



**Additions to Wallenia subg.  
Homowallenia (Myrsinaceae) in  
Cuba**

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**Additions to *Wallenia* subg. *Homowallenia* (*Myrsinaceae*) in Cuba****Abstract**

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Two new taxa from easternmost Cuba are described and illustrated: *Wallenia jacquinioides* subsp. *montecristensis* and *W. lepperi*.

*Wallenia jacquinioides* subsp. *montecristensis* Panfet & Ventosa, **subsp. nova** – Holotypus: PFC 49414 (HAJB; isotypi: B, JE). – Fig. 1

*Frutex* vel arbuscula 2-3 m alta. *Petiolus* foliorum cylindricus, 0.5-1 cm longus, striatus, pilis glandulosis minutis rufis numerosis obsitus. *Lamina* obovata vel elliptica, 2.5-6.5 × 1-1.8 cm metiens, subcoriacea, glabra, supra in sicco atrobrunnea nitida, subtus dilutius brunnea opaca, basin versus sensim angustata in petiolum decurrens, margine integra leviter revoluta, apice rotundato-obtusum vel submarginata, nervo medio supra canaliculato subtus valde prominente, secundariis in utraque facie prominentibus. *Sepala* imbricata, orbicularia, 1 × 1 mm metientia, in parte centrali brunneo-rubentia lineolis et punctis nigris notata, marginem dentatum et glanduloso-ciliatum versus dilutiora punctis carentia, sub fructu persistentia. *Petala* cito decidua, ergo ignota. *Ovarium* ovoideum, nigro-punctatum, stylo 0.5-1 mm longo striato atro-punctato in stigma punctiforme desinente coronatum. *Fructus* (immaturus) baccatus, striatus, punctis nigris ornatus.

*Specimens seen.* – Eastern Cuba, prov. Guantánamo, Yateras, pine wood of Monte Cristi, on limestone, 500-600 m, 6.1967, *Bisse & Rojas 3587* (JE); id., Yateras, Monte Cristi high plateau, 700 m, 5.1968, *Bisse & Köhler 9350* (HAJB, JE); id., same data, *Bisse & Köhler 9409* (HAJB); id., Yateras, Felicidad de Yateras, high plateau SE of the Monte Cristi area, 800 m, 13.5.1983, *Bisse & al. PFC 49414* (B, HAJB, JE); id., Yateras, Felicidad de Yateras, Monte Cristo [sic!], pine wood of Los Hondones, 850 m, 15.5.1980, *Álvarez & al. PFC 43246* (B, HAJB, JE); id., Yateras, Felicidad de Yateras, path from Guayabal to Monte Cristi, 800 m, 10.5.1983, *Bisse & al. PFC 49149* (B, HAJB, JE).

