A Molecular Phylogeny of Santalaceae (Santalales)

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Abstract—Santalaceae sensu stricto, the type family for the sandalwood order (Santalales), include approximately 40 genera and over 550 species distributed worldwide. Because the family possesses plesiomorphic and generalized traits that occur throughout the order, this diverse assemblage of hemiparasitic plants has been difficult to characterize and differentiate from related families. We present phylogenetic analyses of all genera of Santalaceae, as well as Viscaceae and selected Opiliaceae, using DNA sequences from nuclear small-subunit ribosomal DNA as well as the chloroplast genes matK and rbcL. The concatenated data set, analyzed with parsimony, likelihood, and Bayesian inference, gave congruent results, with the majority of clades fully resolved. Our results reveal that the family is polyphyletic and that the genera of Santalaceae, as traditionally classified, occur in nine well-supported clades. The South American herbaceous perennial genera Arjona and Quinchamalium are sister to Schoepfia (Schoepfiaceae). The Australian genus Anthobolus emerges as a member of Opiliaceae. Viscaceae remain intact and are well supported as monophyletic. The remaining genera included in Santalaceae occur in six well supported clades, but the relationships among these clades are not fully resolved. These clades are, based on a component generic name, Comandra, Thesium, Cervantesia, Nanodea, Santalum and Amphorogyne. Morphological features diagnostic of these clades are discussed with the intention that these results will serve as the foundation for a revised classification.

Keywords—Eremolepidaceae, mistletoe, parasitic plant, sandalwood, Viscaceae.

Santalales include approximately 160 genera and 2200 species distributed worldwide in tropical and temperate regions (Kuijt 1969; Nickrent 1997 - onward). The order is well supported as monophyletic; however, its placement within the global angiosperm phylogeny is unresolved (Soltis et al. 2000; Hilu et al. 2003; Soltis et al. 2003), residing in a polytomy with Berberidopsidales, caryophyllids, Saxifragales, rosids, and asterids (Judd and Olmstead 2004). The Angiosperm Phylogeny Group (APG 2003) classification recognized five families within Santalales: Olacaceae, Loranthaceae, Misodendraceae, Opiliaceae, and Santalaceae sensu lato (including Viscaceae and Eremolepidaceae). Additionally, phylogenetic analyses using nuclear and mitochondrial data indicate that Balanophoraceae are included in Santalales, although the exact phylogenetic placement within the order was not determined (Nickrent et al. 2005). Synapomorphies of Santalales include pendulous ovules on a free-central placenta and the presence of triglycerides with 18-carbon polyunsaturated fatty acids (e.g. ximeninic or santalbic acid). Parasitism likely evolved once in the order, in Olacaceae (Malécot and Nickrent 2008), and this event represents one of 12 independent origins of haustorial parasitism in flowering plants (Nickrent 1997 - onward; Nickrent et al. 1998). Nutritional modes in Santalales vary broadly, ranging from autotrophs to hemiparasites and holoparasites (Balanophoraceae, in the latter case).

Santalaceae sensu stricto include ca. 40 genera and over 550 species as traditionally classified. Previous work showed that Santalaceae sensu stricto are paraphyletic (Nickrent and Duff 1996; Nickrent and Malécot 2001). To maintain monophyly, the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group (2003) considered Santalaceae sensu lato to also include the seven genera and ca. 540 species of Viscaceae, thus making Santalaceae sensu lato the largest family within the order with respect to number of species and the second largest (behind Loranthaceae) with respect to genera. Understanding evolutionary relationships within this group is important because within it three of the five lineages that evolved aerial parasitism occur: "Eremolepidaceae," tribe Amphorogyneae (Santalaceae), and Viscaceae (Nickrent 2002). Aerial parasitism is considered

highly derived and is associated with numerous specialized life history traits. A phylogenetic investigation of this group will allow us to discern the number of transitions to aerial parasitism thus providing insights into the evolution of this fascinating habit. This phylogeny will also provide empirical data for a future revision of the classification of these taxa.

Characteristics of Santalaceae—Santalaceae are distributed world wide, with about half the genera in dry or temperate areas and the other half in humid tropical biomes. Most genera are restricted to either the New World or the Old World, but a few exceptions exist, such as Pyrularia and Buckleya in Asia and eastern North America (Li et al. 2001), Comandra in North America and Europe (Ram 1957), and Thesium with species occurring throughout the Old World and in Brazil (Kuijt 1969). Defined primarily by plesiomorphic and absent characters, Santalaceae have no clear synapomorphies and are difficult to distinguish from other families in Santalales (particularly Opiliaceae). Most species are small woody shrubs or herbaceous perennials, but a few are trees (notably Santalum and Okoubaka). Leaves are simple and usually entire, but may be reduced to scales or spines (Kuijt 1969). Tropical and subtropical species often have thick leathery and persistent leaves while thin deciduous leaves are common in temperate representatives. Some species have dimorphic branches, which may consist of short and long shoots (Acanthosyris) or an alternating series of squamate and foliate branches (Dendromyza and Exocarpos).

Flower size in Santalaceae varies considerably, from small and inconspicuous (e.g. tribe Amphorogyneae) to more showy flowers of moderate size (e.g. *Santalum* and *Quinchamalium*). Generally, a single perianth whorl is present (flowers are thus monochlamydous), but disagreement exists as to the homology of the perianth lobes. They have been interpreted as the calyx where the corolla is lost (Smith and Smith 1943), but fusion of stamens to this floral whorl presents difficulties for this concept. Others have used descriptors such as tepal and perigone (Dawson 1944; Hiepko 2000), but such terms are noncommittal. We interpret the perianth lobes as the corolla, as was done for *Phoradendron* (Kuijt 2003) and Eremolepidaceae (Kuijt 1988). The calyx is reduced and fused

to the wall of the inferior ovary, but in some cases a small remnant (calyculus) is present, such as in Mida (Bhatnagar 1960), Nanodea, and Myoschilos (Dawson 1944). It is most parsimonious to infer that this structure is homologous with the calyculus seen in Loranthaceae, Schoepfiaceae, and Opiliaceae (Stauffer 1961a). Finally, two sets of foliar organs occur at the apex of the female flower of Buckleya distichophylla (Nutt.) Torr. Although the outer, longer ones (deciduous upon fruiting) have been interpreted as bracts (Carvell and Eshbaugh 1982), it is more reasonable to consider these sepals and the inner ones (deciduous at pollination) petals. In most genera the corolla lobes are free or only with a very short floral cup. In other genera, such as Nestronia, Santalum, Jodina, and Comandra, the corolla forms a cup-shaped tube. Arjona and Quinchamalium differ from all other genera in having very long corolla tubes.

