

# NOTES ON AMERICAN GESNERIACEAE IV A NEW SPECIES OF RESIA H. E. MOORE

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Among the collections recently made by Dr. J. A. STEYERMARK in Venezuela there are two specimens belonging to a new species of the genus *Resia* H. E. Moore, Bot. Mus. Leaflet. Harvard Univ. 20 (3): 85-92. 1962. The only species known at present, *R. nimbicola* H. E. Moore occurs in Colombia. As shown by the figure and the description the species described below is closely allied to the type species. The name *R. ichthyoides* was chosen because the venation of the lower-side of the leaves resembles a fish-bone. The species differ as follows:

Corolla glabrous inside; pistil densely short-pilose . . . . . **R. nimbicola**  
Corolla villose inside in the throat; pistil glabrous . . . . . **R. ichthyoides**

### ***Resia ichthyoides* Leeuwenberg, sp. nov.**

**Fig. 1**

Suffrutex parvus trunco curvato cortice suberosa oblecto. *Folia* apice trunci aggregata magna subsessilia laminis anguste obovatis vel anguste ellipticis apice rotundatis vel acutis, basi cuneatis vel subcordatis, serrato-dentatis. *Inflorescentia* axillaris umbellata vel fere umbellata pedunculo longo gracili minute piloso glabrescenti pedicellisque brevibus sparse pubescentibus. *Sepala* basi connata anguste oblonga acuminata integra quinquenervia. *Corolla* alba ventricosa fauce non contracta extus pilis glanduliferis pubescens intus fauce villosa lobis inaequalibus integris. *Stamina* quattuor didynama filamentis glabris basi inter se connatis antherisque reniformibus omnibus cohaerentibus. *Pistillum* glabrum curvatum ovario lateraliter compresso stigmatoque bilobo. Placentae duae bilamellatae ovula numerosa gerentes. *Fructus* capsularis loculicidus. *Semen* striatum.

Unbranched undershrub, 15-30 cm high. Stem woody, 6-10 mm in diam. when dry; bark pale brown, corky, fissured, about 1-2 mm thick. *Leaves* crowded at the apex of the stem, large, subsessile; petiole up to 1 cm long, tomentose, glabrescent; blade narrowly obovate or narrowly elliptic, 3-4 × as long as wide, 12-30 × 3-8.5 cm, rounded to acute at the apex, cuneate to subcordate at the base, shallowly and rather remotely serrate-dentate, glabrous or with scattered hairs above, minutely pilose-pubescent on the main veins beneath, with 15-40 pairs of distinct secondary veins; venation prominent beneath, resembling a fish-bone. *Inflorescence* axillary, umbellate or nearly so, about 0.5-1 × as long as the leaves; peduncle long, slender, minutely pilose, glabrescent; apical portion of inflorescence 2 × 3 — 3 × 4 cm, branches short or obsolete; pedicels 1-1.5 cm long, sparsely pubescent. *Sepals* pale green, connate at the base for about one-quarter to one-third of their length, narrowly oblong, 4-5.5 × 1.2 mm, acuminate at the apex, entire, minutely pubescent-

