

Diospyros conzattii is not closely related to any of the species previously reported from Mexico, with the possible exception of *D. blepharophylla* Standl. (*D. ciliata* A. DC.), a little-known plant, the type of which is said to have come from southern Mexico. That is described as having ovate-elliptic ciliate leaves, on longer petioles.

From a manuscript work upon the edible fruits of Mexico, Professor Conzatti has furnished the following notes concerning the new species here described:

"On the twenty-fourth of April, 1917, while making an excursion in the company of Señor E. Makrinius, manager of the Cafetal Concordia and its subsidiaries, District of Pochutla, Oaxaca, on the so-called Cerro Espino, upon which lies the Cafetal San Rafael, I had the good fortune to find among other things a medium-sized (10 meters) tree, known there as *zapote negro montés*. At that time of the year the tree bore leaves and ripe fruits. Sampling the fruits, with some suspicion at first, I found them quite to my taste and ate as many as I could. But I prefer to quote what I have already published in the *Boletín de la Dirección de Estudios Biológicos*:²

"The *zapote negro montés* is especially interesting because of its edible fruit, of exquisite flavor. With the exception of the *chicozapote*, I know of no other fruit which compares in quality with the *zapote negro*, and all the persons who have tried it are agreed in considering it superior to that. The fruits, which are perfectly round, and green outside, are much smaller than those of the common *zapote negro* (*Diospyros ebenaster*), being only 4 cm. in diameter and 2 cm. or slightly more in height, since they are somewhat depressed.

"It seems to me that propagation of the tree should be relatively simple, taking into account the elevation (1,000 meters) at which it grows and the fact that it is native.'"

BOTANY.—A new *Salvinia* from Trinidad.¹ WILLIAM R. MAXON, National Museum.

In Christensen's Index Filicum 13 species of water fernworts of the genus *Salvinia* are recognized, these mainly inhabitants of tropical regions. Of the few American species, *S. sprucei*, known from a single collection in the Amazon region, has been unique in having ascending, somewhat cup-shaped leaves, in distinction from the plane blades of the small floating leaves of other species. Recently a new species closely allied to *S. sprucei* has been collected in Trinidad. This is described below.

² II. 3: 316. 1918.

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Salvinia cyathiformis Maxon, sp. nov

Plants small, 1 to 1.5 cm. long, 1 cm. broad, or less; stem filiform (about 0.3 mm. thick), bearing a few deciduous short few-celled hairs. Submerged radiciform leaves imperfect, conceptacles wanting. Floating leaves few, 2 or 3 pairs (the nodes 3 or 4 mm. apart), petiolulate (about 0.5 mm.), olivaceous above, darker beneath, 5 to 6 mm. long, subflabelliform, cyathiform, truncate-subcordate at base, broadly rounded in the apical portion, not emarginate, conduplicate in drying, the folded blade 4 to 5 mm. broad, appearing cuneiform, with an acutish or narrowly roundish-cuneate base; midvein slight, subflexuous, hardly thicker than the lateral veins; main lateral veins 6 or 7 pairs, connected in oblong areoles oblique from the midvein, each areole subtending two narrowly oblong or linear areoles toward the margins, the excurrent veinlets mostly free, occasionally producing a minute areole; papillae numerous on the upper side in a wide marginal zone 1.5 to 2 mm. broad, linear, about 1 mm. long, borne mostly upon the ultimate cross-veins and between the excurrent veinlets, greenish-hyaline, cleft at the tip.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 1,058,520, collected from a pond at Cedros, Trinidad, December 20, 1914, by W. E. Broadway; received from the New York Botanical Garden.

In habit and in form and venation of the floating leaves *S. cyathiformis* resembles *S. sprucei* Kuhn, of Brazil, founded on *Spruce* 1636. That species as described and figured in the *Flora Brasiliensis*, and as known to the writer from a portion of the type collection courteously lent from Kew, has the leaves much less deeply cup-shaped, broadly cuneate, and devoid of papillae upon the upper surface, except for a few at the extreme margin that are so minute as to have escaped Kuhn's attention. The leaf substance of *S. sprucei* is much thinner than that of *S. cyathiformis*, and the venation is in consequence much more sharply defined.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ACADEMY AND AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

162ND MEETING

The 162nd meeting of the Academy, the 24th annual meeting, was held at the Administration Building of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, on Tuesday, January 10, 1922. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President HUMPHREYS. Dr. ALFRED H. BROOKS, retiring President of the Academy, delivered an address, entitled, *The scientist in the Federal service*. This has since been published in the *JOURNAL* of the Academy (12: 73-115. Feb. 19, 1922).

Following the address the annual business meeting was held. The minutes of the 21st annual meeting were read and approved. The Corresponding Secretary, ROBERT B. SOSMAN, reported briefly on the activities of the Academy during the year. On January 1, 1922, the membership consisted of 6 honorary members, 3 patrons, and 534 members, the total being 543, of whom 325 reside in or near the District of Columbia. Nine resignations were accepted during the year, and the Academy lost by death the following