

TAXONOMIC AND NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON *MICONIA CRENATA*
AND RELATED SPECIES (MELASTOMATACEAE: MICONIEAE)
IN THE GREATER ANTILLES

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ABSTRACT

The nomenclature and phylogenetic placement of five species of Miconieae in the Greater Antilles with conspicuous multicellular, simple, elongate, eglandular or gland-headed hairs, pseudolateral inflorescences, and flowers with elongated calyx teeth, 5–8, white, rounded petals, white, ovate anthers, and purple- or blue-black fruits are considered. These species have traditionally been considered within the polyphyletic genus *Clidemia*, but are here transferred to *Miconia* sensu lato. Four new combinations are presented, i.e., ***Miconia dependens*** (D. Don) Judd & Majure, ***M. erythropogon*** (DC.) Judd & Ionta, ***M. octona*** (Bonpl.) Judd & Majure, and ***M. strigillosa*** (Sw.) Judd & Ionta. Finally, we note that the widespread and economically important species previously known as *Clidemia hirta* (L.) DC., when considered within *Miconia*, bears the name *Miconia crenata* (Vahl) Michelang.

KEY WORDS: *Clidemia*, *Clidemia hirta*, Cuba, *Heterotrichum*, Hispaniola, *Maieta*

RESUMEN

Se considera la nomenclatura y ubicación filogenética de cinco especies de Miconieae de las Antillas Mayores. Estas cinco especies muestran pelos conspicuos, multicelulares, sencillos, eglandulares o glandulares, inflorescencias pseudolaterales, flores con los dientes del cáliz elongados, 5–8 pétalos redondeados blancos, anteras aovadas, y frutos morados o negro-azulados. Tradicionalmente estas especies fueron consideradas dentro del género polifilético *Clidemia*, pero aquí se transfieren las especies a *Miconia* sensu lato. Se presentan cuatro combinaciones nuevas, ***Miconia dependens*** (D. Don) Judd & Majure, ***M. erythropogon*** (DC.) Judd & Ionta, ***M. octona*** (Bonpl.) Judd & Majure, y ***M. strigillosa*** (Sw.) Judd & Ionta. Finalmente, notamos que la especie ampliamente distribuida y económicamente importante previamente conocida como *Clidemia hirta* (L.) DC., tiene el nombre de *Miconia crenata* (Vahl) Michelang., cuando es considerada como parte de *Miconia* sensu lato.

The genus *Clidemia* D. Don, like nearly all other genera of Miconieae, has been shown to be highly polyphyletic (Goldenberg et al. 2008; Michelangeli et al. 2008, submitted), a finding in keeping with the history of problematic generic delimitations within the tribe (Cogniaux 1891; Judd 1989; Judd & Slean 1991). The most workable solution to this classificatory problem (as clearly evident in Figs. 1–3 of Goldenberg et al. 2008) is to place all species of Miconieae within a greatly expanded *Miconia* Ruiz & Pav., comprising the DNA-supported clade within Miconieae that can be diagnosed by the synapomorphy of berry fruits (Gamba & Almeda 2014; Goldenberg et al. 2013; Ionta et al. 2012; Judd et al. 2014a, b, 2015; Majure et al. 2014; Michelangeli et al. 2016).

We here consider the Greater Antillean species formerly placed in *Clidemia* that have conspicuous, multicellular, simple, elongate, eglandular or gland-headed hairs, sympodial growth, pseudolateral inflorescences, flowers with elongate calyx teeth, 5–8 white, rounded petals, white, ovate anthers, and purple- or blue-black fruits. These species, including the widespread and well-known *C. hirta* (L.) D. Don, *C. capitellata* (Bonpl.) D. Don, *C. strigillosa* (Sw.) DC., and *C. octona* (Bonpl.) L.O. Williams, have in the twentieth century consistently