Approximately half the genera have strictly bisexual flowers whereas the remaining ones have unisexual flowers in various sexual systems that include dioecy, monoecy, androdioecy, and trioecy. In bisexual and male flowers, stamens are equal in number to, and inserted opposite, each corolla lobe. A tuft of hair is commonly found on the corolla immediately behind the point of stamen insertion. Flowers have a single style at the apex of an inferior, half-inferior or rarely superior ovary. One of the most consistent features of Santalaceae flowers is the presence of a conspicuous lobed floral disc at the base of the style, which often produces copious amounts of nectar (Macklin and Parnell 2002). Ovaries are unilocular, but the chamber may be partially divided at the base, with a short free-central placental stalk bearing one to five pendulous ovules (Smith and Smith 1943), only one of which develops into a seed.

Hemiparasitism has been documented for all but five genera of Santalaceae (Kuijt 1969; Der 2005). Santalaceae are generally not host specific (although there are exceptions) and a single individual may simultaneously parasitize hosts in numerous families, themselves (i.e. autoparasitism) or other individuals of the same species (Rao 1942a; Leopold and Muller 1983; Fineran 1991; Lepschi 1999). Tribe Amphorogyneae includes the whole suite of parasitic habits ranging from obligate root parasites to species variably root and/or stem parasitic (a trophic condition we term *amphiphagous*), twining stem parasites with secondary haustoria (i.e. dendroparasites), and strictly aerially parasitic shrubs (mistletoes).

Eremolepidaceae comprise a group of New World mistletoes that include three genera and 12 species (Kuijt 1988). The rank and systematic placement of this group has been controversial; it has been variously allied with Olacaceae via *Opilia* (Opiliaceae) (Kuijt 1968), Loranthaceae (Kuijt 1988), Santalaceae (Barlow and Wiens 1977), and Viscaceae (Barlow 1964; Bhandari and Vohra 1983). Molecular phylogenetic work placed Eremolepidaceae within Santalaceae (Nickrent and Duff 1996; Nickrent et al. 1998; Nickrent and Malécot 2001).

The mistletoes of Viscaceae have been classified both as a subfamily of Loranthaceae and as a distinct family in their own right. Current phylogenetic hypotheses place a monophyletic Viscaceae in a derived position along a paraphyletic grade of santalaceous genera (Nickrent and Duff 1996; Nickrent et al. 1998; Nickrent and Malécot 2001), which motivated the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group (2003) to include it within Santalaceae.

Classification History of Santalaceae—Santalaceae were first described in Robert Brown's (1810) Prodromus Florae Novae Hollandiae. Brown based his descriptions upon specimens he collected in Australia from 1802–1805 as the naturalist on Matthew Flinder's circumcontinental voyage (Stearn 1960). The next treatment of Santalaceae was that of Hieronymus (1889) who recognized 26 genera which he placed within three tribes: Anthoboleae, Osyrideae, and Thesieae. Hieronymus' classification was adopted by Rendle (1925) and was updated and revised by Pilger (1935), who retained the three tribes but rearranged the generic taxonomy in the family.

Since Pilger's work, subsequent authors have made significant contributions to our understanding of the floristics and generic and tribal relationships within Santalaceae. To date, Pilger's work still represents the most recent generic-level systematic and taxonomic treatment for the family worldwide. Following his revision of *Phacellaria*, Danser (1939) began work on the complex mistletoe genus Henslowia Blume. This genus was split into Dendromyza, Cladomyza, and Hylomyza, and the remaining species were synonymized with Dendrotrophe (Danser 1940, 1955). Stauffer revised Anthoboleae to include Omphacomeria (1959) and erected a fourth tribe, Amphorogyneae (1969) containing three genera segregated from Santaleae (Choretrum, Leptomeria, and Phacellaria). Amphorogyneae also included Spirogardnera, Daenikera, Amphorogyne, and the Indomalayan dendroparasites and mistletoes, including the taxa Danser split from Henslowia (Stauffer 1969; Stearn 1972). The original tribal designation for Amphorogyneae lacked a Latin diagnosis, but was later validly published (Stearn 1972). Recent taxonomic work on the Santalaceae of Thailand resulted in Hylomyza being synonymized with Dufrenoya and Cladomyza being lumped into Dendromyza (Macklin 2000; Macklin and Parnell 2000, 2002). The classification of Santalaceae and related families based on Pilger (1935) and subsequent workers is given in Table 1. Additionally, two new monotypic genera have been discovered in Madagascar and were described and named as Staufferia and Pilgerina (Rogers et al. in press).

The botanical community was deprived of a comprehensive monograph of Santalaceae by the premature death of Hans U. Stauffer in 1965. This group deserves further examination because of the numerous taxonomic additions and changes (above) and because preliminary molecular phylogenetic studies indicate the family is polyphyletic. Here we present the first phylogenetic analysis of Santalaceae and related taxa with comprehensive generic-level sampling. This phylogeny allows us to test family delimitations and to define major subclades to help clarify some of the morphological diversity in this heterogeneous group.

Materials and Methods

Taxon and DNA Sequence Sampling—Representatives of all 40 genera in Santalaceae were sampled, including both new genera from Madagascar (Rogers et al. in press). Additionally, all seven genera in Viscaceae and the three genera classified as "Eremolepidaceae" were included. At least one species from each genus was sampled, but a second species was included for six of the more speciose genera to test their monophyly. Seven of the ten genera in Opiliaceae, Schoepfia (Schoepfiaceae), Misodendrum (Misodendraceae), and Nuytsia (Loranthaceae) were included as outgroup taxa for a total of 57 genera and 63 santalalean species. Voucher information and GenBank accession numbers are given in Appendix 1. In five genera, data for different genes were obtained from two different specimens and combined for phylogenetic analyses (Appendix 1).

