

THEOPHRASTACEAE

by

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Evergreen trees or shrubs. Leaves simple, coriaceous, alternate, rarely opposite, often crowded and pseudo-verticillate at the top of the branches. Stipules wanting. Inflorescence consisting of axillary or terminal racemes or flowers solitary by reduction. Flowers hermaphrodite in our species, actinomorphic. Sepals 4—5. Corolla 4—5-parted or -lobed. Stamens 4—5, epipetalous, inserted on the corolla. Staminodia 4—5, alternating with the stamens. Ovary superior, unilocular; style 1, short or slender; stigma discoid or capitate. Ovules numerous, on a central placenta. Fruit a drupe or berry, few- to many-seeded. Endosperm present.

About 50 species in 4 genera in tropical and subtropical America.

Jacquinia Linnaeus, Fl. Jamaica 27. 1760

Shrubs or small trees, glabrous or pubescent. Leaves alternate or pseudo-verticillate, entire, often gland-dotted. Inflorescence consisting of terminal or pseudo-axillary racemes. Flowers hermaphrodite, 5-merous, white or yellowish. Sepals free or basally connate, imbricate. Corolla salverform or short-campanulate, the lobes imbricate, spreading at anthesis. Stamens inserted at the base of the corolla opposite the petals; filaments subulate or flattened and mostly connate into a fleshy ring; anthers extrorsely dehiscent. Staminodes inserted high in the corolla-tube, petaloid. Ovary ovoid, glabrous; style short. Fruit ovoid or globose, pointed by the persistent style-base, coriaceous. Seeds few, compressed, ovoid.

More than 30 species in tropical America.

Key to the species:

1. Leaves up to 4 × 1 cm; flowers few, the pedicels curved down at the leaf-bases, corolla light yellow..... *J. berterii*
Leaves 2—9 × 1—3.5 cm; flowers in many- to few-flowered racemes on erect pedicels, corolla white..... *J. arborea*

Jacquinia arborea Vahl

VAHL, Eclog. Amer. 1: 26. 1796; GOODING *et al.*, Fl. Barbados 320. 1965; ADAMS, Flowering plants of Jamaica 563. 1972; FOURNET, Fl. Guadeloupe & Martinique 1043. 1978; — *Jacquinia armillaris*

L. var. *arborea* (VAHL) GRIEBACH, Fl. Br. W. Ind. Isl. 397. 1861 ['1864']; — *Jacquinia barbasco* (LOEFLING) MEZ, in ENGLER, Pflanzenreich 4. 236a: 32. 1903 p.p.; BOLDINGH, Fl. D.W. Ind. Isl. 1: 150. 1909; Fl. Ned. W. Ind. Eil. 313. 1913; Fl. D.W. Ind. Isl. 2: 84. 1914; URBAN, Symb. Ant. 8: 518. 1921; BRITTON & WILSON, Sci. Surv. Porto Rico & Virgin Isl. 6: 62. 1925; CHEESMAN in Fl. Trinidad & Tobago 2: 122. 1940; QUESTEL, Fl. Isl. St. Bartholomew 165. 1941; ARNOLDO, Zakflora 38. 1954; LEON & ALAIN, Fl. Cuba 4: 116. 1957; ARNOLDO, Zakflora 202. 1964.

Shrub or small tree, up to 5 m tall; crown dense; trunk 15 (—20) cm in diam; bark smooth to finely fissured, dark brown; branches strongly branched; branchlets scaly. Leaves petiolate, alternate and usually clustered at the top of the branchlets; blades yellow-green, coriaceous or fleshy, oblong, obovate or broadly obovate, rounded or emarginate and sometimes apiculate at the apex, tapering or subcuneate at the base, 2—6 (—9) × 1—2 (—3.5) cm, the midvein prominent beneath, the lateral venation obscure, glabrous, scaly, glandular-punctate on both sides, the margins revolute; petiole 2—5 mm long, yellowish, minutely scaly. Inflorescence consisting of several- to many-flowered, often drooping, 4—10 cm long racemes; pedicels about 1 cm long, scaly, and thickened near the apex. Flowers white or yellowish, sweet smelling. Sepals suborbicular, somewhat emarginate at the apex, glabrous, 2—3 mm long, yellowish-greenish, ciliate, persistent in the fruit. Corolla tubular to bellshaped, its tube about 5 mm long, the lobes rounded, about 3 mm long, spreading. Stamens 5; filaments dilated, 2 mm long; anthers 2 mm long, cordate at the base. Staminodes ovate-suborbicular, about 2.5 mm long. Pistil resinous-dotted. Ovary unilocular, about 3 mm long; style short. Fruit a globose berry, mucronulate by the persistent style, about 12 mm in diam; pulp orange-red, bitter, and probably poisonous. Seeds 1—4, roundish, brown, c. 5 mm in diam.

Greater Antilles and Virgin Islands, throughout the Lesser Antilles from St. Martin to Grenada, Barbados, and Tobago, Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao.

In coastal vegetations and in limestone areas but also on diabase.

Vernacular names: mata di pisca, palu huku, steenhout (Leeward Group)
picrous bark (Windward Group).

ARUBA: hills near Fontein (Boldingh 6469, fl. Jan.); Seroe Blancoe (Boldingh 6483, fl. Jan.); Rooi Prins (Stoffers 2156, fr. Feb.); Rooi Taki (Arnoldo 243, fl. Dec.); Paloe Maraca (Stoffers 1744, fl. Jan.; 1962, fl. Jan.).