been placed in *Clidemia* (see, for example, Alain 1957; Almeda 2009; Croat 1978; Gleason 1939; Howard 1989; Liogier 1995, 2000; Moscoso 1943; Proctor 1972; Standley & Williams 1961; Urban 1921; Wurdack 1973, 1980). These species were placed by Cogniaux (1891) within *Clidemia* sect. *Staphidium* (Naudin) Cogn. (the type species of which is *C. octona*), and later were placed in *Clidemia* sect. *Clidemia* by Wurdack (1973). *Clidemia neglecta* D. Don (= *C. capitellata*) was selected as the type of the genus *Clidemia* by Britton and Wilson (1925); this was the first species listed by David Don in his treatment of the genus (Don 1823), and it may have been selected by Britton and Wilson for that reason (following the New York code). Moreover, it perfectly matches Don's generic diagnosis and well represents the morphology of core-*Clidemia*. We thus agree with their lectotypification, which was unfortunately automatic and invalid. Below, we formally designate *Clidemia neglecta* D. Don as the type species of *Clidemia*. We here briefly consider the phylogenetic placement of these Greater Antillean species and propose names for them within an expanded *Miconia*.

The first author has long suggested that those species of *Clidemia* with pseudolateral inflorescences (i.e., determinate shoot development and terminal inflorescences with branch elongation due to sympodial growth, and the inflorescences deflexed to a pseudolateral position as the result of the development of an axillary bud immediately below the inflorescence; see Fig. 1 A, B, E, I, J) were not closely related to those species showing indeterminate shoot growth and truly axillary inflorescences (Judd 1986, 1989; Judd & Skean 1991). This morphology-based hypothesis is now supported, at least in part, by molecular data (Goldenberg et al. 2008; Martin et al. 2008; Michelangeli et al. 2004, 2008, submitted), although the classificatory situation is even more complicated than anticipated given the results of molecular analyses that suggest that pseudolateral inflorescences (and the associated sympodial stem growth) have evolved multiple times in the Miconieae, e.g., in the *M. strigillosa* group (represented in the Antilles by *M. strigillosa* (Sw.) Judd & Ionta and *M. dependens* (Don) Judd & Majure), in the *M. octona* group (represented in the Antilles by *M. octona* (Bonpl.) Judd & Majure, *M. crenata* (Vahl.) Michelang., and *M. erythropogon* (DC.) Judd & Ionta), and in the *Octopleura* clade (Gamba & Almeda 2014; represented in the Antilles by *M. rubescens* (Triana) Gamba & Almeda). These three clades are not each other's closest relatives, but instead they are positioned across the cladogram (Goldenberg et al. 2008; Michelangeli et al., 2008, submitted), with the species of the *M. strigillosa* group more closely related to *Miconia* sect. *Sagraea* (Ionta et al. 2012) than they are to the members of the *M. octona* group, and the species of the *M. octona* group perhaps most closely related to many species of *Leandra* (Martin et al. 2008). The *Octopleura* clade is most closely related to *Miconia* s.s. (Gamba & Almeda 2014; Michelangeli et al. 2008). Additional striking morphological features that apparently have also evolved in parallel among these species of the *M. octona* and *M. strigillosa* groups include their conspicuous strigose indumentum and elongate calyx teeth (see Majure et al. 2013; Fig. 1 C, D, F–H, J, K). Thus, despite their phenetic similarity and long tradition of being considered closely related (Cogniaux 1891; Wurdack 1973, 1980), phylogenetic analyses based on DNA-sequences do not support a close relationship between the species of the *M. octona* clade and the *M. strigillosa* clade, although this hypothesis is preliminary and increased taxon sampling is needed.