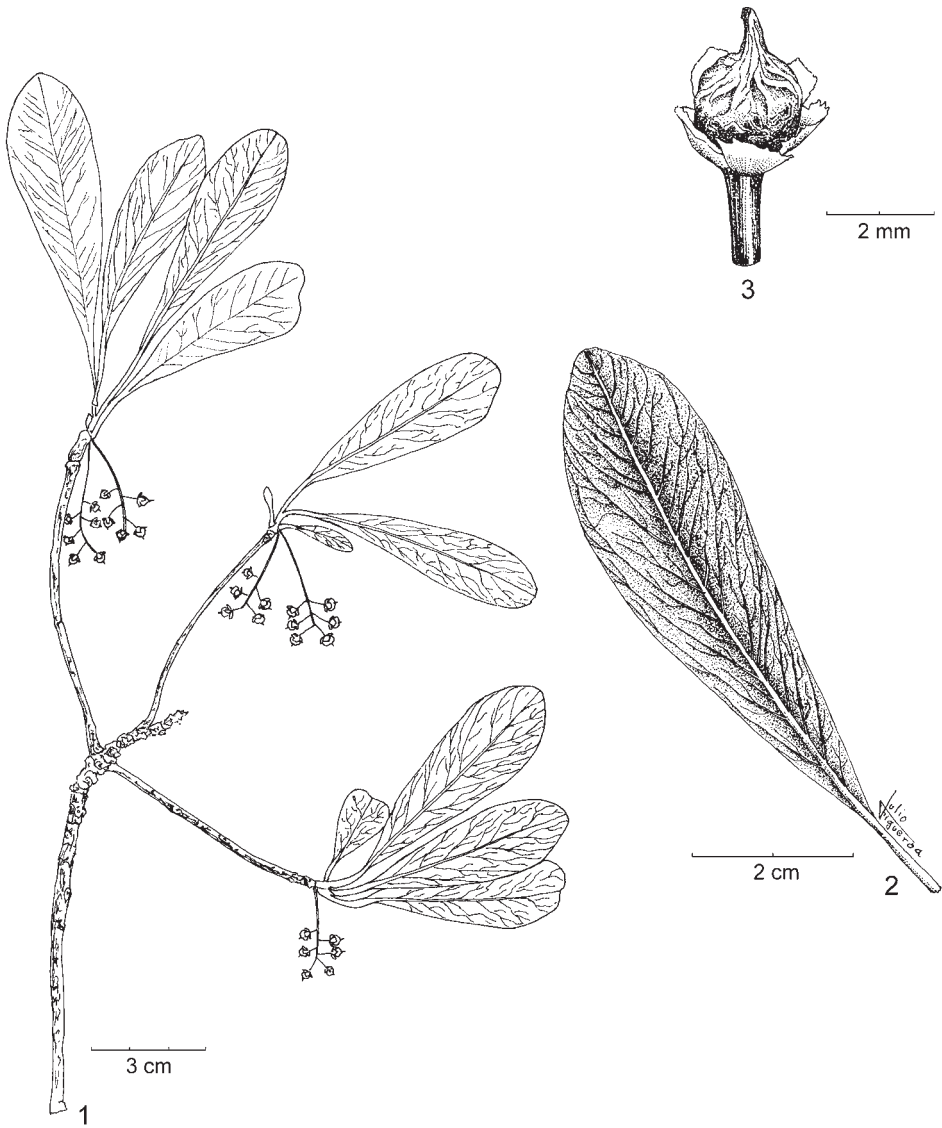


Fig. 1. *Wallenia jacquinioides* subsp. *montecristensis* – 1: fertile branch; 2: leaf; 3: immature fruit. – Drawn from the holotype specimen by Julio Figueroa.

*Distribution.* – Endemic to the Monte Cristi area in the Guantánamo province, eastern Cuba, where it grows in pine wood and montane rainforest between 500 and 800 m above sea level, on limestone substrate. Flowering and fruiting in May.

*Note.* – *Wallenia jacquinioides* (Griseb.) Mez was described by Grisebach (1862: 517) as *Ardisia jacquinioides*, based on a specimen collected by Charles Wright in 1856 in eastern Cuba, without stated locality, and distributed as no. 349 (holotype: GOET!; probable isotypes: GH [n.v.], K!). Its typical subspecies is known to occur in scattered localities in the provinces