Genomic DNA was isolated from herbarium, silica dried, or fresh-frozen plant tissue using a modified CTAB method (Nickrent 1994).

TABLE 1. Comparison of traditional and molecular classifications for Santalaceae and related families. The traditional classification is based on Pilger (1935) with modifications and additions by Danser (1955), Stauffer and Hürlimann (1957), Stauffer (1959, 1968, 1969), Stearn (1972), Hewson and George (1984), Macklin (2000) and Macklin and Parnell (2002). The classification of Viscaceae is after Barlow (1964), Eremolepidaceae follows Kuijt (1988), and Opiliaceae follows Hiepko (1979, 1982, 1985, 1987).

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Osyris L. Pyrularia Michx.	Santalum clade
Pyrularia Michx.	Cervantesia clade
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Rhopalopilia Pierre Urobotrya Stapf.	

Nuclear small-subunit (SSU) rDNA and chloroplast rbcL and matK genes were PCR-amplified and sequenced using the primers and protocols reported in Rogers et al. (in press). Sequence data were not obtained from three samples for the SSU rDNA, one sample for rbcL, and three samples for matK (see Appendix 1).

Phylogenetic Analysis—Sequences were manually aligned using Se-Al v2.0a11 (Rambaut 2004). Alignment was straightforward for the SSU rDNA and rbcL genes, requiring few gaps (indels) for SSU rDNA and none for rbcL. In contrast, matK was much more variable and alignment required the introduction of many gaps. The matK alignment was informed by also examining the sequences translated into amino acids. All of the aligned nucleotide sites were included in phylogenetic analyses. Aligned data matrices are available in TreeBASE (study number S1840).

Datasets for all three genes were analyzed separately and concatenated using maximum parsimony (MP), maximum likelihood (ML; Felsenstein 1973), and Bayesian inference (BI; Yang and Rannala 1997). All trees were rooted specifying Nuytsia as the outgroup and incongruence among genes and optimality criteria was assessed with cut-off values of 75% bootstrap support for MP and ML analyses and 0.95 posterior probability for BI analyses. All heuristic MP searches were performed in PAUP* version 4.0b10 (Swofford 2002) coding gaps as "missing" data, using starting trees generated from 100 random addition sequence replicates holding one tree at each taxon addition step, and tree-bisectionreconnection (TBR) branch swapping. All of the most parsimonious trees were saved and the strict consensus was computed. MP bootstrap (MPBS) analysis was performed on all datasets (10,000 BS replicates using TBR branch swapping on starting trees generated by ten random addition sequence replicates, holding one tree at each step) to assess clade stability in trees recovered in the heuristic MP searches. BS support values are reported for clades found in greater than 50% of the BS replicates. A "MaxTrees" limit of 1000 was imposed to limit the computational run time for the SSU rDNA dataset.

Models of DNA sequence evolution used in ML and BI analyses were evaluated for each gene, codon positions in matK and rbcL and for the nonpartitioned concatenated dataset using the second order Akaike Information Criterion (AICc; Akaike 1974) and the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC; Schwarz 1978) implemented in Modeltest version 3.6 (Posada and Crandall 1998) using maximum likelihood scores estimated from one of the most parsimonious trees found in the heuristic parsimony searches. The total number of alignment sites in each data partition was used as the sample size for AICc and BIC calculations (Posada and Buckley 2004). In choosing a best-fit model of molecular evolution for each partition, the AICc and BIC weights for each model were examined and evidence ratios were calculated with the next-best model (Burnham and Anderson 2002). ML analyses were performed in PHYML version 2.4.4 (Guindon and Gascuel 2003), estimating the best-fit model parameters in the analysis. ML bootstrap (MLBS) analyses were implemented with 1.000 replicates.

Bayesian phylogenetic analyses were performed using the parallel Metropolis-coupled Markov chain Monte Carlo, or "p(MC)3," algorithm in MrBayes version 3.1.2 (Ronquist and Huelsenbeck 2003; Altekar et al. 2004). Codon positions were partitioned in rbcL and matK and the full dataset was separately analyzed partitioned by gene and partitioned by both gene and codon. Model parameters for each data partition were estimated independently as part of the analyses while tree topology and branch length were linked across all data partitions in each analysis. An uninformative flat Dirichlet prior was implemented for all parameters except the nucleotide state frequencies for the second codon position of rbcL, for which the prior was fixed and equal to implement the Jukes-Cantor model. Two simultaneous independent analyses were run, each with six p(MC)3 chains distributed across 12 CPU cores on three nodes of a Linux cluster using the message-passing interface (MPI). Ten million p(MC)³ generations were run in each analysis, with trees and parameter estimates sampled every 1,000 generations and printed to a file. To ensure that the two runs in each analysis had reached convergence and achieved a good sample of the posterior distribution, the average standard deviation of split frequencies was calculated and in all cases had dropped below 0.002 after discarding the first 25% of the sampled generations (2.5 million generations) as burn-in. As the posterior distribution of topologies from each run becomes more similar, this value approaches zero. The Potential Scale Reduction Factor (PSRF) was also examined for model parameters as an additional guide to convergence between the two runs in each analysis. BI posterior probabilities (PP) of clades (i.e. clade credibility values) and tree probabilities were calculated after 2.5 million generations were discarded as burn-in.

RESULTS

Aligned datasets for each gene included 1,829, 1,429, and 1,284 nucleotide sites for SSU rDNA, *rbcL* and *matK*, respectively (of which 240, 303, and 608 of those sites were parsimony informative, respectively). Parsimony analysis resulted in 5,419 most parsimonious trees of length 1,238 for SSU rDNA, eight trees of length 1,235 for *rbcL*, and 60 trees of length 2,813 for *matK*. Strict consensus trees from these analyses are largely congruent, but differ in their level of resolution. The MP strict consensus trees are not shown, but are available in TreeBASE. MPBS values revealed no strongly conflicting clades among the three genes.