In addition to molecular data (Michelangeli et al., submitted), the monophyly of the *Miconia strigillosa* clade (= *Clidemia* sect. *Clidemia*) is supported by the putative synapomorphies of gland-headed hairs on the abaxial leaf surface (but we note that this character has also evolved within the *M. octona* clade), stellate hairs on the abaxial leaf surface, pseudolateral inflorescences (Fig. 1 I, J), and shoots producing only a single internode with one pair of leaves before terminating in an inflorescence (Majure et al. 2013). Additionally, the thickened bases of the elongated hairs on the adaxial leaf surface (Fig. 1 I) may be synapomorphic. Many members of this group also bear an ovary crown, and some also have torus hairs. Exclusively continental relatives of *M. strigillosa* and *M. dependens* include species such as *Clidemia pustulata* DC., *C. biserrata* DC., *C. urceolata* DC., and *C. novemnervia* (DC.) Triana (Michelangeli et al., submitted), and perhaps also the phenetically similar *C. siapensis* Wurdack. [Names in *Clidemia* are used, here and elsewhere, for continental species lacking combinations in *Miconia*.] The *M. octona* clade (= *Clidemia* sect. *Staphidium*) is supported by the potential synapomorphies of pseudolateral inflorescences (Fig. 1 A, B, E, F), shoots producing only a single pair of leaves before terminating in an inflorescence (both likely evolved in parallel with the species of the *M.*

strigillosa clade), the presence of torus hairs, and ovaries with five locules (Majure et al. 2013). Support is also provided by DNA-sequence characters (Michelangeli et al., submitted). Their leaves usually lack stellate hairs abaxially (although such hairs may be present on the major veins, and we note that such hairs are present even on the lamina of some species, e.g., *M. octona*). Additionally, the elongated hairs on the adaxial leaf surface are not bulla-based. Continental relatives include *C. laevifolia* Gleason and *C. dentata* D. Don (Michelangeli et al., submitted), and perhaps also *C. acurensis* Wurdack. The species of the *Octopleura* clade are easily differentiated from those of the *M. strigillosa* and *M. octona* clades because their stamens have an anther connective that is prolonged dorso-basally, forming a gland-edged appendage, and their hypanthia and mature berries are longitudinally ribbed (Gamba & Almeda 2014).

Although it is clear that the species of the *Miconia octona* and *M. strigillosa* groups should be included within *Miconia* s.l., a detailed presentation of their taxonomic placement and infrageneric nomenclature must await an investigation of these Antillean species in the context of their continental relatives. However, their specific distinctions are already clear, they are recognized in many floristic treatments (e.g., Alain 1957; Almeda 2009; Gleason 1939; Liogier 1995, 2000; Michelangeli & Bécquer 2012; Proctor 1972; Wurdack 1973, 1980), and are presented in the following dichotomous key (based upon the study of numerous herbarium specimens from the Greater Antilles). The most useful characters distinguishing these two groups (as evidenced in the key) are the presence of bulla-based hairs on the adaxial leaf surface in species of the *M. strigillosa* clade, vs. their absence in members of the *M. octona* clade, along with the presence vs. absence of an ovary crown. Additionally, the leaves of species of the *M. strigillosa* clade are usually stellate-pubescent beneath, while those of the *M. octona* group often lack such hairs on the abaxial surface of the lamina. Note that *M. octona* is an exception, having stellate hairs abaxially (see key).

In the taxonomic section below, we present an updated nomenclature for each of the Antillean species of the *Miconia octona* and *M. strigillosa* groups, along with an identification key and brief statements relating to their geographical distributions. Although morphologically variable, these species are phenetically distinct and easily distinguished—and, except for *M. dependens*, they show no significant internal morphological discontinuities in the Greater Antilles. *Miconia dependens* is exceptionally variable, such that infraspecific taxa have frequently been recognized within it (and infraspecific taxa have also been recognized within *M. crenata* and *M. octona*, relating to variation in continental regions). Perhaps some of these deserve specific recognition, but a detailed consideration of the pattern of variation within this broadly distributed species is beyond the scope of this article, which is focused on the populations of the Greater Antilles. The complex pattern of variation within *M. dependens* is unsurprising, given that the species is agamospermic and likely comprises a series of asexual entities (Melo et al. 1999). We note that agamospermy has also been recorded for *M. crenata* (Caetano 2014).

