

A new species of *Panopsis* (Proteaceae) from Bahia, Brazil

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Abstract. Recent collections from Bahia, Brazil included a new species of *Panopsis* from the Atlantic rainforest. So far it is only known with fruits, which are much larger than in most species of the genus. ***Panopsis magnifruta*** is described and compared to other species in the genus. It is only the second species of the genus known in the State of Bahia, Brazil.

Keywords: Proteaceae, *Panopsis*, mata Atlántica, Bahia.

Panopsis Salisb. ex Knight is a genus of 25 species endemic to Central and South America. In Brazil it is represented by three species, *P. sessilifolia* (Rich.) Sandwith, *P. rubescens* (Pohl) Rusby and *P. multiflora* (Schott) Ducke. The latter species is endemic to southeast Brazil but is not known in the State of Bahia. Recent collections from Bahia include a new species of *Panopsis*, to add to the 25 species described in the monograph of Neotropical Proteaceae in Flora Neotropica (Prance et al., 2007). This new species is notable for its large globose fruit, only surpassed in the genus by *P. macrocarpa* K. S. Edwards & R. T. Pennington from Panama. It is only the second species of *Panopsis* recorded from Bahia. The other, *P. rubescens* (Pohl) Rusby is very different and is unlikely to be closely related to *P. magnifruta*.

Species description

***Panopsis magnifruta* Prance, sp. nov.** Type: Brazil. Bahia: Mata da Esperança, west part, Road Ilhéus-Itabuna, Banco da Vitória, 14° 46' 30"S, 39°05'00"W, 30 Jan 2000 (fr), J. G. Jardim et al. 2594 (holotype: CEPEC; isotypes: K, NY) (Figs. 1 and 2).

Diagnosis: Among the species of *Panopsis*, *P. magnifruta* is similar to *P. macrocarpa* in the large fruits, but differs in the smaller leaves (10–17 × 4–8 cm vs. 17–26 × 8.5–18 cm) the cuneate rather than cordate leaf base and the smaller fruit

with only a slightly mammiliform apex (5–6.5 cm vs. 8–9 cm).

Tree 6–15 m tall, the young branches glabrous, lenticellate, the lenticels sparse, protruding 0.5–1 mm. Leaves without stipules, alternate to spiral; petioles 5–14 mm long, glabrous, terete, slightly swollen at base: lamina thickly coriaceous, 10–17 × 4–8 cm, oblong, cuneate at base, rounded or obtuse at apex, glabrous; margin entire, slightly revolute; primary veins 9–13 pairs, emerging from midrib at 70°, brochidodromous, prominulous on both surfaces, anastomosing 5–10 mm from margin; tertiary veins finely reticulate, prominulous and conspicuous; midrib prominent beneath, plane to slightly submerged above. Inflorescence and flowers not seen. Fruit globose, apex smooth or slightly mammiliform, 5–6.5 cm diameter; pericarp 4–5 mm thick, hard and woody, exterior smooth with prominent lenticels abundant; interior endocarp thin, shiny within, glabrous; seed coat fused to pericarp.

Field notes.—Leaf nerves yellow, fruits ridged and greenish with a smooth exterior.

Distribution and ecology.—Atlantic rainforests in Bahia, known from only two collections.

Phenology.—Collected in fruit in January and in June.

Additional specimen examined. BRAZIL. Bahia: Município de Conde, Rodovia BA-099, km 127, Mata do Bu, 12°01'21"S, 37°41'35"W, 50–100 m elev., 14 June 2000 (fr), M. Alves 2022 (CEPEC, NY).



FIG. 1. Photo of the paratype of *Panopsis magnifructa*, M. Alves 2022 (NY)

