

# ROSEANTHUS, A NEW GENUS OF CUCURBITACEÆ FROM ACAPULCO, MEXICO.

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## **Roseanthus** Cogn., gen. nov.

Flores monoici<sup>1</sup> omnes axillares, solitarii. Masculi rares, longe pedicellati. Calycis tubus longe tubulosus, angustus, superne leviter dilatatus; lobi 5, breviusculi, triangulari-lineares. Corolla anguste campanulata, usque ultra medium 5-fida, segmentis integris oblongis acutis. Stamina 3, supra medium tubi calycis inserta, filamentis liberis, elongatis, capillaribus; antheræ in capitulum connatæ, una unilocularis caeteræ biloculares, loculis linearibus longitudinaliter triplicatis, connectivo angusto non producto. Pollen subsphaericum, subtiliter sparseque muriculatum. Pistillodium nullum. Flores feminei: Calyx supra ovarium et corolla maris. Staminiodia nulla. Ovarium anguste ovoideum, 4-5-placentiferum, multilocellatum, locellis uniovulatis, ovulis horizontalibus; stylus capillaris, elongatus, disco basilari nullo, stigmatibus 3 elongatis profunde bifidis, lobis divaricatis. Fructus siccus, indehiscens, multilocellatus, locellis monospermis longitudinaliter 4-5-seriatis, pericarpio tenui. Semina late ovata, lævia, valde complanata, marginibus subalatis integerrimis.

Herbæ annuæ, scandentes. Folia petiolata, membranacea. Cirrhi 2-3-fidi.<sup>2</sup> Flores majusculi, albi. Fructus mediocris, globus, lævis.

This genus belongs to the series Plagiospermeæ. It is near Cucurbita, but differs in the color of the flowers, shape of calyx, insertion of stamens, and absence of staminiodia.

Perhaps, however, it should be placed by the side of Schizocarpum, from which it differs chiefly in its diœcious flowers, the absence of pistillodia, the three bifid stigmas, and the indehiscent fruit.

I dedicate this new genus to Dr. J. N. Rose, the First Assistant Botanist of the United States Department of Agriculture, in Washington, who has recognized its characters and affinities, and to whom I am moreover indebted for specimens of various new Cucurbitaceæ and Melastomaceæ.

<sup>1</sup> I have taken the liberty of changing Professor Cogniaux's *dioici* to *monoici*. The first set of plants grown contained one specimen which produced male flowers only, while all the others produced female flowers in abundance. It was a part of these plants that were sent to Professor Cogniaux. Since then I have grown two other plants, which for three or four weeks have been producing many female flowers but no male flowers. At length, however, male flowers have begun to appear.—J. N. R.

<sup>2</sup> The tendrils have a curious habit when running over other plants (as for instance the tomato) of forming small disks, by which they adhere. These disks not only occur at the end of the tendrils, but also at a considerable distance back from the tip.—J. N. R.

**Roseanthus albiflorus**, sp. nov.

PLATE XXVIII.

Slender vines, 9 to 12 dm. long, angled, pubescent: leaves ovate in outline, 3-lobed; middle lobe ovate, acuminate, constricted near its base, with small apiculate teeth, base with a broad open sinus: peduncle of male flowers 5 to 7.5 cm. long, of female flowers 4 to 6 mm. long: corolla 5 to 6 cm. broad: fruit the size of a small orange.

Collected by Dr. Edward Palmer in fruit near Acapulco, Mexico, March, 1895 (No. 599).

Flowering specimens were raised by J. N. Rose from seed in the greenhouses of the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE.—Fig. 1, a branch of the male plant; fig. 2, a branch of the female plant; fig. 3, the male flower laid open; fig. 4, the pistil; fig. 5, the fruit; fig. 6, the seed.