

Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), a new species from Guinée, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire

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ABSTRACT

The new species *Jasminum cuneatum* Jongkind (Oleaceae) from western Africa is described here. It differs from *J. paucinervium* Benth., a species that occurs in the same area and that is the most easily confused, by its cuneate and not rounded or cordate leaf base and the absence of pit domatia. It differs from *J. kwangense* Liben from Central Africa by the more papery leaves without abundant glandular dots and pit domatia on their lower surface.

KEY WORDS

Oleaceae,
Jasminum,
West Africa,
new species.

RÉSUMÉ

Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), une nouvelle espèce de Guinée, Liberia et Côte d'Ivoire.

Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), une nouvelle espèce d'Afrique de l'Ouest est décrite et comparée aux espèces affines. Elle se distingue de *J. paucinervium* Benth. – espèce sympatrique – par les feuilles sans acarodomaties, conées à la base et non cordées ou arrondies. *Jasminum cuneatum* est proche de *J. kwangense* Liben d'Afrique Centrale, mais s'en distingue par les feuilles non chartacées, et par l'absence de points glanduleux en grand nombre et d'acarodomaties à leur face inférieure.

MOTS CLÉS

Oleaceae,
Jasminum,
Afrique de l'Ouest,
espèce nouvelle.

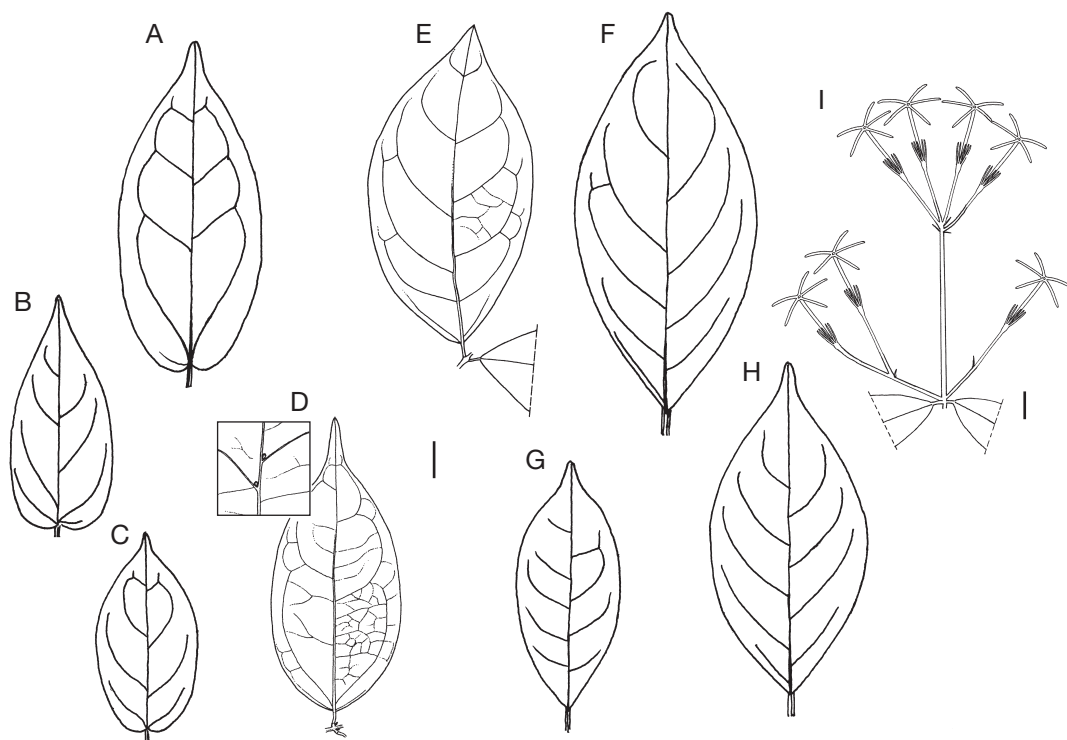


FIG. 1. — **A-D**, *Jasminum paucinervium* Benth.; **A-C**, leaves; **D**, leaf with detail showing pit domatia; **E-I**, *Jasminum cuneatum* Jongkind; **E-H**, leaves; **I**, inflorescence. A, van der Burg 307; B, Andoh FH 5641; C, Berhaut 6229; D, Bos 1878; E, Linder 1172; F, Jongkind 8376; G, Jacques-Félix 861; H, Chevalier 21182. D and E illustrated by Marjolein Spitteler. Scale bars: 1 cm.

