fenestrated; stigma capitate, vinaceous when dry; ovary 3–3.8 mm long, tomentose, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits globose amphisarca, indehiscent, green, 5.5–8.3 × 3.5–4.1 cm; peduncle ca. 30 × 2 mm; developed gynophore 25–26 × 1.5–2 mm.

**Specimens studied:** Barra de São Francisco, 21.XI.2000, fl., *L. Kollmann* 3271 (MBML). Linhares, 16.XI.2000, fl., *D.A. Folli* 3742 (CVRD); 2.XII.2013, fl., *D.A. Folli* 2081 (RB); 10.I.2008, fl., *D.A. Folli* 5843 (RB). São Mateus, 10.XI.1993, fl., *G. Hatschbach* 60073 (INPA). Vitória, 8.XI.1959, fl., *J.G. Kuhmann* 6402 (RB).

**Additional specimens studied (Fruit):** BRAZIL. RIO DE JANEIRO: São Gonçalo, 12.VII.1997, fr., *R.N. Damasceno* [RB00065331] (RB); 1992/1993, fr., *S.M. Schneider* [RB00066440] (RB); 24.III.1987, fr., *C. Farney et al.* 1368 (RB).

*Mesocapparis lineata*, popularly known as “erveira”, belongs to an endemic genus of Brazil

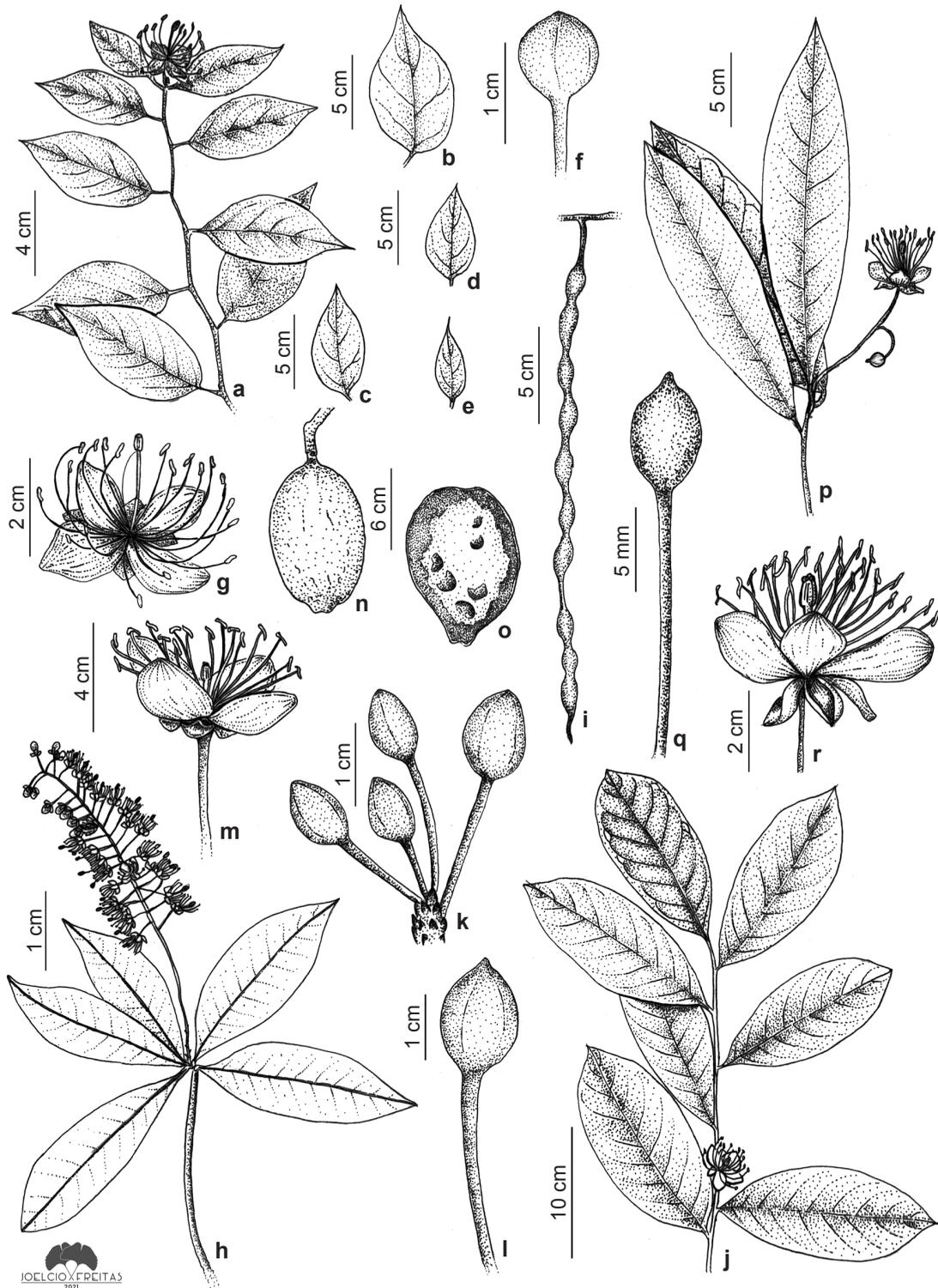
occurring in the Amazon rainforest, Caatinga and Atlantic Forest biomes. It differs from other species in the field for its lianescent habit, being unique among the species treated here.