For each of the three genes, the concatenated dataset and the first codon position of rbcL , the best-fit model chosen was the general time reversible model (GTR; Tavaré 1986) with a proportion of invariant sites (I) and a gamma distributed rate parameter (Γ ; Yang 1993). The best-fit model for the second codon position of rbcL was the Jukes-Cantor (JC; Jukes and Cantor 1969) model with I + Γ , while the GTR + Γ was the best-fit model for each of the remaining data partitions. For all of these partitions, examination of the AICc and BIC evidence ratios revealed that the best-fit model had AICc and/ or BIC weights that were at least an order of magnitude greater than that of the next-best model implemented in MrBayes.

Log likelihood scores of the ML tree found for each gene were –9357.932, –9224.844, and –15614.733 for SSU rDNA, *rbcL* and *matK*, respectively. Again, MLBS support values and Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP) revealed no strongly conflicting clades among the three genes. ML and Bayesian consensus trees for each gene are not shown but are available via TreeBASE. Analysis of the concatenated threegene data set resulted in no strongly conflicting clades among the MP, ML or BI trees. The MP heuristic search found four most parsimonious trees length 5423 and the log likelihood of the optimal ML tree was –35730.410.

The BI phylogram with maximum parsimony bootstrap (MPBS), maximum likelihood bootstrap (MLBS), and Bayesian posterior probability (PP) values is shown in Fig. 1. The clades will be referenced here based upon a genus that occurs in that clade. In all analyses of the concatenated data set, the genera Arjona and Quinchamalium are strongly supported as sister to the outgroup taxon *Schoepfia* (MPBS and MLBS = 100, PP = 1.0). Anthobolus, another taxon previously considered part of Santalaceae, is placed in the Opilia clade (Opiliaceae), which is strongly supported here as monophyletic (MPBS and MLBS = 100, PP = 1.0). The remaining santalaceous taxa (i.e. members of Santalaceae, Viscaceae, and Eremolepidaceae) are monophyletic (MPBS = 95, MLBS = 87, PP = 1.0) with respect to the outgroup taxa. These taxa form seven strongly supported clades (Fig. 1), all of which have maximum support values (MPBS and MLBS = 100, PP = 1.0). While these clades are well supported and internal nodes within these clades are well resolved, they are separated by relatively short branch lengths and phylogenetic relationships among them are not well supported.

DISCUSSION

Santalaceae are a morphologically, anatomically and embryologically diverse assemblage of hemiparasites that were previously ambiguously defined and were thus difficult to distinguish from other families in Santalales. Smith (1937, p.

14) noted this heterogeneity and suggested the family "perhaps should be divided." Since Pilger's 1935 classification, nine new genera have been newly discovered or newly circumscribed from existing genera: Amphorogyne, Daenikera, Dendromyza, Dufrenoya, Kunkeliella, Okoubaka, Pilgerina, Spirogardnera, and Staufferia. The authors of these genera attempted to incorporate these new taxa within the existing tribal classification, but this sometimes resulted in a violation of tribal trait boundaries. The creation of a fourth tribe by Stauffer (Amphorogyneae; 1969) significantly improved upon Pilger's (1935) classification by moving four genera from Santaleae, but this latter tribe remained extremely heterogeneous. Tribe Amphorogyneae is well supported as monophyletic using molecular data (Fig. 1, Table 1). In contrast, Santaleae and Thesieae are polyphyletic (Table 1). Below we discuss the santalaceous genera in the context of the nine major clades resolved using the concatenated three-gene dataset.

Schoepfia Clade—Previous molecular work has shown that Schoepfia is more closely related to Misodendraceae and Loranthaceae than to Olacaceae (Nickrent and Duff 1996; Nickrent et al. 1998; Malécot and Nickrent 2008). Thus we concur that this taxon should be classified in its own family, Schoepfiaceae Blume following van Tieghem (1896) and Judd et al. (2002). One of the surprising results of the present study was the placement of Arjona and Quinchamalium in a clade with Schoepfia, apart from other Santalaceae. This position is supported by several morphological synapomorphies. For example, floral bracts are fused into a cup that surrounds the base of the flower in both Quinchamalium and Schoepfia. Although they are widely distributed among Santalaceae taxa, poststaminal hairs are present on the corollas of Arjona, Quinchamalium, and Schoepfia. van Tieghem (1896) stated that the origin of these hairs in Arjona and Quinchamalium, as in Schoepfia, are epidermal, in contrast with Santalaceae where the hairs are hypodermal in origin. Johri and Bhatnagar (1960), however, disagree with this interpretation and consider the hairs epidermal in all taxa. All three genera have an inferior ovary with three locules in the lower portion. Moreover, the three genera are distylous. The woody habit of Schoepfia links to section Xylarjona Scottsberg of Arjona that contains small shrubs whose woody shoots form a xylopodium at the base (Pilger 1935). These synapomorphies, as well as strong support from molecular data, provide evidence that this clade of three genera should be classified together. Van Tieghem recognized the affinity of these genera when he stated (1896, p. 577; translated from French): "All things considered, it is thus not far from Santalaceae and very close to Arjonaceae that the family Schoepfiaceae arrives to take a seat in the group which, at this moment, we work to establish. This place is precisely, as mentioned above, that which Blume already assigned to them nearly one half-century ago."