Chromosome numbers within the tribe Miconieae are remarkably uniform and usually represented by $n = 17$ (Almeda 2013; Solt & Wurdack 1980). These species, however, do show some variation in chromosome number, i.e., *Miconia crenata* ($n = 17$), *M. dependens* ($n = 17$), *M. erythropogon* ($n = 15$), *M. octona* ($n = 17$), and *M. strigillosa* ($n = \text{ca. } 25\text{--}27$) (Missouri Botanical Garden 2007; Solt & Wurdack 1980). This unusual level of variability for the tribe may correlate with the occurrence of asexuality in these taxa.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Key to Greater Antillean species of *Miconia* with conspicuous multicellular, elongate, simple, eglandular or gland-headed hairs, pseudolateral inflorescences, and flowers with elongated calyx teeth, 5 to 8, white, rounded petals, white, ovate anthers, and purple- or blue-black fruits.

1. Hairs of adaxial leaf surface swollen at base, the abaxial surface with associated depressions; ovary collar with a crown (i.e., with conspicuous, elongated hairs).
 2. Inflorescences, broad and open, paniculate cymes; inflorescence bracts 0.2–1.4 mm wide; leaves \pm cordate, with marginal hairs to 1–2 mm long; calyx teeth 2.5–4.5 mm long ***Miconia strigillosa***
 2. Inflorescences, spike-like cymes (or occasionally elongate-paniculate); inflorescence bracts (0.2) 0.7–2.5 mm wide; leaves (acute) obtuse to rounded or slightly cordate, with marginal hairs to 1–4.5 mm long; calyx teeth 1.3–3 mm long ***Miconia dependens***

1. Hairs of adaxial leaf surface not swollen at base, the abaxial surface \pm flat; ovary collar, although lobed, without a crown.
3. Abaxial leaf surface with conspicuous stellate hairs; flowers with 5–8 petals _____ **Miconia octona**
3. Abaxial leaf surface lacking stellate hairs, although a few such hairs may be present on the major veins; flowers with 5–6 petals.
4. Leaves ovate, the base rounded to cordate, the length/width quotient 1.3–2.1; inflorescences \pm pedicellate, laxly branched; calyx with elongate, white, pale green, brownish to reddish hairs _____ **Miconia crenata**
4. Leaves ovate to elliptic or oblong, the base obliquely cuneate, obtuse, to rounded or slightly cordate, the length/width quotient 1.9–3; inflorescences \pm sessile, densely short-branched; calyx with elongate, consistently bright red hairs _____ **Miconia erythropogon**

Clidemia D. Don. Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc. 4:284, 306, 307. 1823. **LECTOTYPE, here designated:** *Clidemia neglecta* D. Don.

While describing *Clidemia*, Don (1823) included in it 19 different species, but none of them were designated as the type, as this was not a requirement at the time. Britton and Wilson (1925) mentioned *C. neglecta* as the type of *Clidemia*, presumably because it was the first species in Don's treatment. However, their designation of this species as the type was automatic and thus invalid. Here we formalize the selection of *Clidemia neglecta* (now considered a synonym of *Miconia dependens*) as the type of *Clidemia*. All of the generic characters used by Don are present in the type of this species.

Species of the *Miconia octona* group in the Antilles:

1. *Miconia crenata* (Vahl) Michelang. in Mabberley, *Mabberley's Plant-Book*, 4th ed., p. 1102. Cambridge, U.K. 2017 (**Fig. 1 A–C**). *Melastoma crenatum* Vahl, *Ecol. Amer.* 1:41. 1797. **TYPE:** BRAZIL: without definite locality, *P. Commerson s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: C 10014542 [digital image!]).

Melastoma hirtum L., *Sp. Pl.* 390. 1753. *Clidemia hirta* (L.) D. Don, Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc. 4:309. 1823. *Maieta hirta* (L.) M. Gómez, *Anales Hist. Nat.* 23:70. 1894. **TYPE:** JAMAICA: without definite locality, *P. Browne s.n.* (LECTOTYPE, designated by R.A. Howard, 1989: LINN 559.2!). Non *Miconia hirta* Cogn. in Rusby, *Mem. Torrey Bot. Club* 3 (3):31. 1893.

Melastoma elegans Aubl., *Hist. Pl. Guiane* 1:427, t. 167. 1775. **TYPE:** FRENCH GUIANA: without definite locality, *J.B.C.F. Aublet s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: BM 001008286 [digital image!]). Non *Miconia elegans* Cogn. *Fl. Bras. (Martius)* 14(4): 312. 1887.

