

FLORA DA RESERVA DUCKE, AMAZONAS, BRASIL: ANISOPHYLLACEAE

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Cronquist, A. 1981. An integrated system of classification of flowering plants. Pp. 564-565. Columbia Univ. Press, New York.

Trees or **shrubs**. **Leaves** alternate, simple, 3–5-plinerved. Stipules absent. **Inflorescences** axillary panicles or racemes. **Flowers** unisexual, small, actinomorphic, 4-merous, actinomorphic, epigynous with a lobed disk at base, surrounding top of ovary. Petals 4, alternating with 4 calyx lobes, entire or laciniate; stamens 8, epipetalous; anthers small and dorsifixed, opening by longitudinal slits. Ovary of 4 united carpels forming a compound, inferior ovary with 4 separate subulate styles, 4 locular with 1–2 anatropous ovules in each locule, pendulous from the axile placenta. **Fruit** a drupe (or winged in *Polygonanthus*), 1 seeded, cotyledons small, without endosperm.

The family consists of 4 genera two of which occur in Amazonia (*Anisophyllea* and *Polygonanthus*) and only one, *Anisophyllea*, in the vicinity of Manaus. About 40 species in Africa, Malaysia and the Neotropics. The family has often been united with the Rhizophoraceae but differs in the alternate, exstipulate leaves, the distinct styles and in pollen morphology.

The genus *Anisophyllea* differs from *Polygonanthus* in the drupaceous unwinged fruit and the laciniate petals. In *Polygonanthus* the fruit is 4-winged and dry and the petals are entire.

There are no recorded uses of the two central Amazonian and Guianan species of *Anisophyllea*, but *A. laurina* from Africa, has an edible fruit.

Anisophyllea

Anisophyllea R. Br. ex Sabine, Trans. Hort. Soc. London 5: 446. 1824.

Trees or **shrubs**. **Inflorescence** an axillary panicle. **Flowers** hermaphrodite or unisexual. Petals 3-laciniate. **Fruit** a berry or drupe.

Type species: *Anisophyllea laurina* Br. ex Sabine.

The name refers to the unequal (*aniso-*) leaves (*phyllon*).

About 25 species in the Neotropics, Africa and Malesia.

Anisophyllea manausensis Pires & W. A. Rodrigues, Acta Amazon. 1(2): 7-13. 1971.

Large **tree**. **Leaves** subsessile, pubescent soon glabrescent, ovate-lanceolate, 9–17 × 4.5–7.5 cm, asymmetrical, chartaceous, obtuse at base, apex acuminate, the acumen 12–20 mm long, margins entire and slightly revolute; midrib prominent beneath, impressed above; secondary nerves 4–7 with 1 or 2 pairs emerging from the base, impressed above, prominent beneath; petioles very short, 2 mm long. Stipules absent. **Inflorescences** of axillary panicles, 8 mm long, the rachis and branches puberulous. **Flowers** unisexual. Male flowers small, solitary, sessile with small bracteoles at base, 0.5–1 mm long; sepals 4, ovate, valvate, pubescent, 1.3 mm long, 1 mm wide; petals 4 microscopically papillose and ciliate, 5 mm long, 3 mm wide,

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pubescent; stamens 8, subequal, 0.7–1 mm long; disc lobed. **Fruit** a drupe with 1 seed; epicarp smooth, coriaceous. Female flowers not seen.

Type: BRAZIL. AMAZONAS: *W. A. Rodrigues 7211* (fl) (holotype INPA; isotype MG).

Known only in Central Amazonia around Manaus and west to the Rio Demeni.

13.IV.1966 (fr) *Rodrigues, W. & Coêlho, D. 7665* (INPA); 14.IV.1966 (fl) *Rodrigues, W. & Coêlho, D. 7672* (INPA); 11.III.1968 (fr) *Rodrigues, W. & Monteiro, O. P. 8466* (INPA); 21.XI.1997 (fr) *Sothers, C. A. & Pereira, E. C. & Silva, C. F. 1046* (IAN INPA K MO NY RB SP U UB); 20.IX.1995 (bd) *Vicentini, A. & Silva, C. F. 1042* (INPA K MG MO NY R RB SP U).