

Graptopetalum luteum sp. nov. Meyrán

Jorge Meyrán García (Mexico)

Summary

Subfruticose plants with basal ramifications, stems erect or pendent, up to 50 cm long, rosettes at apex of stems with 15-25 leaves, lanceolate, subacute, 15-35 mm long, 7-10 mm wide and 2-5 mm thick. Floral stem to 3.5 cm long to first branch, inflorescence in panicle with 4-5 cincinnus, each one with 6-12 flowers, pedicels 4-5 mm long, sepals lanceolated to oblong, 3-4 mm long, corolla yellow, with tube 3.5 mm long., segments spreading, channeled, 6-6.5 mm long; stamens recurved at second day of anthesis between or against petals, pistils 1-1.5 mm long.

Introduction

Plants obtained in Tenango de las Flores in 1997, most probably originating in this part of the Puebla State, bloomed in 2005 and 2010, apparently belonging to the genus *Graptopetalum*, and although it lacks red spots on the petals, it is marked by all the other characters. As it is found in many places, the name I am given was fixed by the character of the yellow flower colour which is different from other species.

Graptopetalum luteum sp nov. Meyrán

Planta subfruticosa, caulibus in basis, erectus vel pendulus, ad 50 cm longus, rosula vel 6 cm diameter, cumulo in caulis apex, 15-25 foliis, folia lanceolata, semiacuta, 15-35 mm longa, 7-10 mm lata. Inflorescentia paniculata, 4-5 cincinnus, quisque 6-15 flores, pediculus 4-5 mm longus, sepalis lanceolatis vel oblongis, 3-4 mm longis; corolla tubo 2-2.5 mm longo, segmentis 6-6.5 mm longis, luteis; stamen recurvatis posterum die in anthesis, pistilus 1-1.5 mm longus

Subshrub plant, branched at or near base, stems first erect, then pendent, up to 50 cm and more in length, 4-6 mm in diameter, yellowish or greenish yellow, with slightly prominent scars at insertion of leaves; rosette at the tip of branches, up to 6 cm in diameter, with 15-25 leaves, lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate, subacute, blunt tip, base slightly spurred, rounded edges, upper surface flattened or slightly convex, underside convex, tapering towards the tip, 15-35 mm long, 7-10 mm wide, 3-5 mm thick, yellowish-green tinged with lavender towards the tips, slightly pruinose.

