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A NEW RUBIACEOUS GENUS FROM SAMOA

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In 1898 Reinecke¹ extended the range of *Sarcocephalus* to include the Samoan Islands, describing a new species, *Sarcocephalus pacificus*. In 1908 Lauterbach² described an additional species from Samoa, *Sarcocephalus ramosus*, and Rechinger³ and Hochreutiner⁴ also record *Sarcocephalus pacificus* for Samoa.

In 1921 Setchell⁵ discovered plants on Tutuila which are undoubtedly congeneric with *Sarcocephalus pacificus* Reinecke, finding, however, that they could not be referred to this genus. They were temporarily placed in the genus *Breonia*, but a closer examination of the more ample material collected later by Setchell, Christophersen, and others on all the larger islands of Samoa has definitely proved that the plants of this affinity group belong to an undescribed genus, for which we propose the name *Sarcopygme*. The name alludes to the character of the infructescence, the ovaries being united into a fleshy fist.

Sarcopygme shows a superficial resemblance to *Sarcocephalus* in the fruiting heads, but is markedly different from this genus in its single ovules in each cell of the ovary. In *Sarcocephalus* the cells of the ovary are multiovular. The ovules in both genera are anatropous, but they are ascending or erect in *Sarcopygme*, horizontal or pendant in *Sarcocephalus*.

Sarcopygme is most closely related to *Morinda* as typified by *M. citrifolia* Linnaeus. Points of difference are: *Sarcopygme*, stipules caducous, involucre present, all (or most) flowers in the head open simultaneously, calyx distinct, stigma club-shaped; *Morinda citrifolia*, stipules persistent, involucre absent, only a few flowers open at a time, starting from below, calyx indistinct, fleshy, stigma 2-parted.

¹ Reinecke, F., Die Flora der Samoa-Inseln: Engl. Bot. Jahrb., vol. 25, pp. 684-685, 1898.

² Lauterbach, C., Beiträge zur Flora der Samoa-Inseln: Engl. Bot. Jahrb., vol. 41, p. 235, 1908.

³ Rechinger, K., Botanische und zoologische Ergebnisse, etc.: Akad. Wiss. Wien, Denschr., vol. 85, p. 366, 1910.

⁴ Hochreutiner, B. F. G., Plantae Hochreutineranae: Candollea, vol. 5, p. 252, 1934.

⁵ Setchell, W. A., American Samoa: Carnegie Inst. Washington, Dept. Marine Biol., vol. 20, pp. 44-45, 1924.

Genus **SARCOPYGME**, genus novum

Arbores parvae vel mediocres, caule simplici vel ramoso. Folia in parte superiore ramorum caulisque congesta magna plerumque lanceolata. Stipulae magnae caducae. Inflorescentiae capitatae axillares, pedunculis longis crassis erectis vel ascendentibus deinde nutantibus. Involucrum bi- vel uni-seriatum, exterius inflorescentias novellas includit irregulariter laciniatum plerumque non persistens, interius irregulariter laciniatum vel in segmentis liberis foliaceis petiolatis divisum. Flores bisexuales. Calyx cupuliformis deinde urceolatis truncatus plerumque leviter et irregulariter dentatus persistens. Corolla infundibuliformis in segmentis 5 (4) albis valvatis profunde divisa mox decidua. Stamina 5 (4) in fauce corollae inserta inclusa, antheris linearibus introrsis parte inferiore excepto adnatis. Stylus longus exsertus filiformis, parte suprema leviter incrassata, apice plano in sicco interdum convexo stigmatoso. Discus convexus latusque vel annularis. Receptaculum carnosum. Ovarium in receptaculo immersum indistincte 4-loculare. Ovula in parte inferiore loculorum inserta in loculis solitaria ascendente vel erecta anatropa, micropyle infimo, rapha ventrali. Syncarpium succulentum. Pyrena anguste obovoidea irregulariter compressa, putamine rugoso osseo crasso. Semen plano-obovoideum, albumine oleagineo.

Sarcopygme pacificus (Reinecke), combinatio nova.

Sarcocephalus pacificus Reinecke: Engl. Bot. Jahrb., vol. 25, p. 681, pl. 13, C, 1898.

Type: Upolu, Graeffe no. 40 (= Reinecke no. 1623) (herb. Hamburg). Reinecke⁶ also cites a specimen collected by himself (Upolu, Tofua, November 1893, no. 168) but we have not been able to locate this specimen.

Sarcopygme ramosus (Lauterbach), combinatio nova.

Sarcocephalus ramosus Lauterbach: Engl. Bot. Jahrb., vol. 41, p. 235, 1908.

Type: Savaii, Mataana, altitude 1,600 meters, September 20, 1906, Vaupel no. 525 (herb. Berol.).

⁶Reinecke, F., Die Flora der Samoa-Inseln: Engl. Bot. Jahrb., vol. 25, pp. 684-685, 1898.

Sarcopygme Mayorii (Setchell), combinatio nova.

Breonia (?) *Mayorii* Setchell, pro parte: Am. Samoa, p. 44, pls. 6
and 7, 1924.

Type: Tutuila, trail to Matafao, January 1922, Setchell no. 419,
leg. Siitupe (herb. Univ. Calif., no. 215951).