



Fig. 696. *Lythrum californicum* (A)

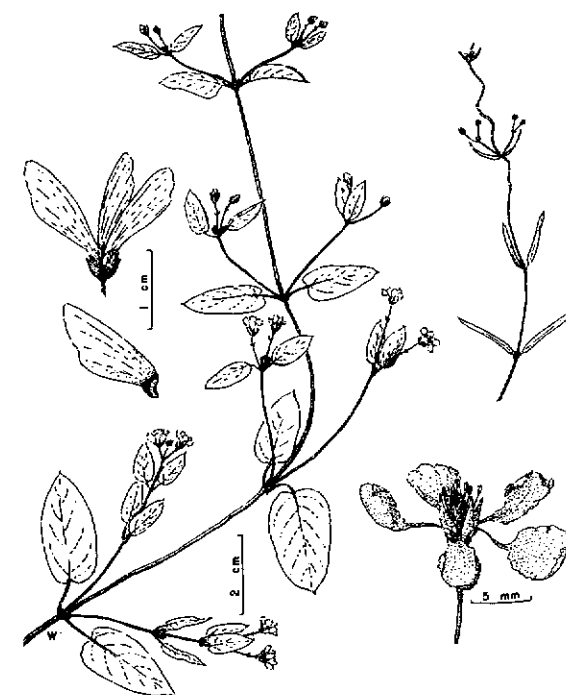


Fig. 697. *Janusia californica*

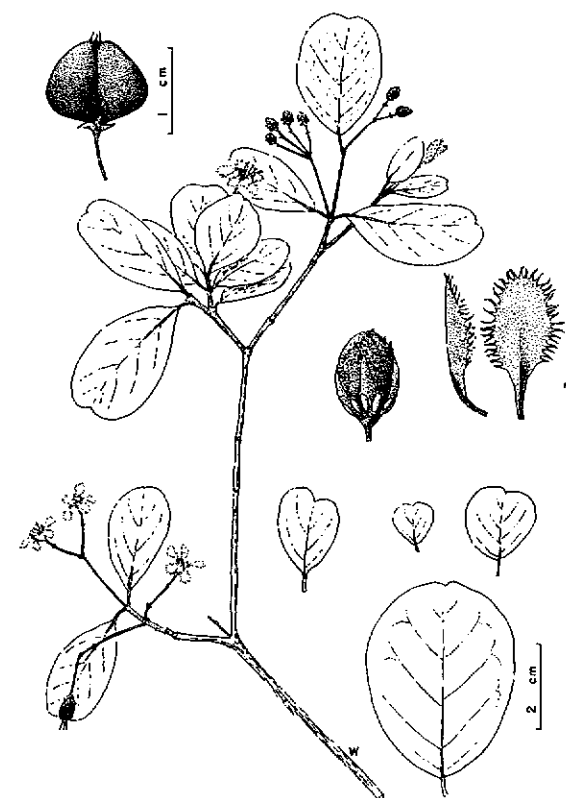


Fig. 698. *Malpighia diversifolia*

106. MALPIGHIACEAE. Malpighia Family

Herbs, vines, shrubs, or trees; leaves opposite, simple, stipulate; flowers solitary or in cymes or racemes, a few cleistogamous flowers sometimes among open ones; sepals 5, some or all of them bearing 1 or 2 sessile or stipitate

glands, rarely glandless; petals 5, strongly clawed, the blades often toothed, fimbriate, or lobed; stamens 5 or 10 (sometimes fewer by abortion), the filaments usually united below or basally; ovary superior, sessile, often lobed, 2- to 5-carpellate, but usually with 3 winged or wingless carpels; fruit a capsule, drupe, nut, or samara, if the latter then variously winged and often crested.

Sixty genera and about 900 species, tropical to warm-temperate regions of Old and New Worlds, especially numerous in South America.

Fruit a strongly winged samara; calyx bearing 8–10 glands; fertile stamens 2–10; plant a woody vine:

Samaras with dorsal wings only; fertile stamens 2–7; styles united..... *Janusia*

Samaras with lateral wings, these united to form an orbicular wing; fertile stamens 10; styles distinct..... *Mascagnia*

Fruit a capsule or drupe; calyx bearing 6–10 glands on calyx cup or sepals, or glands lacking from calyx; plants shrubs or trees:

Calyx bearing 6–10 glands; fruit an orange or red drupe..... *Malpighia*

Calyx lacking glands; fruit a 3-lobed capsule..... *Thryallis*

Janusia

Vines with woody basal parts, herbaceous toward tips of branches; leaves entire, linear to narrowly lanceolate or ovate-ovoid, short-petiolate; inflorescences of axillary clusters, or flowers solitary, some cleistogamous flowers with reduced petals often among petaliferous ones; calyx usually with 8 glands, sometimes with 10; sepals 5, narrow, persistent; petals 5, yellow, long-clawed, unequal, the blades broad, undulate-margined; stamens 5–7 (or reduced to 3); ovary 3-lobed; styles united, the stigmas entire; samaras usually 2 or 3, rarely only 1, each with a dorsal wing.

