

A NEW COMBINATION IN THE GENUS *COPAIFERA* (LEGUMINOSAE)¹

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ABSTRACT

A new combination is proposed as result of recent studies in Brazilian *Copaifera*, in order to provide the correct names for *C. krukovii*.

Copaifera L. (Leguminosae, Caesalpinioideae) is a Pantropical genus, being composed of 33 Neotropical species, four African, and one Malaysian (Lewis et al. 2005).

Dwyer (1951) described variety *krukovii* under *Copaifera langsdorffii* Desf. However, the studies carried by Costa (2007) have shown that it should be recognized as a distinct species. Dwyer (1951) referred to the typical variety of *C. langsdorffii* as usually possessing leaves with three or four pairs of leaflets, whereas variety *krukovii* possesses six, seven or eight pairs. Therefore, I am recognizing this taxon at the species level, and the new combination is proposed here.

Copaifera krukovii (Dwyer) J.A.S.Costa, **comb. & stat. nov.**

Basynonym: *Copaifera langsdorffii* Desf. var. *krukovii* Dwyer, Brittonia 7(3): 166. 1951. Type: BRAZIL: Amazonas: mouth of Rio Embira, 14 Jun. 1933, *Krukoff 4809* (Holotype: NY!; isotype US!).

MATERIAL EXAMINED: BRAZIL. Acre: Rio Branco Km 68, 10 Jan. 1991, *Rego & Walter 730* (NY!)

COMMENTS: *Copaifera krukovii* usually presents (5–) 6–7 (–8) leaflet pairs, oblong-lanceolate, 2.0–3.0 (–5.5) × 1.5–2.0 cm, glabrous or rarely scattered pubescent below, the main nervure glabrous above, glabrous or puberule below, apex attenuate or obtuse. Inflorescence paniculate, exceeding two or three times the adjacent leaves (7.5–9 cm long). Legume smooth, oblong, (3–) 3.2–3.5 × (2–) 2.2–2.5 cm, margin glabrous or scattering-pubescent; seeds oblong, 1.5–1.7 × 1.0–1.2 cm; aril covering 2/3 of the seeds.

This species is distinguished from *Copaifera langsdorffii* Desf. by leaves with (5–) 6–7 (–8) leaflets pairs (3–5 leaflets pairs in *C. langsdorffii*), and leaflets oblong-lanceolate (elliptic, oblong-elliptic or ovate-elliptic in *C. langsdorffii*); panicle exceeding two or three times the adjacent leaves, whereas in *C. langsdorffii* they rarely exceed the uppermost leaf-blades in length. Legume smooth, and larger than that of *C. langsdorffii* (rugose on surface, 2.0–2.5, rarely 3.5 cm long.). *Copaifera krukovii* also present other features distinct from *Copaifera reticulata* Ducke that possesses ovate-elliptic leaflets, usually falcate, with apex acuminate, and

panicules are the same size or rarely shorter than leaves; legume obovate or subrotund (Table 1).

LITERATURE CITED

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Table 1. Comparative diagnostic characters among *Copaifera krukovii*, *C. langsdorffii* and *C. reticulata*.

Character	<i>C. krukovii</i>	<i>C. langsdorffii</i>	<i>C. reticulata</i>
Leaf	(5-) 6-7(-8) pairs	3-5(-6) pairs	4-5(-6) pairs
Leaflets	Oblong-lanceolate	Usually elliptic	Usually ovate-elliptic, falcate
Inflorescence	Exceeding 2-3 times the leaves	Usually shorter than leaves	Usually the same size of the leaves
Legume	Usually oblong, 3.5 × 2.5 cm	Usually rotund, 2.0-2.5 × 2.0-2.5 cm	Usually obovate, 2.0-3.5 × 1.5-3.5 cm

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