INTRODUCTION

Jasminum L. is an Old World genus of 150 or more species of which 25 to 30 occur in Africa (Kupicha 1983). Only seven species were known from the *Flora of Tropical West Africa* area (Green 1963). Recently a small *Jasminum* liana was collected in Guinée in the forest on the West slopes of the Nimba Mountains. With the *Flora of West Tropical Africa* it keys out as *J. paucinervium* Benth., a well known species that is found from Senegal to Uganda, because it has simple leaves with a few hairs in the axil of the larger lateral nerves beneath, but it did not match that species when compared in the herbarium. The leaves of the new species called *J. cuneatum* are different from those of *J. paucinervium* (Fig. 1) in that their base is cuneate instead of cordate to rounded, the basal nerves are less conspicuous

than the others and not strong and ascending, and it does not have pit domatia. When *J. cuneatum* is compared with the other climbing *Jasminum* species from the forests of the Guinea-Congolese Region it shows most similarity with *J. kwangense* Liben from Congo-Kinshasa and Gabon (see Liben 1973: 20). The two species have the same shape of inflorescence, and the flowers and shape of the leaf are also more or less the same. *Jasminum cuneatum* differs from *J. kwangense* by the more papery leaves without abundant glandular dots and pit domatia on their lower surface. In the herbaria in Paris and Kew several conspecific specimens were found, specimens that were earlier identified as *J. paucinervium* or *J. preussii* Engl. & Knobl. Hawthorne & Jongkind (2006: 434) erroneously called the new species *J. preussii*, but the real *J. preussii* has never been found this far to the west.

SYSTEMATICS

Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind, sp. nov.
(Fig. 1)

Species nova J. kwangense Liben *affinis*, sed *foliis tenioribus eglandulatis*.

TYPUS. — Guinée. Nimba Mountains, Gouan Valley, 850 m altitude, 21.VIII.2008, *Jongkind 8376* (holo-, WAG; iso-, BR, K, MO, P).

PARATYPES. — Guinée. Macenta, 8.V.1926, *Collenette 16* (K). — Macenta, IV.1936, *Jacques-Felix 861* (P).

Liberia. Ganta, 13.V.1939, *WJ Harley 1168* (K). — So-Banga, 20.IX.1926, *Linder 1155* (K). — Banga, 21.X.1926, *Linder 1172* (K).

Côte d'Ivoire. Bassin du Haut Nuon, entre Bampleu et Kouanhoulé, 6.IV.1909, *Chevalier 21182* (P). — N de Man, 19.VIII.1969, *Thijsen 197* (WAG, P).

DESCRIPTION

Twining climber several meters long. Twigs pubescent. Leaves opposite; petiole 2-9 mm long, often with a clear joint, with short hairs most densely at upper side; blade elliptic, 3.5-11 × 2-4.5 cm, almost glabrous, 5 pairs of lateral nerves, with a few not very conspicuous hairs in the axils of the larger lateral nerves only, base cuneate, apex acute to acuminate. Inflorescence cymose or almost umbellate, up to 7-flowered; peduncle 7-23 mm long; pedicel 12-30 mm long; calyx tube 1-2 mm

high, 5(-6) linear lobes 6-8 mm long with a few hairs or glabrous, green, slightly accrescent in fruit; corolla glabrous, white, with 5 or more slender lobes *c.* 15 × 1.5 mm, slender tube 20-24 mm long, slightly widening below the base of the anthers; the two stamens included in the tube, filaments *c.* 1.5 mm long; anthers *c.* 4 mm long, apiculate; style glabrous, shortly exerted. Fruit one or two lobed, glabrous, shiny, no mature fruits known yet.

HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION

Forests in South-East Guinée, North Liberia and West Côte d'Ivoire, from *c.* 200 to 850 m altitude.

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