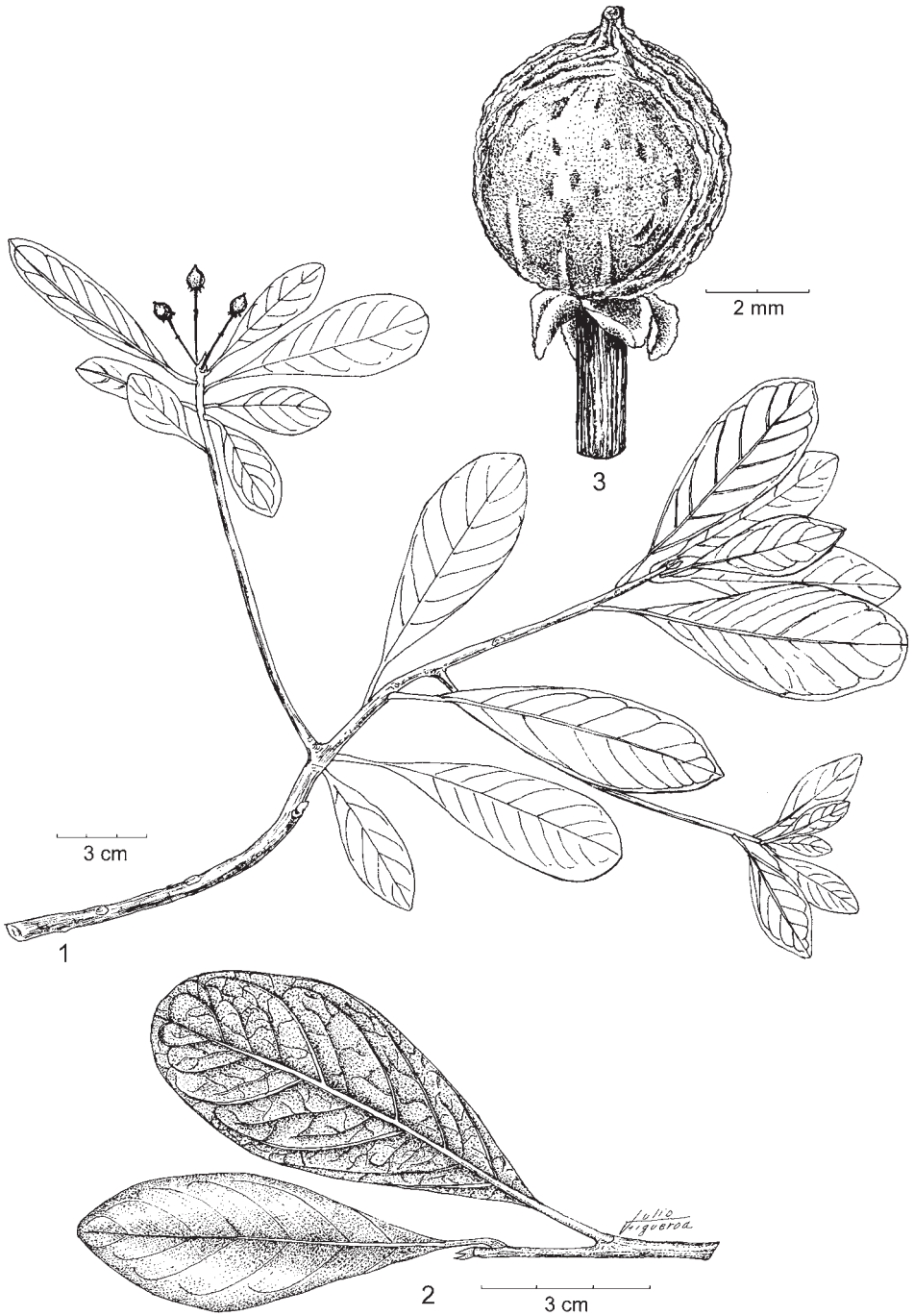


Fig. 2. *Walleria lepperi* – 1: fruiting branch; 2: stem portion with two leaves; 3: fruit. – Drawn from the holotype specimen by Julio Figueroa.

of Holguín (Moa: La Melba and Sierra de Moa) and Guantánamo (Baracoa: Río Joa and Mina Iberia; Palenque: Pico Galano), from where we have examined specimens (*Ekman 3665*, S; *Bisse & Rojas 3277*, HAJB, JE; *Bisse & Köhler 6175, 7199, 9505*, JE; *Bisse & Lippold 11097, 11136, 11709*, JE). *Wallenia jacquinioides* subsp. *jacquinioides* differs from subsp. *monte-cristensis* by petioles slightly grooved above, leaves dull and yellowish green above when dry, with secondary venation conspicuous only adaxially, not on both faces. Contrary to the new subspecies, which grows on limestone substrates, subsp. *jacquinioides* is specialised on serpentine and lateritic soils.

***Wallenia lepperi*** Panfet & Ventosa, **sp. nova** – Holotypus: *PFC 55902* (HAJB). – Fig. 2

*Frutex. Folia* alterna, ad apicem ramorum congesta. *Petiolus* subcylindricus, 1-1.9 cm longus, striatus, glanduloso-pilosus. *Lamina* obovata, 6.1-9.3 × 2.6-4.3 cm metiens, subcoriacea, in sicco brunneo-rubens, basi cuneata vel in petiolum decurrens, margine revoluta, apice rotundata vel obtusa, nervo medio supra leviter canaliculato subtus prominente, secundariis in utraque facie inconspicuis, venatione craspedodroma mixta. *Inflorescentiae* racemosae, laterales, apicem ramorum versus coarctatae, 2 cm longae, 3-4-florae. *Pedicelli* fructiferi maximi, 8.4-8.6 mm longi, glandulis nigris punctati. *Sepala* subacute triangularia, margine integra, sub fructu persistentia, recurva. *Fructus* baccatus, ovoideo-globosus, 3.5-5 mm metiens, praeter glandulas numerosas parum conspicuas laevis.

*Specimen seen.* – Eastern Cuba, prov. Guantánamo, Baracoa, Meseta de la Iberia, path from the ancient mining camp to the lake, 15.4.1985, *Álvarez & al. PFC 55902* (HAJB).

*Distribution.* – A narrow endemic, so far only known from the type gathering. At its single known locality, on the high plateau of Mina Iberia, it grows in montane rainforest on lateritic soil, at about 700 m above sea level. Fruiting in April.

*Etymology.* – We dedicate this species to Dr Lothar Lepper, keen expert of the Cuban flora and specialist of the *Primulales*, *Theophrastaceae* and *Primulaceae* in particular.

*Note.* – *Wallenia lepperi* is closest to *W. bumelioides* (Griseb.) Mez, also a Cuban endemic, which is known from several provinces (Pinar del Río, La Habana with Isla de la Juventud, Matanzas, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Sancti Spiritus, Camagüey, Holguín, Santiago de Cuba) but not as far east as Guantánamo. In contrast to *W. lepperi*, *W. bumelioides* has thin, papery leaves, rounded sepals with fimbriate margins and the fruit is wrinkled rather than smooth. Further differences may appear when flowering material of the new species becomes available.

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### Reference

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