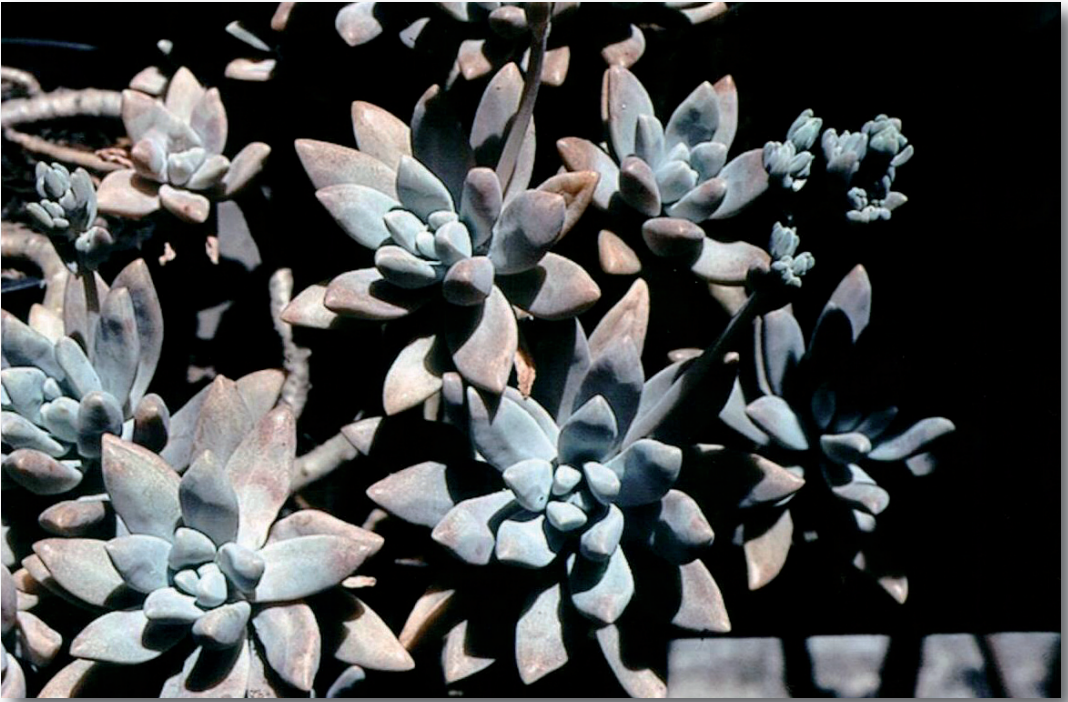


Photo 1. *Graptopetalum luteum* sp. nov. (Photo Jorge Meyrán, Digitalization: Jesús Morales).

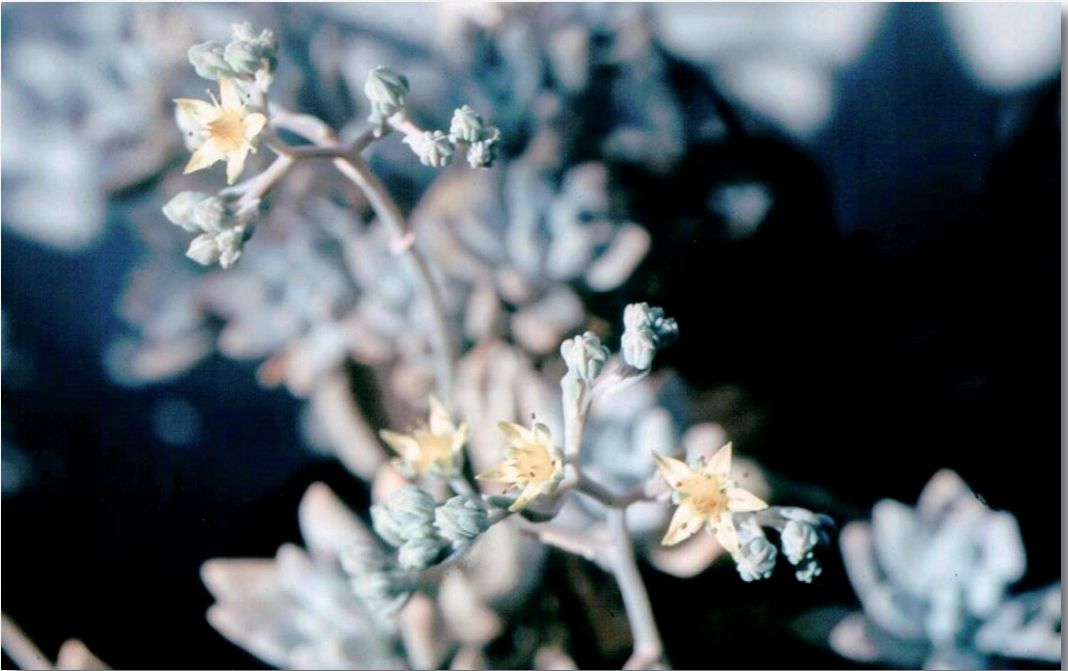


Photo. 2. Flowers of *Graptopetalum luteum* sp. nov.
(Photo: Jorge Meyrán, Digitalization: Jesús Morales).

Flower stem 3.5-7.5 cm high at the first branch, 1.5-3 mm in diameter, greenish to greyish-green; Leaves of the flower stem 2-5, lanceolate to oblong, subacute, rounded, spurred, internal face flat, outer face convex, 10-13 mm long, 3-3.5 mm wide, greenish, with a lighter base.

Inflorescence in panicle with 4-5 cincinnus, bracts at the beginning of each branch, similar to the leaves of the floral stem, floral bracts oblong, thin, 6-7 mm long, 2-2.5 mm wide, green or tinged lilac; cincinnus 4-9 cm long, with 6-12 flowers, bracts 9-10 mm long; pedicels 4-5 mm long and 2/3-1 mm in diameter, with bracts 4-5 mm, greenish; sepals lanceolate to oblong, subacute, rounded, 3-4 mm long, 1-1.5 mm wide, 1/2 mm thick, greenish; corolla 6-6.5 mm long, 2-2.5 mm long tube, petals lanceolate, thin, extended to the upper median part, inner surface fluted, outer surface fluted to the upper part, 6-6.5 mm long and 2-2.5 mm wide, yellow, groove and hull greenish.

