

Abrahamia phillipsonii

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27. *Abrahamia phillipsonii* Randrian. & Lowry, **spec. nova** (Fig. 23-24).

Typus: MADAGASCAR. **Prov. Toliara:** Rég. Androy, Andohahela PN, parcelle 2, 24°50'S 46°32'E, 100 m, 7.XII.1988, fr., *Phillipson* 2853 (holo-: MO-3767006!; iso-: K, P [P06775412]!, TAN [TAN001997]!, US-3661611 image seen, WAG [WAG1523550] image seen).

Diagnosis *Abrahamia phillipsonii* Randrian. & Lowry most closely resembles *A. lenticellata*, with which its range overlaps, but can be easily distinguished by its craspedodromous (vs semicraspedodromous) venation, flowers borne in thyrses (vs panicles), and glabrous (vs velutinous) fruits.

Description Trees 3-12(-20) m tall, 12-30 cm DBH, bark with white latex; young twigs glabrous or pubescent (sometimes ferruginous). Leaves alternate or subopposite; blades oblanceolate to obovate or narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblong, 2.6-7.8 × 0.6-2(-2.2) cm, chartaceous to subcoriaceous, apex emarginate, retuse or rounded, sometimes acute, margin entire, base acute or cuneate, adaxial surface glabrous, very often waxy, abaxial surface with very sparse indument, slightly more appressed on the midvein, nearly glabrous otherwise, venation craspedodromous, midvein prominent abaxially, secondary veins 11-19 (-23) pairs, prominent abaxially, 1-5 mm apart, tertiary veins rarely visible on both surfaces; petiole c. 0.5-10 mm long, glabrous, canaliculate on adaxial surface. Inflorescence axillary or terminal, a thyrses, 1.5-5.5 cm long, the axes flattened, with short, appressed, ferruginous or reddish indument. Male flowers 5-merous; calyx lobes widely depressed ovate to depressed ovate or triangular, 0.8-1 × 1-1.5 mm, valvate, glabrous, persistent on fruits; corolla lobes ovate, 2-2.2 × 1-1.5 mm, imbricate, glabrous, stamens 5, filaments c. 1.5 mm long, white, glabrous, anthers 0.8-1 mm long, ovoid to subglobose, yellow, glabrous; disk 1-1.2 mm in diam., glabrous; ovary rudimentary. Female flowers unknown. Fruits 1.5-2 × 1-1.3 cm, obovoid to ellipsoid, glabrous, with longitudinal striations.

Etymology The species epithet honors our friend and colleague Peter. B. Phillipson, whose work has contributed so much to our knowledge of the Malagasy flora, including that of the drier parts of the island, where he has conducted most of his field work over the last three decades.

Vernacular names “Manantsadrano”, “Tarantantily”, “Tsitaké”.

Distribution, ecology and phenology *Abrahamia phillipsonii* is restricted to sub-arid southern Madagascar (Map 8), where it occurs at elevations between 100 and 1100 m. Flowering material has been collected between September and November, and fruits have been gathered from December through February. However, in drought years flowering can be delayed, which accounts for the limited number of collection with flowers gathered in March and April.



Fig. 23.
Abrahamia phillipsonii Randrian. & Lowry.
A. Flowering branch; **B.** Inflorescence; **C.** Detail of male flower; **D.** Fruit.

[A-C: Service Forestier 8523bis, MO; D: Phillipson 2853, MO] Drawings: R.L. Andriamiarisoa

Conservation status With an EOO of 64,857 km², a minimum AOO of 112 km², and 29 recorded localities, with subpopulations in 4 protected areas (Analavelona, Andohahela, Isalo, and Zombitsy), *A. phillipsonii* is assigned a preliminary conservation status of “Least Concern” [LC] using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (IUCN, 2012).

Notes *Abrahamia phillipsonii* vegetatively most closely resembles *A. deflexa*, but it differs by its oblanceolate to obovate, narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblong (vs ovate, oblong or elliptic) leaf blades and its axillary or terminal (vs only terminal) inflorescence.