BOINAIRE: Karpata, near Goto-meer (Stoffers 1069, fl. Dec.); Lima, near Lac (Stoffers 484, fl. Nov.); road to salt pans (Stoffers 709, fl. Nov.); Tanki Maraka (Arnoldo 449, fl. & fr. Feb.); Fontein (Suringar s.n., st. Feb. [L]); Slagbaai Plantation (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. Feb. [L]); Bolivia Plantation (Suringar s.n., fl. Feb. [L]).

CURAÇAO: Ronde Klip (Stoffers 1238, fl. Dec.); Noordpunt (Burgers 153, fl. & fr. Feb.); Siberië (Boldingh 5257, fl. & fr. Nov.; 5262a, fr. Nov.); seashore near Hato (Boldingh 5135, fl. & fr. Nov.; 5121c, fl. Nov.); Grote Berg (Arnoldo 1936, fl. Feb.); calcareous hills and seashore near Savonet (Boldingh 5042, fl. Nov.); Santa Cruz (Britton & Shafer 3029, fr. March); Seroe Christoffel (Boldingh 5006, fl. Nov.; Suringar s.n., fl. Jan [L]); calcareous hills north of the road from Westpunt to Savonet (Boldingh 4954, fr. Nov.); near Fontein (Boldingh 5271, st. Nov.); Porto Marie? (Went 1323, fl. Dec.); Fuik (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. Feb. [L]); Santa Marta Baai (de Wilde 110a, fl. & fr. Ap. [L]); Kleine Berg (Surin-

gar s.n., fr. March [L]); calcareous hills near Hato (Boldingh 5075, fr. Nov.); without loc. (Aschenberg s.n., fr.; Boldingh 5429, fl.).

SABA: Spring Bay Gut (Stoffers 3284, fr. May).

ST. EUSTATIUS: seashore near Venus Bay (Boldingh 969, fr. June); Venus Bay (Suringar s.n., fr. Ap. [L]); White Wall (Boldingh 807, fr. Sept.); near Concordia (Boldingh 953, fr. June); slope of The Quill near White Wall (Stoffers 4770, fr. Aug.).

ST. MARTIN: Low Lands (Arnoldo 3409, fl. Jan.); near Mullet Pond (Boldingh 2774, fr. Aug.); Little Bay (Stoffers 2493, fl. March); from Philipsburg to Guana Bay (Boldingh 2418, st. Aug.); Cole Bay (George s.n., sub Boldingh 2508, fr.); from Belvedere to Oyster Pond (Boldingh 3061, fl. Aug.); mountain between Mont des Accords and Sentry Hill (Boldingh 2908, st. Aug.); Mount Paradise, 200—300 m (Boldingh 3304, st. Sept.); Princes Quarter (George s.n., sub Boldingh 2479, st.); between Mont Vernon and Orient Bay (Boldingh 2929, st. Aug.); Guana Bay (Suringar s.n., fr. May [L]); Cole Bay Hill (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. May [L]); plain near Cole Bay Hill (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. May [L]).

Jacquinia berterii Spreng.

SPRENGEL, Syst. 1: 668. 1825; MEZ, in URBAN, Symb. Ant. 2: 441. 1901; MEZ, in ENGLER, Pflanzenreich 4. 236a: 31. 1903; BOLDINGH, Fl. D.W. Ind. Isl. 1: 151. 1909; Fl. Ned. W. Ind. Eil. 313. 1913; BRITTON & MILLSAUGH, Bahama Fl. 317. 1920; URBAN, Symb. Ant. 8: 518. 1921; BRITTON & WILSON, Sci. Surv. Porto Rico & Virgin Isl. 6: 62. 1925; LEON & ALAIN, Fl. Cuba 4: 116. 1957.

A much branched shrub or low tree, up to 6 m tall; trunk c. 15 cm in diam.; bark whitish, dark grey or blackish, smooth to finely fissured; twigs light brown, densely scaly. Leaves petiolate, crowded, mostly 3 or more at a node or whorled, also paired or opposite; blade obovate, oblanceolate or spatulate, acute, retuse or emarginate and mucronate at the apex, cuneate at the base, up to 4 × 1 cm, coriaceous, thick and stiff, the margins revolute, glandular punctate on both sides, midvein rather prominent beneath; petiole about 2 mm long. Inflorescence terminal or in the uppermost axils, 1—6-flowered, pedicels curved-down, 5—8 mm long, in fruit thickened in the upper part. Sepals suborbicular, glabrous, 1.5—2 mm long. Corolla light-yellow, the tube bell-shaped, about 3 mm long, the lobes truncate-rounded, about 2 mm long, reflexed after anthesis. Stamens about ½ of the length of the corolla-lobes. Staminodes somewhat emarginate at the apex, about ½ of the length of the corolla-lobes. Ovary club-shaped, glabrous, unilocular, tapering into the style. Fruit ovoid or ellipsoid, pointed at the top by the persistent style-base, yellow or orange, about 7 mm long. Seeds many.

Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands, Anguilla, St. Martin, and Guadeloupe.

Known from the calcareous area of St. Martin only.

ST. MARTIN: Terres Basses (Boldingh 3283a, st. Sept.); near Mullet Pond (Boldingh 2781, fr. Aug.); Low Lands (Arnoldo 3436, fl. & fr. Jan.).