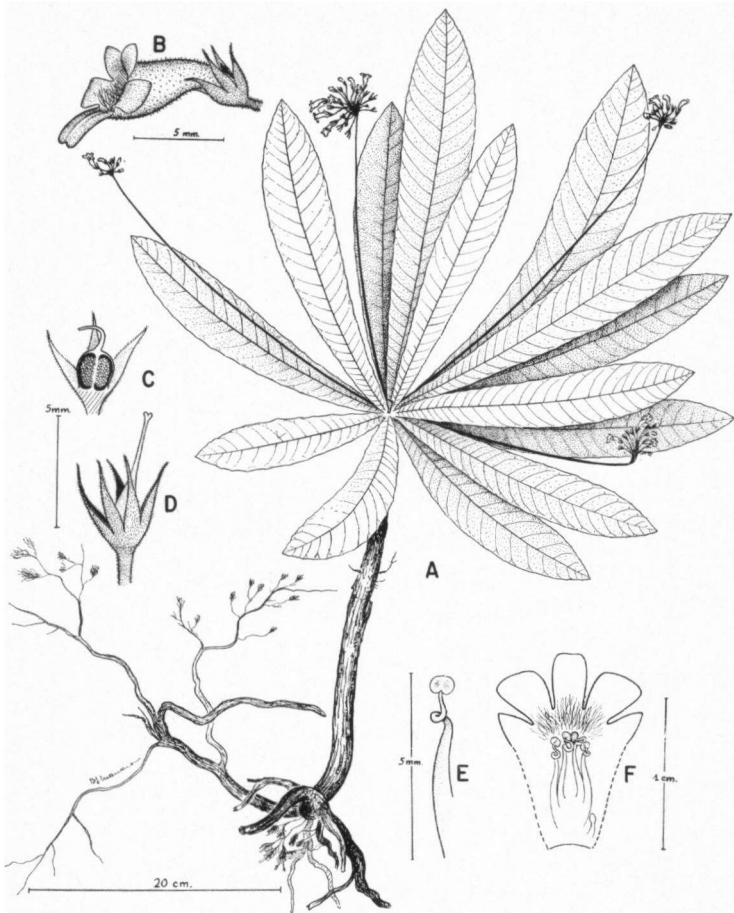


Fig. 1. *Resia ichthyoides* Leeuwenberg. A. habit, B. flower, C. transverse section of ovary, D. calyx with pistil, E. stamen, F. opened corolla with stamens and staminode (Steiermark 100494).

outside, glabrous inside, with 5 longitudinal veins which become more pronounced when the calyx is in fruit. *Corolla* white, 9–11 mm long, at the base 1–1.2 mm, at the throat 3–3.5 mm wide, not spurred, ventrally ventricose from below the middle, not contracted at the throat, outside on the tube pubescent with glandular hairs, inside villose ventrally in the throat; tube 6–8 mm long; lobes unequal, entire, spreading, glabrous, the ventral nearly rectangular, 3.3–3.5 × 2 mm, the two lateral obliquely obovate, 3–3.5 × 2.3–2.5 mm, the two dorsal triangular, 2.2–2.5 × 1.5–2 mm. *Stamens* 4, didynamous, included; filaments glabrous, broadened at the base, all connate at the base, inserted near the base of the corolla; anthers reniform, all coherent in a square, 0.6 × 0.5 mm; cells confluent at the apex. *Staminode* one, small, filiform, 1 mm long,

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inserted near the base of the corolla, without anther. *Pistil* glabrous, 6–7 mm long, curved at anthesis; ovary ovoid to conical, laterally compressed,  $2 \times 1.5 \times 0.8$  mm, 1-celled; style 4–5 mm long; stigma bilobed. Placentae parietal, bilobed, ovuliferous on both sides. Disk annular, glabrous. *Capsule* subglobose, laterally compressed, about  $2.5 \times 2.5 \times 1.5$  mm, loculicidal. *Seeds* small, pale brown, ovoid,  $0.3\text{--}0.4 \times 0.15\text{--}0.2$  mm, attenuate at the base, longitudinally striate, with interrupted striation.

**Distribution:** Twice collected in Venezuela.

**Ecology:** On moist shaded rocks in mountains; alt. 1000–1350 m.

VENEZUELA: Carabobo: headwaters of Río San Gean, south of Borburata, above La Toma (fl., fr. 6 Dec. 1967), *Steyermark* 100494 (WAG, holotype; isotypes not seen, distributed from VEN). Yaracuy: Cerro Picacho, north of Nirgua (fl., fr. 11 March 1967), *Steyermark & Bunting* 97670 (WAG, paratype; the VEN sheet not seen by the author).

Note. A few more undescribed species have been seen by the author among older specimens from other herbaria.

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