Paratypi **MADAGASCAR. Prov. Fianarantsoa:** Ihosy, Analalava forest, 2-3 km W of western boundary of Isalo PN, [22°35'38"S 45°08'20"E], 770 m, 18.V.2004, fr., *Rogers et al.* 456 (G, K, MO, P, TAN); massif de l'Isalo, [22°08'S 45°10'E], 20.XII.1968, fr., *Service Forestier* 28504 (P, TEF); Ranohira, PK 712, [22°38'S 45°20'E], 23.VII.1955, ster., *Service Forestier* 13889 (MO, P, TEF); Isalo, 20.VII.1954, ster., *Service Forestier* 135-R-141 (P); Isalo, Benenitra, 8.VIII.1954, ster., *Service Forestier* 180-R-18 (P); Isalo, Ranohira, 23.VII.1955, ster., *Service Forestier* 288-R-239 (P); Ihosy, 30.X.1953, ster., *Service Forestier* 777-R-1 (P). **Prov. Toliara:** Tolagnaro, Andohahela PN, N du mont Apiky, [24°47'02"S 46°43'12"E], 708 m, 18.I.2007, fr., *Andriamihajarivo* 1156 (MO, P, TAN, TEF); Amboasary, fourré d'Ambatofotsy Masay, 24°18'16"S 46°08'00"E, 350 m, 11.XI.2008, fr., *Andriamihajarivo et al.* 1574 (G, MO, P, TAN); Sakaraha, forêt de Zombitsy, [22°48'S 44°41'E], XII.1959, fr., *Bosser* 13402 (MO, P [2 sheets], TAN); Andohahela PN, parcelle 3, [25°00'S 46°40'E], 17.XI.1990, fr., *Dumetz* 1413 (MO, P, TAN); vallée de Fiherenana, 300-500 m, 1-2.VIII.1928, fr., *Humbert & Swingle* 5063 (= *Service Forestier* 50) (P); Betroka, Mont Vohipolaka, 1200-1400 m, XI.1933, ster., *Humbert* 11694ter (P, TAN); Amboasary, entre Andohahela et l'Elakelaka, [24°45'S 46°43'E], 700 m, I-II.1934, fr., *Humbert* 13770 (P); entre Andohahela et l'Elakelaka, mont Apiky, [24°45'30"S 46°43'30"E], 800-900 m, I-II.1934, fr., *Humbert* 13850 (G, P [2 sheets]); Beroroha, bassin de la Malio, [21°58'S 45°15'E], 400-450 m, 23-27.XI.1946, bud, *Humbert* 19403 (P); forêt de Zombitsy, [22°48'S 44°41'E], 600-850 m, 26-29.III.1955, fl. & bud, *Humbert* 29595 (G, MO [2 sheets], P); Beronono-Makay, 21°18'48"S 45°08'55"E, 531 m, 16.I.2010, fr., *Rakotovao et al.* 5117 (MO, P, TAN); PN Andohahela, Isaka Ivondro, 24°48'S 46°52'E, 100-500 m, 16-24.III.1993, *Randriamampionona* 202 (G, MO, P, TAN); PN Andohahela, parcel 3, 25°04'S 46°41'E, 100-300 m, 8-10.IV.1993, y. fr., *Randriamampionona* 285 (G, MO, P, TAN); Andohahela PN, parcel 1, Tsimelahy, 24°50'20"S 46°32'17"E, 6.IV.1996, ster., *Randriamampionona* 1259 (MO, TAN); Sakaraha, Mahaboboka, Ambinanintelo, forêt d'Analavelona, 22°41'14"S 44°09'32"E, 961 m, 3.XII.2016, fr., *Randrianarivony et al.* 745 (MO, P, TAN); PN Andohahela, parcelle n° 3, [25°04'S 46°41'E], 100-300 m, 19.X.1990, fl., *A. Randrianasolo* 181 (MO [2 sheets], P, TAN, TEF); Sakaraha, at start of Kinanamboribory valley, 22°39'44"S 44°11'02"E, 1208 m, 8.XII.2009, fr., *A. Randrianasolo* 1246 (G, MO, P, TAN); Ambatoabo, 5 km N d'Imonty, 24°46'44"S 46°42'56"E, 500 m, 25.XI.2009, fr., *Ratovoson* 1534 (G, K, MO, P, TAN); Betorabato, Abotorabatorano, 21°34'04"S 45°34'34"E, 296 m, 13.I.2011, fr., *Razakamalala* 6000 (G, MO, P, TAN); Ankomaka, [22°36'S 44°02'E], 26.I.1952, fr., *Service Forestier* 4556 (P, TEF); forêt de

Zombitsy, [22°46'S 44°42'E], 24.IV.1953, fl., *Service Forestier* 7757 (P, TEF); env. de Tsimela, S d'Ambatoabo, [24°56'S 46°38'E], 28.IX.1953, fl., *Service Forestier* 8523bis (G, NY, MO, P, TEF); forêt de Zombitsy, [22°46'30"S 44°38'00"E], III.1931, fl., *Service Forestier* 11931 (G, MO, P); Analavelona, [22°40'S 44°10'E], 25.XI.1954, fr., *Service Forestier* 12089 (P, TEF); *ibid. loco*, 28.XI.1954, fr., *Service Forestier* 12140 (P, TEF); Betioky, vallée Sakamarakely, [22°11'S 45°10'E], 14.XI.1954, fr., *Service Forestier* 12362 (P); Zombitsy, [22°46'S 44°42'E], 7.XI.1954, fl., *Service Forestier* 12428 (P [2 sheets], TEF); Ambovombe, Beanantara, [25°03'30"S 46°12'30"E], 17.IX.1955, fl., *Service Forestier* 15656 (P, TEF); Ampolitsy, Beroroha, [21°40'30"S 45°10'E], 16.IV.1956, y. fr., *Service Forestier* 15800 (P, TEF); Amboasary, bush entre Bevilany et Ranomainty, [25°00'S 46°34'E], 1.XII.1961, fr., *Service Forestier* 20481 (P [2 sheets], TEF); crête du massif de l'Angavo, [24°50'30"S 45°48'00"E], c. 500 m, 21.I.1963, fr., *Service Forestier* 22487 (P, TEF); Zombitse, Andranolava, 13.V.1954, ster., *Service Forestier* 27-R-224 (P); Kitranga, Ihosy, 25.VIII.1955, ster., *Service Forestier* 43-R-230 (P); Analavelona, 7.IV.1954, ster., *Service Forestier* 76-R-18 (P); forêt de Zombitsy, 26.II.1955, ster., *Service Forestier* 86-R-161 (P); forêt d'Ihera, 25.IV.1955, ster., *Service Forestier* 104-R-161 (P); *ibid. loco*, 9.IV.1954, ster., *Service Forestier* 108-R-18 (P); Bejangoa, Ankazoabo, 25.V.1954, ster., *Service Forestier* 112-R-13 (P); env. d'Ampandrandava (entre Bekily et Tsvivory), [24°05'S 45°42'E], 1100 m, XI.1942, fl., *Seyrig* 265 (P [2 sheets]); *ibid. loco*, *Seyrig* 265B (MO, P).



Fig. 24.

Abrahamia phillipsonii Randrian. & Lowry. Fruits [Ratovoson et al. 1534]. Photo: F. Ratovoson