Melastoma pauciflorum Desr. in Lam., *Encyc.* 4:39. 1797/98. **TYPE:** BRAZIL: near Rio de Janeiro, from the herbarium of D. Dombey (not seen, but possibly at K). Non *Miconia pauciflora* Triana, *Trans. Linn. Soc. London* 28:115. 1871.

For a complete listing of synonyms see Cogniaux (1891) and Renner et al. (2007–2017).

Distribution.—Within the Greater Antilles, *Miconia crenata* occurs in Cuba, Hispaniola (both the Dominican Republic and Haiti), Jamaica, and Puerto Rico (Alain 1957; Axelrod 2011; Liogier 1995, 2000; Proctor 1972), and it also grows in the Virgin Islands (St. Thomas, Tortola) and Lesser Antilles (Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent) (Howard 1989; Michelangeli & Bécquer 2012). The species is also widely distributed in the continental Neotropics, occurring in North America (Mexico) through Central America to northern and central South America. The species has become an aggressive and invasive shrub on many Pacific islands (e.g., Hawaii and Fiji; Almeda 1990; Simmonds 1937; Wester & Wood 1977), at scattered locations in the Asian tropics, in northeastern Australia, Madagascar, islands in the Indian Ocean, and in eastern Africa (e.g., see Peters 2001; CABI 2017).

This species was transferred to *Miconia* as *M. crenata* because the epithet “*hirta*” is already preoccupied in *Miconia*. Similarly, two other epithets of early heterotypic synonyms were also occupied. The earliest epithet available in *Miconia* corresponds to *Melastoma crenatum*.

2. *Miconia erythropogon* (DC.) Judd & Ionta, **comb. nov.** (**Fig. 1 D–G**). *Clidemia erythropogon* DC., *Prodr.* 3:157. 1828. **TYPE:** JAMAICA: without definite locality, *C.L.G. Bertero s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: G-DC 002201725 [digital image!]; photo of specimen: F!).

Staphidium wilsonii Naudin, *Ann. Sc. Nat. Ser.* 3 17:311. 1852. **TYPE:** JAMAICA: without definite locality, *Wilson 11* (LECTOTYPE, **here designated:** P 04022818 [digital image!]; ISOLECTOTYPE: K! [K000536825])

Staphidium wilsonii var. *crinitum* Naudin, *Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. ser.* 3 17:311. 1852. **TYPE:** CUBA: prope Santiago et Nima-nima, *J.J. Linden 2092* (LECTOTYPE, **here designated:** P 040422819 [digital image!]; ISOLECTOTYPES: GENT 000001.3074074 [digital image!], P 040422820 [digital image!])

Nomenclatural note.—Wright 178 is a mixed collection of Cuban plants, and the specimen at BR (5184712, digital image!) is the lectotype of *Clidemia capituliflora* Cogn. in A.L.P.P. de Candolle & A.C.P. de Candolle (*Monogr. Phan.* 7:1021. 1891); however, the duplicates of Wright 178 at GH! (with the original collection label, i.e., from Monte Verde) and K (536915, digital image!), represent *Miconia erythropogon*. The name *C. capituliflora*, therefore, is not considered a synonym of *M. erythropogon*.