Epipetal filaments 2 mm long, antisepals 4 mm, recurved against the petals and between the petals on the second day of anthesis, whitish, anthers brown to blackish; carpels ovate, 4-6 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, narrowing towards stigmas, yellowish, sometimes partially or totally red, pistils 1-1.5 mm long, yellowish or slightly greenish; nectaries quadrangular indented in the upper part, 1 mm wide and 1/2 mm high, yellow amber. (Photo 1 and 2).

Purchased in Tenango de las Flores, Puebla, July 13, 1997, grown in Mexico City, Meyrán 5782. The plant initiated a floral stem in February and flowered in March 2005 and again in February and March 2010.

Comments

Graptopetalum luteum presents all the characters of this genus except for the red spots on the petals, this characteristic is also found in *G. mendozae*, although in this species, on plants grown for several years in the city of Mexico sometimes appear sparse red dots on the inner surface.

Due to its subshrub character and to its deciduous leaves after fading, *Graptopetalum luteum* belongs to the Byrnesia Section. After having compared it to the species of this Section are easily eliminated *G. pentandrum* and its subspecies *superbum* since these have 5 stamens, *G. mendozae* and *G. pachyphyllum* because they have small leaves of 8-18 mm long, whereas in this species they reach up to 35 mm.

Of the remaining group, *G. grande* is a huge plant that grows up to 2 meters tall; *G. fruticosum* has spatulate to rhombospatulate leaves 2-4 cm long and 8-20 mm wide and although the petals are yellowish on the outside, they are stained inside with a cardinal red colour; there cannot be confusion with *G. amethystinum* because of its large obovate and thick leaves, nor with *G. paraguayense* which has cuneiform-obovate leaves, acuminate, 2-6 cm long, and 1.5-4 cm wide with white petals with some red dots, while *G. luteum* has lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate leaves and its petals are yellow without red spots.

Text & photos: Jorge Meyrán García

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

- Alexander. *Graptopetalum grande*. Cact. Succ. J. Amer. 21:174.1956.
Glass C. & Cházaro B.M. *Graptopetalum mendozae*. Cact. Suc. Mex. 12:79-82.1997.
Moran R. *Graptopetalum pentandrum*. Cact. Succ. J. Amer. 43:255. 1971.
Moran R. & Uhl C. *Graptopetalum fruticosum*. Cact. Succ. J. Amer. 40:152.1968.
Rose. *Graptopetalum pachyphyllum*. Addisonia. 7:45. 1922.
Walther E. *Graptopetalum amethystinum*, Cact. Succ. J. Amer. 1;83.1930.

Le Couleurs Cactus Club présente la 10^{ème} édition de

Couleurs Cactus

Le salon des cactus et plantes succulentes

10^{ème} édition !!!
9h - 12h30
13h30 - 18h

10^{ème} édition !!!
27 - 28 mai 2017
Égliseneuve près Billom
ENTRÉE GRATUITE

Photo: Cactus par Robert Gauthier

Édition: Cactus par Jérôme Duchéty

10^{ème} édition du salon Couleurs Cactus

27 - 28 mai 2017
9h-12h30 et 13h30-18h

Centre culturel
63160 Egliseneuve près Billom
30km à l'est de Clermont-Ferrand
GPS : 45.721523, 3.391966

Venez découvrir en famille la beauté et l'extraordinaire diversité de ces plantes adaptées aux milieux arides. Les exposants et les bénévoles de l'association seront heureux de vous faire partager leur passion.

Foire aux plantes : nombreux stands
Exposition de plantes de collection
Buvette sur place
Conférences :

- Samedi 15h : Découvrir les plantes succulentes, par Philippe Corman
- Samedi 19h : Voyage au Namaqualand, par Eric Mare
- Dimanche 15h : Découvrir les plantes succulentes, par Jacques Brun

Tirages de la Tombola :
~ Samedi 16h30
~ Dimanche 16h
(Les gagnants absents seront avisés par téléphone)

Plus d'infos :
www.couleurs-cactus.fr
contact@couleurs-cactus.fr

Édition: Cactus par Jérôme Duchéty

Photo: Cactus par Robert Gauthier

Édition: Cactus par Jérôme Duchéty

La Cactus Francophone

www.cactusfr.com