

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW SPECIES OF PLANTS FROM CUBA.¹

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In a small collection of plants of the families Amaranthaceae and Allioniaceae, obtained recently in Cuba and forwarded for determination by the New York Botanical Garden, are two apparently new species which are described below.

***Achyranthes crassifolia* Standl., sp. nov.**

Stems branched, probably prostrate, the branches stout, when young densely covered with straight, appressed, smooth or slightly hispidulous hairs, glabrate in age; leaves linear or linear-oblancoelate, sessile or nearly so, 7-18 mm. long, 1-2.5 mm. wide, narrowed to the base, acute at the apex, fleshy, glabrate, the margins revolute; heads axillary, sessile, solitary or glomerate, 4-8 mm. long, about 4 mm. in diameter, the flowers yellowish white; bracts and bractlets half as long as the sepals or shorter, broadly ovate, sparsely pilose; sepals broadly ovate, 2.5 mm. long, obtuse or acutish, 3-ribbed, short-mucronate, pilose, especially near the base; stamen tube very short, the staminodia minute or wanting; utricle less than half as long as the calyx.

Type in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, collected on the seashore near Santiago de Cuba, Cuba, March, 1919, by Brother Clement (No. 152).

Related, apparently, to *A. halimifolia* Lam., a species with broad leaves and more copious pubescence.

***Torrubia insularis* Standl., sp. nov.**

Branches slender or stout, grayish or pale brown, rimose and lenticellate, glabrous except at the nodes, there minutely puberulent; leaves opposite, the petioles slender, 1-1.8 cm. long, 0.5-1 mm. thick, glabrous, the blades lanceolate to lance-elliptic, 4.5-9 cm. long, 0.8-3 cm. wide, acutish to acuminate at the base, usually acuminate or long-acuminate at the apex but sometimes acute or subobtuse, broadest at or below the middle, subcoriaceous, concolorous, glabrous, the lateral nerves 7-9 on each side, slender, subarcu-

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ate, the veinlets inconspicuous; pistillate peduncles 2.5–4.5 cm. long, very slender, glabrous or nearly so, the inflorescence cymose-paniculate, 1–2 cm. broad, lax, rather few-flowered, the branches glabrous, the bracts and bractlets minute, the flowers sessile and glomerate; pistillate perianth tubular, 3–4 mm. long, constricted below the mouth, very minutely puberulent or glabrous.

Type in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, collected at Caleta Grande, Isle of Pines, Cuba, August 19, 1919, by Roig and Cremata (No. 1857A). Also collected at Hato Nuevo, Punta del Este, Isle of Pines, August 13, 1919, by the same collectors (No. 1790).

Related to *T. linearibracteata* (Heimerl) Standl., of Yucatán, but differing in its minute bracts. *Torrubia fragrans* (Dum.-Cours.) Standl., a widely distributed West Indian species, is somewhat similar in general appearance, but its leaves are mostly broadest above the middle and they have numerous lateral nerves.