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VIOLACEAE PART I—RINOREA AND RINOREOCARPUS

W. H. A. HEKKING¹

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INTRODUCTION

In the neotropical Violaceae there occur seven woody genera with more or less actinomorphic flowers: Rinorea, Rinoreocarpus, Gloeospermum, Paypayrola, Amphirrhox, Leonia and Fusispermum. Among them, only Rinorea is pantropical, whereas the other six are restricted to the neotropics. In Part I of this monograph only the neotropical species of the first two genera, Rinorea and Rinoreocarpus, are treated; the five other genera will be treated in Part II. These seven genera belong to a family strongly variable with respect to the structure of flowers and fruits. This introduction is followed by two chapters on the Violaceae in general; one on evolutionary trends in the family and another on wood anatomy. Finally, a survey is given of the family, subdividing it into subfamilies, tribes and subtribes, which are provided with short diagnoses. There is an enumeration of the genera, with each genus provided with an (estimated) number of species. Distribution data are provided. This series of general chapters is concluded by keys to the subfamilies of Violaceae and the actinomorphic genera in the neotropics, to be treated in two monographs.

EVOLUTIONARY TRENDS IN NEOTROPICAL VIOLACEAE

Within the Violaceae there exists a gradual transition from strictly actinomorphic to distinctly zygomorphic flowers. This subdivision becomes the substantial basis for classification