Fig. 697.

Leaves narrowly lanceolate, the margins slightly revolute; larger petals 3–5 mm long, the blades rhomboid; samara wings 9–12(16) mm long; rocky hillsides, gravelly slopes, and arroyos, central B.C.; to Arizona, Texas, and Chihuahua; March–Oct.....

..... *J. gracilis* A. Gray

Leaves ovate to oval, the margins not revolute; larger petals 5–7 mm long, the blades suborbicular; samaras (including body and wing) 9–11 mm long; gravelly slopes and banks of arroyos, central and s B.C.; s Sonora; Jan.–Sep..... *J. californica* Benth.

Malpighia

Shrubs or trees; leaves glabrous or pubescent, entire or toothed; inflorescences of axillary cymes; sepals 5, persistent, bearing 6–10 glands, not appreciably accrescent; petals 5, white, pink, or red, the blades undulate, erose-dentate to fimbriate marginally, sometimes keeled or concave; stamens 10, the filaments united to about middle, glabrous; ovary glabrous, 3-lobed; styles distinct; stigmas smooth; fruit an orange or red drupe, strongly depressed in ours.

One B.C. species, *M. diversifolia* Brandege (Fig. 698), of dry hillsides, arroyos, and canyons, s B.C.; endemic to B.C.; Aug.–Oct.

Mascagnia

Climbing or trailing vines or an upright shrub; leaves thin or leathery, entire; sepals 5, persistent; calyx bearing 8–10 glands; petals 5, white, yellowish (in ours), blue, or purple, the blades broad, variously shaped; stamens 10, the filaments lanceolate or subulate, distinct or nearly so; ovary 3-lobed; styles 3, distinct; fruit of 3 samaras with distinct (in ours) to united lateral wings.

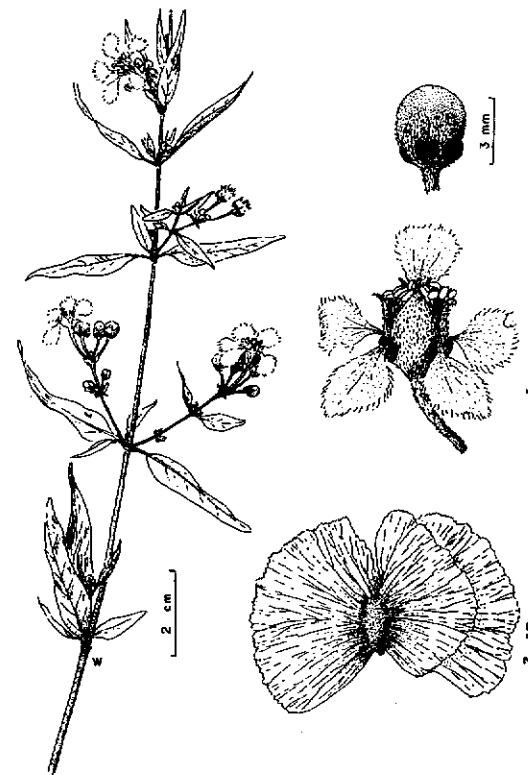


Fig. 699. *Mascagnia macroptera*



Fig. 700. *Thryallis angustifolia*

One B.C. species, *M. macroptera* (Sessé & Moc.) Niedenzu (Fig. 699), of rocky washes, hillsides, and sandy plains, central and s B.C.; central Sonora, throughout most of Mexico; flowering after rains.

Thryallis

Shrubs or small trees; leaves glabrous, paler beneath than above; inflorescences racemelike panicles, with deciduous bracts and bractlets; calyx glandless, or if glands present then these very small and inconspicuous; sepals 5, persistent; petals 5, yellow, usually turning red in age, the blades abruptly narrowed to claw; stamens 10, all fertile, the filaments glabrous, united basally; ovary 3-lobed; styles 3, distinct; fruit a 3-lobed capsule.

One B.C. species, *T. angustifolia* (Benth.) Kuntze (Fig. 700), of rocky or gravelly arroyos and hillsides, near Santa Rosalía to Cabo San Lucas; to Sonora, Texas, and N Mexico; Sep.–March.