**5.1. *Monilicarpa brasiliana* (Banks ex DC.)**  
Cornejo & Iltis, Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas 2(1): 71. 2008. Figs. 4e; 6h-i

Tree or shrub 2.5–7 m tall. Leaves opposite, verticillated, simple, petiole 2–7 mm long, cylindrical, glabrous; nectary on the leaf axil absent; blade 16.4–21 × 4.6–6.6 cm, glabrous on both sides, chartaceous, elliptical, apex attenuate, acute, cuspidate or acuminate, base cordate, cuneate, attenuate or obtuse; veins abaxially impressed or prominent and adaxially impressed, 9–14 pairs, tertiary veins not visible. Inflorescences a raceme, terminal. Flowers symmetrical, 26–76 per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 8–20 cm long; bracts 2–3 mm long, pubescent, membranous, narrow-elliptical; pedicel 20–30 mm long, glabrous or pubescent; floral buds 4.4–6.5 × 3–4 mm; nectaries absent; calyx open at anthesis; sepals 4, homomorphic, 2–3 × 1 mm, membranaceous, deltoid, glabrous, rarely pubescent, green; petals 4, 5–9 × 2.2–5.3 mm, oblong to obovate, margin entire, membranaceous, glabrous, white, in green and yellow hues, not reflexed at anthesis; stamens 14–23; filaments, 10–20 mm long, glabrous, white, 2 lines of insertion; anthers 1.4–2 mm long, basifixed, linear; gynophore 10–11 mm long, glabrous, not fenestrated; stigma capitate, brown; ovary 2.7–3.5 mm long, glabrous, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits moniliform capsule, dehiscent, purple, 12–27 × 0.7–0.85 cm; peduncle 16–23 × 1.2–1.4 mm; developed gynophore 25–30 × 2–3 mm.

**Specimens studied:** Linhares, 10.XI.1992, fl., *D.A. Folli* 1722 (RB); 23.IX.1991, fr., *D.A. Folli* 1425 (RB); 6.XI.1972, fl., *J. Spada* 52 (RB); 23.X.2010, fl., *T.B. Flores* 908 (RB); 29.X.2004, fl., *G.S. Siqueira* 130 (RB); 11.XI.1991, fl., *D.A. Folli* 1485 (RB). Pinheiros, 4.X.2007, fl., *D.A. Folli* 5727 (CVRD). Rio Bananal, 6.XI.2007, fl., *V. Demuner et al.* 4463 (MBML). Sooretama, 19.IV.2011, fr., *J. Meirelles* 605 (RB); X.2017, fl., (RB 759852); X.2017, fl. and fr., (RB 759422).

*Monilicarpa brasiliana*, popularly known as “estape”, with distribution restricted to Brazil, occurring in the Atlantic Forest and Pantanal biomes. This species is easily differentiated from the other species by lacking floral and extrafloral nectaries and bearing moniliform capsule fruits.



**Figure 6** – a-g. *Mesocapparis lineata* – a. habit; b-e. range of morphological variation of leaves; f. flower bud; g. flower. h-i. *Monilicarpa brasiliensis* – h. habit; i. monilliform capsule fruit. j-o. *Neocalyptrocalyx atlanticum* – j. habit; k. inflorescence; l. flower bud with thinly apiculate to broadly obtuse apex; m. flower at anthesis with gynophore less visible than filaments; n. closed fruit; o. open fruit. p-r. *Neocalyptrocalyx nectarius* – p. habit; q. flower bud with apiculate apex; r. flower at anthesis with gynophore visually the same size as the filaments.

### 6.1. *Neocalyptrocalyx atlanticum* Luber & Cornejo, Systematic Botany 3:XX. 2021.

Figs. 4f-g; 6j-o

Tree or shrub 5–7 m tall. Leaves alternate distichous, simple, petiole 9.2–10 mm long, cylindrical to slightly canaliculate, pubescent with stellate trichomes; nectary on the leaf axil absent; blade 13.3–19.2 × 4.9–6 cm, pubescent on the abaxial face and glabrous on the adaxial face, coriaceous, elliptical, apex attenuate, base rounded; veins abaxially prominent and adaxially impressed, 11–13 pairs, tertiary veins impressed and little reticulate on both sides. Inflorescences solitary or a raceme, terminal or axillary. Flowers symmetrical, 2–4 per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 16–22 mm long; bracts 2 mm long, glabrous, chartaceous, narrow-triangular; pedicel 23–44 mm long, glabrous or pubescent; floral buds 12–20 × 15 mm, apex thinly apiculate to broadly obtuse; 4 nectaries; calyx fused at anthesis; sepals heteromorphic; external sepals 9–12 × 8–9 mm, chartaceous, obovate to broad elliptical, pubescent, green; internal sepals 10–11 × 3 mm, membranaceous, oblanceolate, pubescent, cream; petals 4, 15–21 × 7–14 mm, obovate, slightly bulging, membranaceous, pubescent, light pink, not reflexed at anthesis; stamens 15–16; filaments 10–22 mm long, pubescent at the base and glabrous at the apex, white, 3 lines of insertion; anthers 3 mm long, basifixed, reiniform; gynophore, 3.5 mm long, glabrous, slightly fenestrated; stigma capitate, dark brown to brown when dry; ovary 3 mm long, pubescent, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits elliptical amphisarca, indehiscent, green, 6.7–8 × 4.5–4.1 cm; peduncle 10–11 × 4.3–5.4 mm; developed gynophore 10–19 × 5–8 mm.