Opilia Clade—Another surprising result of this study was the position of Anthobolus within Opiliaceae. This position is seen in analyses of all three gene partitions separately and of the concatenated data set, strongly supporting this association. In most traditional classifications of Santalaceae, Anthobolus was considered a part of this family and allied with Exocarpos. Indeed, tribe Anthoboleae was erected by Stauffer (1959) to accommodate these two genera as well as Omphacomeria. As shown below, Exocarpos and Omphacomeria were resolved as part of the Santalum clade (Fig. 1, Table 1), thus

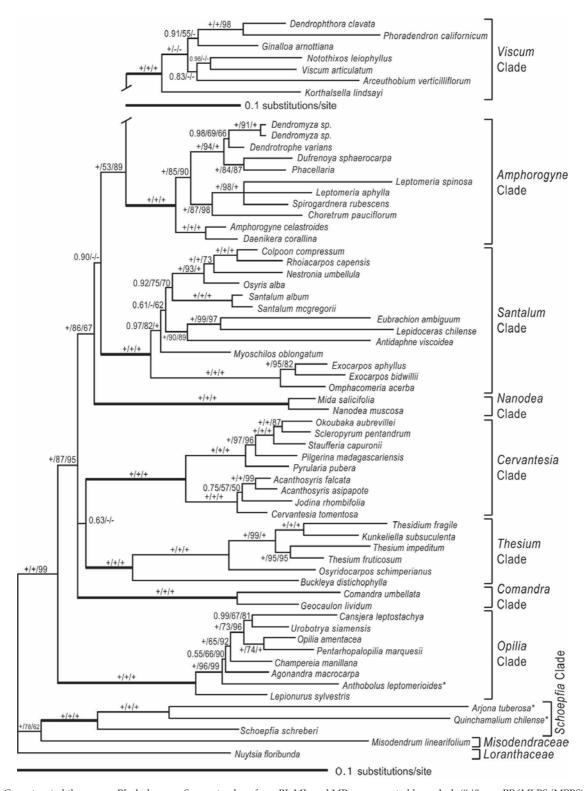


Fig. 1. Concatenated three-gene BI phylogram. Support values from BI, ML and MP are separated by a slash ("/", e.g. PP/MLBS/MPBS). Bayesian posterior probabilities of 1.00 and bootstrap support values of 100% are indicated with "+" and support values less than 0.50 or 50% are indicated with "-". Fully supported branches leading to each of the nine clades described in the text are shown in bold. Long branches of the *Viscum* Clade (i.e. Viscaceae) have been scaled to better fit the page and are given their own substitution scale bar. Asterisks (*) denote taxa previously considered members of Santalaceae, but which are most closely related to outgroup taxa.

with *Anthobolus* in Opiliaceae, no members remain in tribe Anthoboleae.

A feature purported to be a synapomorphy for *Anthobolus* and *Exocarpos* is a swollen peduncle that subtends the fruit. Given the molecular results, this feature is likely to have

evolved independently in the two genera. A swollen pedicel is also present in some species of *Thesium* (Hendrych 1972). *Anthobolus* is restricted to Australia whereas *Exocarpos* is much more widespread, occurring in Australia, Papua New Guinea, southeast Asia, New Zealand, and Hawaii (Stauffer

1959), similar to the distribution of *Santalum* occurring throughout India, Australia, and the Pacific Islands (Harbaugh and Baldwin 2006, 2007). An apparent synapomorphy for Opiliaceae is the presence of cystoliths in the leaf epidermis (Hiepko 2000), but this anatomical feature was not observed in *Anthobolus leptomerioides* (Nickrent, pers. obs.). All species in the genus should be examined to confirm the absence of this character, which could then be interpreted as an evolutionary loss in the genus.

Comandra Clade—Comandra and Geocaulon are strongly supported as sister and form a clade among the basal Santalaceae polytomy. Geocaulon is restricted to north temperate and arctic North America and Comandra has a disjunct distribution in North America and Europe. Both genera are monotypic and quite similar in habit, with short (up to 30 cm) herbaceous upright flowering stalks that arise from a creeping rhizome. Geocaulon is distinguished from Comandra by having monoecious inflorescences (versus bisexual flowers in Comandra) and a thin herbaceous rhizome (versus a thick woody rhizome). Comandra was described in 1818 by Nuttall, from which C. lividum was subsequently segregated as Geocaulon lividum (Fernald 1928). Johri and Bhatnagar (1960) suggested that Comandra was distinctive enough from other groups in Santalaceae that it should be recognized at the tribal level (Comandreae) based on embryology and details of the ovary and placenta, which corroborated a tribal designation proposed by Van Tieghem (1896).

Thesium Clade—Buckleya, Kunkeliella, Osyridocarpos, Thesidium, and Thesium form a well supported clade with fully resolved generic relationships. Buckleya, which is sister to the remaining taxa in this clade, is a small tree with a fleshy fruit. Osyridocarpos and Kunkeliella are small shrubs while the remaining two genera (Thesidium and Thesium) show a trend toward the herbaceous habit with many subshrubs, herbaceous perennials, and annuals. The *Thesium* clade is primarily African in distribution, with Thesidium endemic to South Africa. The four species of Kunkeliella are rare and endangered endemics of the Canary Islands (Francisco-Ortega et al. 2000). The inclusion of *Kunkeliella* in this group with the majority of tribe Thesieae is not surprising considering that Stearn (1972) noted its remarkable similarity with Osyridocarpos and Thesium. Stearn even suggested that this new taxon might represent a new section of Thesium given that it has a fleshy fruit that is rare in Thesieae and is more characteristic of tribe Santaleae. Osyridocarpos is found in tropical and southern Africa and *Thesium* reaches its peak diversity in southern Africa, but extends throughout the Old World and Australia with a few species in Brazil. Buckleya has a distribution unlike all the other members of this clade, and is found disjunct between North America and China and Japan. The basal position of *Buckleya* in this clade has interesting implications for the biogeography of this group because its four species form two pairs - China with eastern North America and China with Japan (Li et al. 2001).

Cervantesia Clade—This clade includes six closely allied genera that have traditionally been classified in tribe Santaleae (Scleropyrum, Okoubaka, Pyrularia, Cervantesia, Jodina, and Acanthosyris), as well as two newly named genera from Madagascar, Staufferia and Pilgerina (Rogers et al. in press). Within this clade there are two well supported subclades. The first (Cervantesia subclade) includes Acanthosyris, Cervantesia, and Jodina, and is well supported as monophyletic (MPBS and MLBS = 100, PP = 1.0). However, the pattern of

divergence among these three genera is not clear. This subclade is strictly South American in distribution. The second (*Pyrularia*) subclade contains the remaining genera and is also well supported (MPBS and MLBS= 100, PP = 1.0), but in this case is fully resolved. Most genera in the *Pyrularia* subclade are distributed in the Old World tropics whereas *Pyrularia* has one species in eastern North America and two in Asia (similar to the distribution of *Buckleya*). Characteristics of the *Cervantesia* clade are that its members are small to large trees that have large drupaceous fruits with a stony pit. The close affinities of the genera in each of these subclades were recognized by Stauffer (1957, 1961b) in his *Santalales Studien* series.

