

KRAMERIACEAE

by

A. L. STOFFERS

(Utrecht)

Herbs or shrubs, usually tomentose or silky pubescent. Leaves alternate, simple and entire or rarely 3-foliolate. Stipules deciduous. Inflorescence consisting of terminal racemes or flowers solitary in the leaf-axils. Bracts 2, opposite, foliaceous, adnate at or above the middle of the pedicels. Flowers irregular, rather large. Sepals 4 or 5, unequal, imbricate. Petals 5, the 3 upper ones long-clawed, free or partly united, the 2 lower ones shorter or even reduced to small, thick, fleshy scales. Stamens 3—4; filaments free or united; anthers basifixed, opening with terminal pores. Ovary sessile, uni-locular; style cylindric, acute. Ovules 2, collateral, pendulous, anatropous. Fruit globose or slightly compressed, indehiscent, spiny, 1-seeded. Endosperm wanting.

Only one genus with about 20 species in tropical and warm-temperate America.

Krameria Linnaeus, Spec. Plant. ed. 2. 177. 1762

Characters and distribution as the family.

Krameria ixina L.

LINNAEUS, Spec. Plant. ed. 2. 177. 1762; CRISEBACH, Fl. Br. W. Ind. Isl. 31. 1859; URBAN, Symb. Ant. 4: 277. 1905; BOLDINGH, Fl. D.W. Ind. Isl. 1: 85. 1909; Fl. Ned. W. Ind. Eil. 212. 1913; Fl. D.W. Ind. Isl. 2: 37. 1914; URBAN, Symb. Ant. 8: 272. 1920; BRITTON & WILSON, Sci. Surv. Porto Rico & Virgin Isl. 5: 382. 1924; ARNOLDO, Zakflora 71, fig. 47. 1954; Zakflora 142, fig. 47. 1964.

Shrub, up to 75 cm high, irregularly branched; branches stiff, slender, dark-brown to blackish, white-tomentose. Leaves coriaceous, simple, narrowly oblong to oblong-lanceolate, spinulose-acuminate at the apex, cuneate at the base, 1—2 cm long and 5—7 mm wide, tomentose on both sides; petiole slender, 3—5 mm long, tomentose. Stipules subulate 1—1.5 mm long. Racemes simple, up to 6 cm long; peduncle short, 1—1.5 cm long; pedicels 2 mm long; bracts linear, 4 mm long, spinulose-acuminate at the apex, tomentose. Sepals ovate to suborbicular, rounded or acuminate at the apex, the lower one spinulose-acuminate, 6—7 × 4—5 mm, silky pubescent outside, dark-red. Petals 5; the upper three purplish,

5—6 mm long, the claws narrow, 3.5—4.5 mm long, united, the lamina oblong, acuminate, about 1.5 mm long and 1 mm wide; the lower two elliptic-obovate, subtruncate, 3 mm long. Stamens 4; the filaments thick, cylindric, curved, united at the base, nearly 4 mm long; anthers about 1 mm long. Ovary subglobose, 2 mm in diam., spiny and with long white hairs; style thick, curved, 2—2.5 mm long. Fruit globose, 5—6 mm in diam., pubescent and spiny; spines numerous, about 5 mm long, retrorsely barbed in the upper half.

Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Hispaniola, St. Eustatius, Antigua, Bonaire, Curaçao, Venezuela, and Colombia.

Vernacular names: pega saya shimarón, ratania (Leeward Group), wild senna (Windward Group).

BONAIRE: Lima (Stoffers 487, fl. & fr. Nov.); calcareous plateau of Bolivia Plantation (Boldingh 7357, fl. & fr. Feb.); Rooi Grandi (Suringar s.n., fl. Feb. [L]); Fontein (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. Feb. [L]); without loc. (Boldingh 7281, fl.).

CURAÇAO: Ronde Klip (Arnoldo 1126, fl. & fr. Nov.); Parera (Arnoldo 1767, fl. & fr. Dec.; Stoffers 438, fl. & fr. Oct.); rocky hills from Wacao to Playa Grande (Britton & Shafer 3035, fl. March); hofje of Blaauw (Boldingh 4916, fl. Oct.); Piscadera Baai (de Wilde 131A, fl. & fr. Jan. [L]); Seroe Christoffel (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. Jan. [L]); Schottegat (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. Jan. [L]); Savonet (Suringar s.n., fl. & fr. Jan. [L]); calcareous hills near Savonet (Boldingh 5039, fl. & fr. Nov.); Brakkeput Mei Mei (Stoffers 198, fl. & fr. Oct.); hofje of Santa Barbara (Stoffers 393, fl. & fr. Oct.).

ST. EUSTATIUS: Signal Hill, 200 m (Boldingh 126, fl. May); on top of the cliff near White Wall (Boldingh 1256, fl. & fr. July); on top of the cliff between Oranjestad and Fort de Windt, 40 m (Boldingh 763, fl. June); near Mary Glory, 150 m (Boldingh 1163, fl. June); along the road from Oranjestad to Fort de Windt (Stoffers 3512, fl. & fr. July); Little Mountains (Stoffers 3531, fl. & fr. July); slope of The Quill near White Wall, 200 m (Stoffers 4750, fl. & fr. Aug.); Cultuurvlakte near Golden Rock (Suringar s.n., fl. Ap. [L]); from Signal Hill to Red Cliff (Suringar s.n., fl. Ap. [L]); Berg Amsterdam (Suringar s.n., fl. Ap. [L]); without loc. (v. Groll-Meyer 201, fl. & fr.).