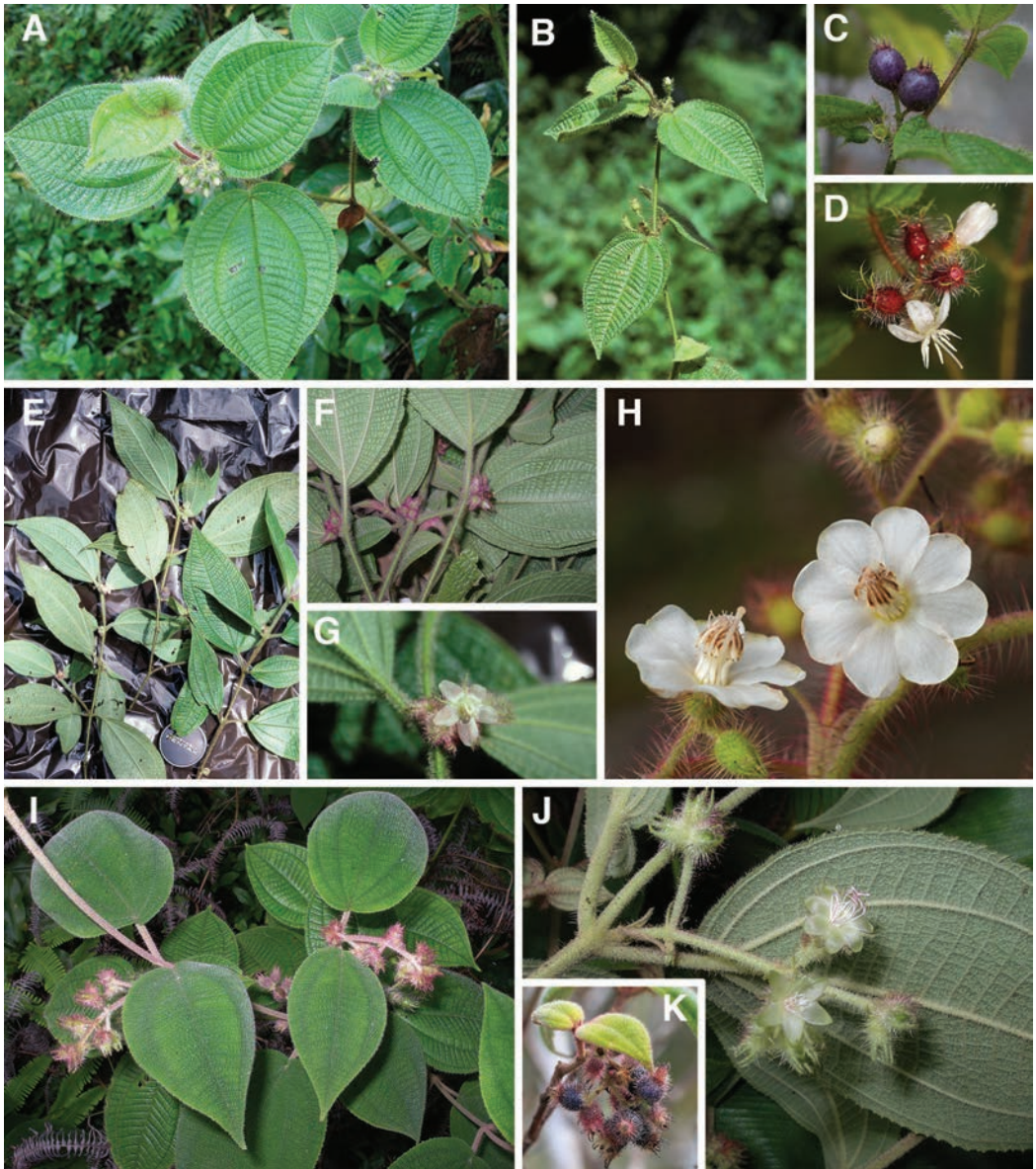


FIG. 1. *Miconia crenata* and close relatives. **A.** *M. crenata* showing habit and inflorescence structure (Bath Fountains, Jamaica). **B.** *M. crenata* showing sympodial growth, with terminal inflorescences deflexed to seeming axillary position (Judd 3057; and photo previously published in Judd, 1986, fig. 5). **C.** Fruits of *M. crenata* (Majure 6044). **D.** Inflorescence and flowers of *M. erythropogon* (Wakefield, Jamaica). **E–F.** Habit and inflorescence structure of *M. erythropogon* (Judd 5246 and Judd 8299). **G.** Flower of *M. erythropogon* (Judd 5246). **H.** Flower showing typical eight petals of *M. octona* (Michelangeli 1750). **I.** Habit and inflorescence structure of *M. strigillosa* (Judd 8338). **J–K.** Flowers (Judd 8338) and fruit (Mason River, Jamaica) of *M. strigillosa*. Photos B, E–G, and I–J taken by W.S. Judd; D and K taken by G.M. Ionta; A taken by J.D. Slean, Jr.; H taken by F.A. Michelangeli; and C taken by L.C. Majure.