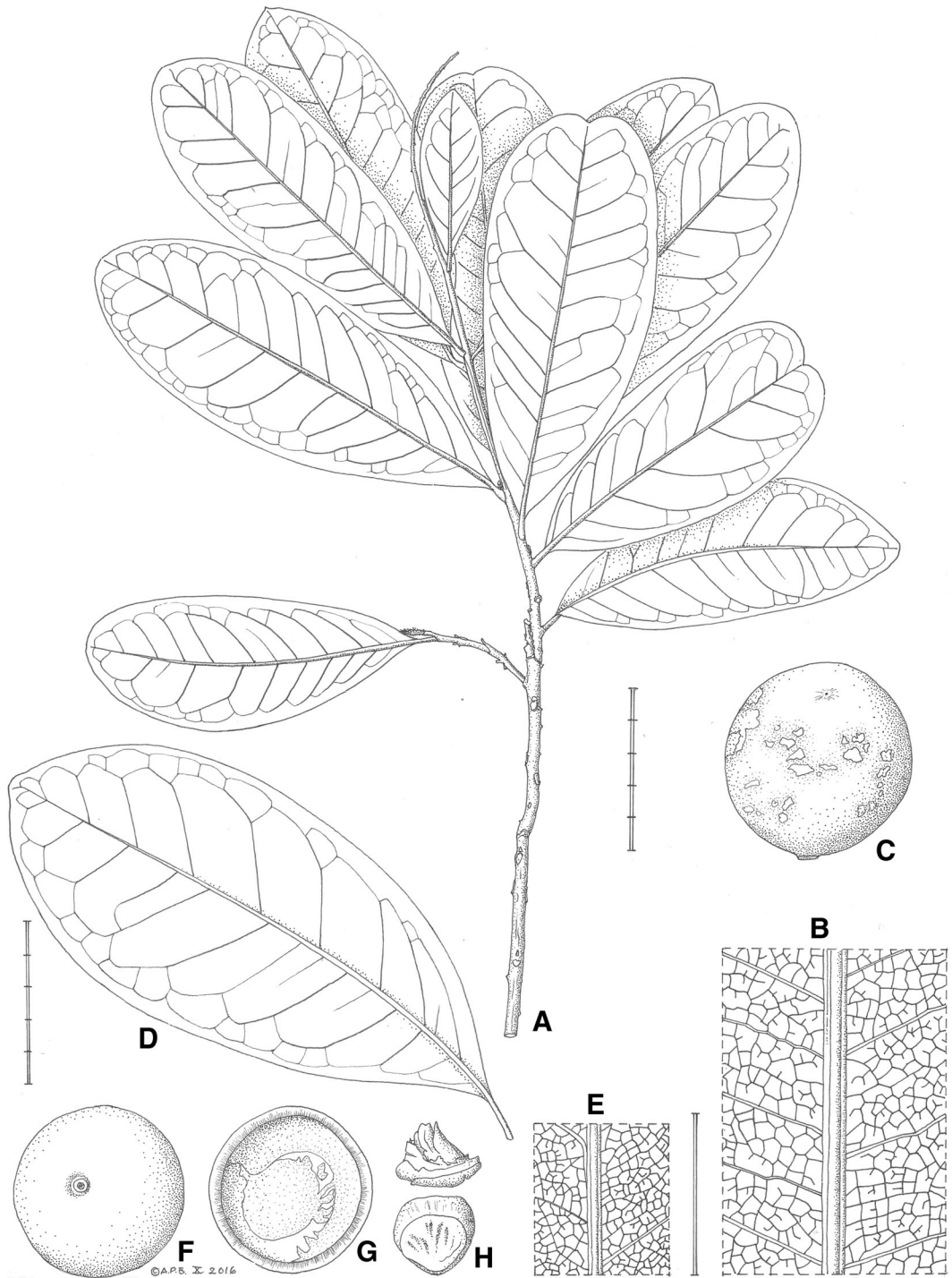


FIG. 2. Drawing of *Panopsis magnifruta*. A. Habit. B. Leaf abaxial surface showing dense reticulate venation. C. Lateral view of fruit. D. Largest leaf from *Jardin et al. 2594*. E. Leaf abaxial surface showing dense reticulate venation. F. Ventral view of fruit. G. Fruit section to show ventral surface and seed attachment. H. Two views of seed. (A–C from *Alves 2022*; D–H from *Jardin et al. 2594*; drawn by Andrew Brown; scales: double bar = 1 cm, graduated bar = 5 cm)

This species is quite distinct from any in the genus recorded in Bahia or nearby. So far it has only been collected with mature fruit, but both the fruit and the leaves, with their characteristic prominulous venation, clearly place it in the genus *Panopsis*. *Panopsis magnifruta* is probably closest to *P. multiflora* (Schott) Ducke from the Planalto of Central Brazil and forests around Rio de Janeiro with which it shares the blunt leaf apex and the round fruit. It differs in the larger much more coriaceous leaves, the larger fruit (3 cm diam. vs 5–6.5 cm) and the glabrous vegetative parts. It differs from *P. sessiliflora* by the glabrous vegetative parts and the large fruit. The only species of *Panopsis* with a fruit of this size is *P. macrocarpa* K. S. Edwards & R. T. Pennington from Panama. The only other species of *Panopsis* recorded from Bahia is *P. rubescens* (Pohl) Rusby, which differs in many ways in both the larger chartaceous leaves and the ellipsoid small fruit that is pubescent when young.

Acknowledgments

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