Nanodea Clade—Mida and Nanodea form a robust clade (MPBS and MLBS = 100, PP = 1.0) in an intermediate position among the other santalaceous clades. Both genera are monotypic and have historically been classified in tribe Santaleae. These genera are both woody, but Mida is a tree to 8 m high, while Nanodea is a diminutive subshrub with a much branched creeping and cushion-like growth form in cold temperate Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego and the Islas Malvinas. Mida has a disjuct distribution between New Zealand (M. salicifolia) and the Juan Fernandez Islands (M. fernandeziana). Pilger (1935) showed Nanodea and Mida to be distantly related within Santaleae. Pilger allied Mida with the genera Fusanus and Eucarya, two genera that have more recently been included within Santalum. These molecular results show that Mida is not closely related to the sandalwoods, as asserted by Skottsberg (1930).

Santalum Clade—Tribe Santaleae (syn. tribe Osyrideae in Pilger 1935) is the most heterogeneous group within the traditional Santalaceae. Stauffer and Hürlimann (1957) alluded to this and stated that it was not a natural assemblage and was comprised of several distinct generic groupings within the tribe. Stauffer (1969) began a formal subdivision when he established tribe Amphorogyneae. This heterogeneity has been the source of much taxonomic confusion and many authors have reorganized the taxa in this traditional tribe in different ways (Van Tieghem 1896; Pilger 1935; Rao 1942b; Smith and Smith 1943; Johri and Bhatnagar 1960). The molecular analyses presented in this study further corroborate the polyphyletic nature of Santaleae (Table 1).

The Santalum clade includes 11 genera that represent parts of tribe Santaleae (including the type genus, Santalum), the mistletoes of Eremolepidaceae (Antidaphne, Eubrachion, and Lepidoceras), and Exocarpos and Omphacomeria, formerly of the now defunct tribe Anthoboleae. This clade is strongly supported but relationships among its various subclades are sometimes poorly resolved. Basalmost is the clade containing Exocarpos and Omphacomeria. As discussed above, Omphacomeria is an Australian endemic whereas Exocarpos is much more widespread throughout the Pacific and Indomalaya. The presence of Exocarpos at the base of this clade has significance with regard to the evolution of aerial parasitism. Although most species of *Exocarpos* are root parasitic shrubs and trees, some such as *E. pullei* of New Guinea can parasitize stems or roots (Lam 1945). It is hypothesized that the gene complexes necessary for the evolution of aerial parasitism may already be in place in such amphiphagous taxa (i.e. some degree of preadaptation). The three eremolepidaceous genera are all stem parasitic mistletoes and their monophyly suggests that the full manifestation of stem parasitism evolved in their common ancestor. Although not strongly

supported, the topology of the tree suggests these New World tropical mistletoes may share a most recent common ancestor with *Myoschilos* of South America.

The next well supported clade includes the basal-most *Santalum* lineage sister to a clade with three mainly African genera (*Colpoon, Osyris, Rhoiacarpos*) and the North American endemic *Nestronia*. These four genera have a very similar overall vegetative and floral morphology, being small shrubs with leathery leaves and polygamous/dioecious flowers arranged in small axillary cymes. Determining how *Nestronia* arrived in North America from Africa would make a fascinating biogeographic study.

Santalum, the type genus of Santalaceae, includes 15 extant species, 14 varieties, and one recently extinct species distributed from Australia to India and the Pacific (Harbaugh and Baldwin 2007). Santalum species are small trees or shrubs with opposite leathery or fleshy leaves, bisexual 4–5-merous flowers and spherical drupaceous fruits with a thin exocarp. Santalum album is well known for its fragrant heartwood oil and has been cultivated throughout its range. Molecular studies indicate the genus has a complex history of hybridization, allopolyploidy, and long-distance dispersal that have influenced its biogeographic pattern of genetic variation (Harbaugh and Baldwin 2006). The genus apparently originated in Australia followed by several long-distance dispersal and colonization events to and among Pacific islands, including Hawaii (Harbaugh and Baldwin 2007).

Amphorogyne Clade—This well supported clade is equivalent to tribe Amphorogyneae. Stauffer (1969) recognized the relative distinctiveness of these taxa by the presence of unusual anthers and placentae. The anthers have anterior and posterior locules of unequal size that are born on short and stout or nearly absent filaments. Each thecum dehisces transversely independently, in contrast to other Santalaceae where anther dehiscence is along a single longitudinal slit common to the two thecal locules. Additionally, the placenta is short to nearly absent and more strongly associated with the ovary tissue in this clade. The ovules are borne in (typically five) pockets at the base of the ovarian locule, in contrast to the stalked placental column with or without basal ovarian pockets in other Santalaceae.

Relationships within the Amphorogyne clade are fully resolved and three main lineages present an interesting combination of trophic modes. The first clade, sister to the remaining genera, contains Amphorogyne and Daenikera, both New Caledonian endemics. Amphorogyne is a root parasitic tree whereas Daenikera is amphiphagous and has undergone extreme reduction in habit (Stauffer 1969). The next clade is composed of Choretrum, Leptomeria, and Spirogardnera, all of which are root parasites endemic to Australia. The remaining genera in the third clade show a variety of trophic modes. Some species of *Dendrotrophe* are root parasitic lianas whose aerial stems clamber through the vegetation (but form no aerial haustoria), whereas other species are mistletoes. Further work is needed to determine whether some species are amphiphagous. Dendromyza species are adapted to aerial parasitism (as evidenced by their seed morphology) and after initial attachment, form secondary haustorial connections to the host from their twining branches. The growth form of these plants is referred to as dendroparasitic and is reminiscent of that of Cassytha (Lauraceae) or dodder (Cuscuta). Finally, the genera *Dufrenoya* and *Phacellaria* are true mistletoes that have primary haustorial connections to the host but do

not form epicortical roots (as in Loranthaceae) or haustorial twining stems (as in *Dendromyza*). Indeed, *Phacellaria* is a highly advanced squamate mistletoe that is an obligate epiparasite on other mistletoes in Loranthaceae and Santalaceae.