Distribution.—*Miconia erythropogon* is endemic to the Greater Antilles, occurring only in Jamaica, Cuba (in the Sierra Maestra and Sierra de Moa), and Hispaniola (Dominican Republic, at Valle Flores, and Haiti, in the Massif de la Hotte) (Alain 1957; Liogier 2000; Proctor 1972). This species is morphologically similar to its close relative, the widespread *M. crenata*, but the two species may be consistently distinguished by the characteristics provided in the key. The species has also been recognized by other systematists, e.g., Alain (1957), Proctor (1972), and Michelangeli and Bécquer (2012).

3. *Miconia octona* (Bonpl.) Judd & Majure, **comb. nov. (Fig. 1 H).** *Melastoma octonum* Bonpl., *Melast.* 1:t. 4. 1806. *Heterotrichum octonum* (Bonpl.) DC., *Prodr.* 3:173. 1828. *Staphidium octonum* (Bonpl.) Naudin, *Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot.*, ser. 3, 17(5):306. 1851. *Stephanotrichum octonum* (Bonpl.) Naudin ex Hemsl., *Biol. Cent.-Amer., Bot.* 1(5):430. 1880. *Clidemia octona* (Bonpl.) L.O. Williams, *Fieldiana, Bot.* 29:558. 1963. TYPE: COLOMBIA: monte Quindiu, juxta fluvium Guadas, *Humboldt & Bonpland 1745*. (P, not seen [apparently three duplicates under this number], BM 001008226 [digital image!]).

Heterotrichum octonum var. *brasiliensis* Cogn., *Fl. Bras. (Martius)* 14 (4):429. 1888. TYPE: BRAZIL: Rio de Janeiro, Barra de Tiquitiba, *Riedel 829* (LECTOTYPE, **here designated**: P 02090269 [digital image!]). Remaining syntypes: Minas Gerais, Conceicao, *Pohl 446* (not seen), *Pohl 1517* (not seen).

Clidemia pilosissima Cogn. ex Britton, *Bull. Torrey Bot. Club* 17(8):211. 1890. TYPE: BOLIVIA: Mapiri, 5000 ft, May 1886, *H.H. Rusby 2234* (HOLOTYPE: NY! [NY 00221576]; ISOTYPES: LP 010590 [digital image!], MICH 1111790 [digital image!], US! [US 00123637])

Distribution.—*Miconia octona* is found only in Cuba and Jamaica within the Greater Antilles (Alain 1957; Proctor 1972); it does not occur in the Lesser Antilles. The species is widespread in the continental Neotropics—growing in North America (Mexico), Central America, and South America as far south as Bolivia.

Species of the *Miconia strigillosa* group:

4. *Miconia strigillosa* (Sw.) Judd & Ionta, **comb. nov. (Fig. 1 I–K).** *Melastoma strigillosum* Sw., *Prodr.* 71. 1788. *Clidemia strigillosa* (Sw.) DC., *Prodr.* 3:159. 1828. *Clidemia spicata* var. *strigillosa* (Sw.) Griseb., *Fl. Brit. W.I.* 3:247. 1860. TYPE: JAMAICA: without definite locality, *O.P. Swartz s.n.* (LECTOTYPE, **here designated**: S 14-17934 [digital image!]).

Clidemia tristis D. Don, *Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 4:307. 1823. TYPE: PERU: *J.A. Pavón s.n.* (not seen, possibly at OXF).

Clidemia umbonata Schr. et Mart. ex DC., *Prodr.* 3:158. 1828. TYPE: BRAZIL: Rio Negro ad Nogueira, *C.F.P. von Martius. s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: M 0165406 [digital image!]; ISOTYPES: G-DC 00310639 [fragment; digital image!], M 0165407 [digital image!]).

