Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), a new species from Guinée, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire

Author(s): Carel C. H. Jongkind
Published By: Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris
DOI: 10.5252/a2010n1a9
URL: http://www.bioone.org/doi/full/10.5252/a2010n1a9
Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), a new species from Guinée, Liberia and Côte d’Ivoire

Carel C. H. JONGKIND
Biosystematics Group, Wageningen University,
Generaal Foulkesweg 37, NL-6703 BL Wageningen (The Netherlands)
carel.jongkind@wur.nl


ABSTRACT
The new species Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae) from western Africa is described here. It differs from J. paucinervium Benth., a species that occurs in the same area and that is the most easily confused, by its cuneate and not rounded or cordate leaf base and the absence of pit domatia. It differs from J. kwangense Liben from Central Africa by the more papery leaves without abundant glandular dots and pit domatia on their lower surface.

RÉSUMÉ
Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), une nouvelle espèce de Guinée, Liberia et Côte d’Ivoire.
Jasminum cuneatum Jongkind (Oleaceae), une nouvelle espèce d’Afrique de l’Ouest est décrite et comparée aux espèces affines. Elle se distingue de J. paucinervium Benth. – espèce sympatrique – par les feuilles sans acarodomaties, conées à la base et non cordées ou arrondies. Jasminum cuneatum est proche de J. kwangense Liben d’Afrique Centrale, mais s’en distingue par les feuilles non charnues, et par l’absence de points glanduleux en grand nombre et d’acarodomaties à leur face inférieure.
INTRODUCTION

Jasminum L. is an Old World genus of 150 or more species of which 25 to 30 occur in Africa (Kupicha 1983). Only seven species were known from the *Flora of Tropical West Africa* area (Green 1963). Recently a small *Jasminum* liana was collected in Guinée in the forest on the West slopes of the Nimba Mountains. With the *Flora of West Tropical Africa* it keys out as *J. paucinervium* Benth., a well known species that is found from Senegal to Uganda, because it has simple leaves with a few hairs in the axil of the larger lateral nerves beneath, but it did not match that species when compared in the herbarium. The leaves of the new species called *J. cuneatum* are different from those of *J. paucinervium* (Fig. 1) in that their base is cuneate instead of cordate to rounded, the basal nerves are less conspicuous than the others and not strong and ascending, and it does not have pit domatia. When *J. cuneatum* is compared with the other climbing *Jasminum* species from the forests of the Guinea-Congolean Region it shows most similarity with *J. kwangense* Liben from Congo-Kinshasa and Gabon (see Liben 1973: 20). The two species have the same shape of inflorescence, and the flowers and shape of the leaf are also more or less the same. *Jasminum cuneatum* differs from *J. kwangense* by the more papery leaves without abundant glandular dots and pit domatia on their lower surface. In the herbaria in Paris and Kew several conspecific specimens were found, specimens that where earlier identified as *J. paucinervium* or *J. preussii* Engl. & Knobl. Hawthorne & Jongkind (2006: 434) erroneously called the new species *J. preussii*, but the real *J. preussii* has never been found this far to the west.
SYSTEMATICS

*Jasminum cuneatum* Jongkind, sp. nov.  
(Fig. 1)

*Species nova* J. kwangense Liben affinis, sed foliis tenioribus eglandulatis.


**DESCRIPTION**
Twining climber several meters long. Twigs pubescent. Leaves opposite; petiole 2-9 mm long, often with a clear joint, with short hairs most densely at upper side; blade elliptic, 3.5-11 × 2-4.5 cm, almost glabrous, 5 pairs of lateral nerves, with a few not very conspicuous hairs in the axils of the larger lateral nerves only, base cuneate, apex acute to acuminate. Inflorescence cymose or almost umbellate, up to 7-flowered; peduncle 7-23 mm long; pedicel 12-30 mm long; calyx tube 1-2 mm high, 5(-6) linear lobes 6-8 mm long with a few hairs or glabrous, green, slightly accrescent in fruit; corolla glabrous, white, with 5 or more slender lobes c. 15 × 1.5 mm, slender tube 20-24 mm long, slightly widening below the base of the anthers; the two stamens included in the tube, filaments c. 1.5 mm long; anthers c. 4 mm long, apiculate; style glabrous, shortly exserted. Fruit one or two lobed, glabrous, shiny, no mature fruits known yet.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION**
Forests in South-East Guinée, North Liberia and West Côte d’Ivoire, from c. 200 to 850 m altitude.

**REFERENCES**


Submitted on 14 October 2009; accepted on 22 March 2010.