The Amphorogyne clade is curiously fractal with regard to trophic mode when compared to the Santalales as a whole or Santalaceae in particular. One can observe the following trend as having evolved more than once (with all or only some of the stages present in extant species): a) root parasite b) amphiphagous parasite, c) dendroparasite, d) leafy mistletoe, and e) squamate mistletoe. For example, in the Amphorogyne clade, the stages are represented by a) Amphorogyne, Choretrum, etc.; b) Daenikera and possibly Dendrotrophe; c) Dendromyza; d) Dufrenoya and e) Phacellaria. In the Santalum clade, these stages can be seen as a) Myoschilos, d) Antidaphne and Lepidoceras, and e) Eubrachion. The trend toward the replacement of foliar leaves with scale leaves (the squamate habit) is also accompanied by decreasing photosynthetic ability, a trend that appears to have happened twice in the Amphorogyne clade – Daenikera compared with Amphorogyne and Phacellaria compared with Dufrenoya. Although derived parasites such as Daenikera (Hürlimann and Stauffer 1957; Stauffer 1969) and Phacellaria (Danser 1939) approach holoparasitism, it appears that all have retained some photosynthetic ability. As suggested in Nickrent et al. (1998), holoparasitism may not be compatible with the aerially parasitic habit, thus adding constraint upon this evolutionary direction.

Viscum Clade—This well supported clade is equivalent to the family Viscaceae and has long been recognized as a distinct monophyletic group of mistletoes based on morphological, embryological, cytological, anatomical, and molecular data (Barlow 1964; Kuijt 1968, 1969; Barlow and Wiens 1971; Barlow 1983; Bhandari and Vohra 1983; Nickrent et al. 1998; Kuijt 2003). This clade also includes a number of economically important forest pathogenic species (Arceuthobium spp.) and well-known commercial species, specifically the Christmas mistletoes (mainly Viscum album in Europe and Phoradendron serotinum in the U.S.).

The clades recovered within Viscaceae in this study do not conflict with previous MP results that sampled the same taxa but fewer genes (Nickrent et al. 1998; Nickrent and Malécot 2001). DNA sequences for Viscaceae are highly divergent from those in Santalaceae (especially matK), presenting challenges to alignment and contributing to longer branches in this group. Three clades are consistently seen (in single gene and combined analyses), Viscum and Notothixos, Ginalloa and Korthalsella, and Phoradendron and Dendrophthora, while Arceuthobium has assumed different positions in the various analyses, but never with strong support. The position of Korthalsella in the three gene BI analysis is anomalous. In our analysis the matK sequence for Korthalsella was highly divergent (an average of 60% amino acid similarity with other Viscaceae) and contributed significantly to destabilizing clades within Viscaceae.

Following earlier molecular phylogenetic studies with incomplete taxon sampling in Santalaceae, the notion was still viable that Viscaceae shared a most recent common ancestor with the mistletoes of the Amphorogyne clade. That scenario would suggest one, not two, origins of the mistletoe habit in that portion of the phylogenetic tree. The results from the current phylogenetic investigation clearly support the concept that these mistletoes evolved independently. It is less

parsimonious to assume that the ancestor of Viscaceae and the Amphorogyne clade was a mistletoe because this would require several reversions to root parasitism, e.g. in the *Choretrum* and *Dendrotrophe* clades. Because the mistletoe habit is accompanied by many morphological specializations, this reversal seems unlikely. A more reasonable reconstruction for the common ancestor of the Viscaceae and the *Amphorogyne* clades might be an amphiphagous hemiparasite. Such plasticity may have provided this parasite with opportunities to adapt to a variety of environmental situations by facultatively parasitizing both roots and stems.

With comprehensive generic-level sampling in Santalaceae and relatives, and with DNA sequences for three genes, strong patterns of evolutionary relationships have emerged. The well supported clades found in this study represent several groups that (in most cases) are easier to diagnose and differentiate than the previous Santalaceae sensu lato. These results provide a much clearer concept of phylogenetic relationships and patterns of morphological divergence in the family and will greatly aid a future taxonomic revision.

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APPENDIX 1. Voucher information for taxa used in this study. Voucher information is listed as follows: taxon name, collection locality, collector(s) name and number (herbarium), Nickrent voucher accession number, Genbank accession numbers for the three loci: nuclear small-subunit ribosomal DNA, rbcL, matK; sequences not obtained indicated by N/A. Sequences for different genes were obtained from different specimens and concatenated in three gene analyses for Dendrotrophe, Phacellaria, Schoepfia, Misodendrum, and Viscum. Asterisk (*) indicates a new sequence published in this study.

Ingroup—Santalaceae. Acanthosyris asipapote M. Nee, Bolivia, M. Nee & I. Vargas 45009 (NY), 4051, DQ329163, DQ329171, DQ329193. Acanthosyris falcata Griseb., Bolivia, M. Nee 46690 (NY), 4053, DQ329164, DQ329172, DQ329183. Amphorogyne celastroides Stautfer & Hurl., New Caledonia, McPherson 18051 (MO), 4564, EF584571*, N/A, EF584614*. Anthobolus leptomerioides F. Muell., Australia, B. Lepschi & Craven 4352 (PERTH), 4311, EF584572*, EF584589*, EF584615*. Antidaphne viscoidea Poeppig & Endlicher, Costa Rica, S. Sargent S.N. (SIU), 2730, L24080, L26068, EF464500. Arjona tuberosa Cav., Argentina, J. Puntieri S.N. (SIU), 4566, EF464468, EF464532, EF464513. Buckleya distichophylla Torrey, U.S.A, L. J. Musselman