Distribution.—Within the Greater Antilles, *Miconia strigillosa* occurs on Cuba, Hispaniola (Dominican Republic and Haiti), Puerto Rico, and Jamaica (Alain 1957; Axelrod 2011; Liogier 1995, 2000; Proctor 1972). It is absent from the Lesser Antilles. The species is also widespread in continental regions of the Neotropics, growing in Central America and northern South America, extending south to Peru.

5. *Miconia dependens* (D. Don) Judd & Majure, **comb. nov.** *Clidemia dependens* Pavón ex D. Don, *Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 4:307. 1823. *Maieta dependens* (D. Don) Baill., *Hist. Pl.* 7:35. 1877. *Clidemia capitellata* (Bonpl.) D. Don var. *dependens* (D. Don) J.F. Macbr, *Publ. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Bot. ser.* 13, pt. 4:484. 1941. TYPE: PERU: without definite locality, *J.A. Pavón s.n.* (LECTOTYPE, **here designated**: MA 813796 [digital image!]; possible isolecotype probably also at OXF).

Melastoma spicatum Aubl., *Hist. Pl. Guiane* 1:423. 1775. *Clidemia spicata* (Aubl.) DC., *Prodr.* 3:159. 1828 (non *C. spicata* Don, *Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 4:308. 1823). *Maieta spicata* (Aubl.) M. Gómez, *Anales Hist. Nat.* 23:70. 1849. *Staphidium spicatum* (Aubl.) Naudin, *Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot.*, Ser. 3, 17:316. 1852. TYPE: FRENCH GUIANA: Courou [Kourou], *J.B.C.F. Aublet s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: BM 001008384 [digital image!]; ISOTYPES: MPU 014083 [digital image!], P 00678330 [digital image!]). Non *Miconia spicata* (Gleason) Gamba & Almeda, *Phytotaxa* 357(4): 298. 2018.

Melastoma capitellata Bonpl., *Mélat.* 5, pl. 3. 1806. *Clidemia capitellata* (Bonpl.) D. Don, *Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 4:310. 1823. TYPE: COLOMBIA: inter Fusagasuga et Pandi, *Humboldt & Bonpland 1720* (HOLOTYPE: P 04022758 [digital image!]; ISOTYPES: BM 001008282 [digital image!], P 04022759 [digital image!]). Non *Miconia capitellata* Cogn. (1891).

Clidemia neglecta D. Don, *Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc.* 4:307. 1823. *Clidemia capitellata* Bonpl. var. *neglecta* (D. Don) L.O. Williams, *Fieldiana, Bot.* 29:556. 1963. TYPE: PERU: without definite locality, *J.A. Pavón s.n.* (LECTOTYPE, **here designated**: MA 813791 [digital image!]; ISOLECOTYPE: B, destroyed; PHOTO OF ISOLECOTYPE: F 0BN017232 [digital image!], possible ISOLECOTYPE: MA 813790 [digital image!]).

Staphidium confertiflorum Naudin, *Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. Ser.* 3. 17:318. 1851. TYPE: MEXICO: near Oaxaca, 3000 ft, *H.G. Galeotti 2957* (HOLOTYPE: P 04022835 [digital image!]; ISOTYPES: BR 0000005184828 [digital image!], US!).

Staphidium bracteosum Naudin, *Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. Ser.* 3. 17:318. 1851. TYPE: FRENCH GUIANA: 1838, *Leprieur s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: P 04022836 [digital image!]).

Clidemia subspicata Beurl., Kongl. Vetensk. Acad. Handl. 1854:126. 1856. TYPE: PANAMA: Portobello, Apr 1826, J.L. Billberg 272 (HOLOTYPE: S!; ISOTYPE: MO 102462 [digital image!]).

Distribution.—Within the Greater Antilles *Miconia dependens* grows only in eastern Cuba (Pinar del Río, Isla de Pinos), and a single specimen, possibly mislabeled, exists from Jamaica (Alain 1957; Proctor 1972); the species is absent from the Lesser Antilles. It is widely distributed in the Neotropics, occurring in North America (southern Mexico), throughout Central America, and in northern South America.

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