**Specimens studied:** Itapemirim, fazenda do ouvidor, 14.III.2008, fr., *A.M. Assis et al. 1420* (MBML); 24.I.2008, fr., *A.M. Assis et al. 1305* (MBML); 28.XII.2007, fr., *A.M. Assis et al. 1244* (MBML).

**Additional specimens studied (Flower buds and Flowers):** BRAZIL. BAHIA: Ipiaú, 26.X.1970, fl., *T.S. Santos 1192* (CEPEC). PERNAMBUCO: Vicência, 12.XI.1960, fl., *S. Tavares 545* (US). Timbaúba, 23.X.1958, fl., *Andrade-Lima 3281* (MAC).

*Neocalyptrocalyx atlanticum*, popularly known as “araticum-da-mata”, “araticum-icó”, “cabeça-de-girú”, “cacau-do-mato”, “coité-domato”, and “girú-limão”, was recently described for the Atlantic Forest and is endemic to this biome. Espírito Santo is the southern limit of distribution of the species, which goes up to Pernambuco, which is the northern limit. *Neocalyptrocalyx atlanticum* can be confused with *N. nectarius*, however its

light pink flowers and the rounded apex of the buds differentiate them.

### 6.2. *Neocalyptrocalyx nectarius* (Vell.) Hutch., The Genera of Flowering Plants 2: 308. 1967.

Figs. 4h; 6p-r

Tree 2–5 m tall. Leaves alternate spiral, simple, petiole 9–14 mm long, cylindrical, pubescent with stellate trichomes; nectary on the leaf axil absent; blade 17.9–4.5 × 4.8–7.6 cm, pubescent on both sides, coriaceous, lanceolate to elliptic-lanceolate, apex sharply acuminate, base cuneate to subcordate; veins abaxially prominent and adaxially prominent or impressed, 12–17 pairs, tertiary veins impressed and little reticulate on both sides. Inflorescences solitary or a raceme, terminal or axillary. Flowers symmetrical, 3–9 per inflorescence, inflorescence axis 39–41 mm long; bracts 2.8–4.5 mm long, pubescent, chartaceous, narrow-triangular; pedicel 25–50 mm long, pubescent; floral buds 9–12 × 7–9 mm, apex acuminate; 4 nectaries; calyx fused at anthesis; sepals heteromorphic; external sepals 15–17 × 13–15 mm, chartaceous, ovate to broad elliptical, pubescent, green; internal sepals 13–20 × 6.7–7.8 mm, membranaceous, elliptical to narrow-elliptical, pubescent, cream; petals 4, 25–35 × 17–25 mm, obovate, slightly bulging, membranaceous, glabrous, white, not reflexed at anthesis; stamens 14–20; filaments 23–33 mm long, pubescent at the base, white, 2 lines of insertion; anthers 3.7–4 mm long, basifixed, reiniform; gynophore 11–19 mm long, pubescent, slightly twisted; stigma capitate, brown when dry; ovary 5.3–6.5 mm long, pubescent, differentiated from the gynophore. Fruits elliptical amphisarca, indehiscent, green, 9.2 × 5.6 cm; peduncle 55 × 5.4 mm; developed gynophore 20 × 7.6 mm.

**Specimens studied:** Anchieta, 1.XII.2006, fl., *A.M. Assis 1188* (MBML). Linhares, 28.I.2009, fr., *G.S. Siqueira 460* (CVRD); 28.XII.2006, fl., *D.A. Folli 5412* (CVRD); 11.XII.2006, fr., *D.A. Folli 5415* (CVRD); 6.XII.2007, fl., *D.A. Folli 5805* (CVRD); 12.XI.2014, fl., *G.S. Siqueira 1013* (CVRD); 31.X.2001, fl., *D.A. Folli 4103* (CVRD); 27.X.2015, fl., *G.S. Siqueira 1100* (RB); 4.XI.2019, fl., *J. Luber et al. 461* (RB); 4.XI.2019, fl., *J. Luber et al. 462* (RB); 4.XI.2019, fl., *J. Luber et al. 463* (RB); 31.X.2001, fl., *D.A. Folli 4103* (CVRD).

*Neocalyptrocalyx nectarius*, popularly known as “mirasul”, “estape-branco”, and “coração-de-boi”, is an endemic species of the Atlantic Forest, with distribution restricted to Espírito Santo and the north of the state Rio de Janeiro. This species can be easily confused with *Neocalyptrocalyx*

*atlanticum*, however it is distinguished from it by the completely white flowers and the strongly attached apex of the bud.

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