S.N. (SIU), 2735, X16598, DO329180, DO329191, Cervantesia tomentosa Ruíz & Pavon, Bolivia, L. J. Dorr & L. C. Barnett 6941 (MO), 4273, DQ329165, DQ329173, DQ329184. Choretrum pauciflorum A. DC., Australia, B. Lepschi, T. R. Lally & B. R. Murray 4237 (PERTH), 4222, EF584573*, EF464522, EF464503. Colpoon compressum Berg., South Africa, D. L. Nickrent, K. Steiner & A. Wolfe 4084 (SIU), 4084, EF584574*, EF584590*, EF584616*. Comandra umbellata (L.) Nutt., U.S.A, G. Tonkovitch S.N. (SIU), 2739, DQ329170, DQ329181, DQ329192. Daenikera corallina Hürlimann & Stauffer, New Caledonia, J. Munzinger 2054 (MO), 4876, EF464462, EF464523, EF464504. Dendromyza sp. (Pilger) Stauffer, Papua New Guinea, D. L. Nickrent & R. Banka 4466 (LAE), 4466, EF464463, EF464524, EF464505. Dendromyza sp. (Pilger) Stauffer, Papua New Guinea, D. L. Nickrent & R. Banka 4483 (LAE), 4483, N/A, EF584591*, N/A. Dendrotrophe varians (Blume) Miq., Malaysia, D. L. Nickent & C. Calvin 4014 (SIU), 4014, N/A, N/A, EF464501. Dendrotrophe varians (Blume) Miq., Australia, D. L. Nickrent 2827 (SIU), 2827, L24087, EF464520, N/A. Dufrenoya sphaerocarpa (Danser) Stauffer, Indonesia, G. G. Hambali S.N. (no voucher), 2754, AF039071, EF584592*, EF584617*. Eubrachion ambiguum (Hooker & Arnott) Engler, Puerto Rico, D. L. Nickrent, D. Clark & P. Clark 2699 (SIU), 2699, L24141, L26071, EF464498. Exocarpos aphyllus R. Br., Australia, A. Markey S.N. (SIU), 3094, EF584575*, EF584593*, EF584618*. Exocarpos bidwillii Hook., New Zealand, B. Molloy S.N. (SIU), 2745, L24142, EF584594*, EF584619*. Geocaulon lividum (Rich.) Fern., U.S.A, J. Fetzner S.N. (SIU), 3047, AF039072, EF584595*, EF584620*. Jodina rhombifolia (Hook. & Arn.) Reiss., Bolivia, M. Nee 46673 (NY), 4052, DQ329166, DQ329174, DQ329185. Kunkeliella subsucculenta S. Guerra, Canary Islands, A. S. Guerra S.N. (SIU), 4374, EF584576*, EF584596*, EF584621*. Lepidoceras chilense (Molina) Kuijt, Chile, C. Marticorena & R. Rodríguez 10043 (CONC), 4065, EF464459, EF464519, EF464499. Leptomeria aphylla R. Br., Australia, B. Lepschi & Whalen 4875 (PERTH), 4609, N/A, EF584597*, EF584622*. Leptomeria spinosa (Miq.) A. DC., Australia, A. Markey S.N. (SIU), 3081, EF464460, EF464521, EF464502. Mida salicifolia A. Cunn., New Zealand, C. C. Ogle 3413 (CANB), 4233, EF584577*, EF584598*, EF584623*. Myoschilos oblongatum Ruíz & Pavón, Argentina, R. Vidal-Russell S.N. (SIU), 4504, EF584578*, EF584599*, EF584624*. Nanodea muscosa Banks ex C.F. Gaertn., Argentina, L. Collado S.N. (no voucher), 4893, EF584579*, EF584600*, EF584625*. Nestronia umbellula Raf., U.S.A, L. J. Musselman S.N. (SIU), 2736, L24399, EF584601*, EF584626*. Okoubaka aubrevillei Pellegr. & Normand, Cameroon, M. Cheek 6007 (K), 4173, N/A, DQ329175, DQ329186. Omphacomeria acerba (R. Br.) A. DC., Australia, B. Lepschi & B.R. Murray 4213 (PERTH), 4221, EF584580*, EF584602*, EF584627*. Osyridocarpos schimperianus (Hochst.) A. DC., South Africa, D. L. Nickrent 4110 (SIU), 4110, EF584581*, EF584603*, EF584628*. Osyris alba L., Spain, D. L. Nickrent, A. Aparicio & I. Sanchez García 4062 (SIU), 4062, EF584582*, EF584604*, AY042623. Phacellaria compressa Benth., Thailand, J. F. Maxwell 91-242 (HU), 4911, N/A, N/A, EF584629*. Phacellaria rigidula Benth., China, Yulong Ding S.N. (SIU), 5042, EF584583*, EF584605*, N/A. Pilgerina madagascariensis Z.S. Rogers, Nickrent & Malécot, Madagascar, R. Rabevohitra, J. Rabenantoandro & R. Razakamalala 4485 (MO), 4954, DQ329169, DQ329178, DQ329189. Pyrularia pubera Michx., U.S.A, L. J. Musselman S.N. (SIU), 2737, L24415, DQ329179, EF464507. Quinchamalium chilense Lam., Argentina, R. Vidal-Russell S.N. (SIU), 4503, EF464469, EF464533, EF464514. Rhoiacarpos capensis A. DC., South Africa, D. L. Nickrent & G. Marx 4117 (SIU), 4117, EF584584*, EF584606*, EF584630*. Santalum album L., India, R. Narayana S.N. (no voucher), 2734, L24416, L26077, AY957453. Santalum macgregorii F. Muell., Papua New Guinea, D. L. Nickrent & J. Beko 4499 (LAE), 4499, EF584585*, EF584607*, EF584631*. Scleropyrum pentandrum (Dennst.) Mabberley, Thailand, S. Suddee, A. Paton, T. Jonganurak, & V. Chamchurmroon 1007 (DBN), 4347, DQ329167, DQ329176, DQ329187. Spirogardnera rubescens Stauffer, Australia, S. Patrick S.N. (SIU), 4996, EF464458, EF464518, EF464497. Staufferia capuronii Z.S. Rogers, Nickrent & Malécot, Madagascar, R. Randrianaivo, A. Ratodimanana, T. Razafindrabeaza, H. Rajanatsoa, P. Rakotondramanza & O. Rabozanahary 825 (MO), 4956, DQ329168, DQ329177, DQ329188. Thesidium fragile Sond., South Africa, D. L. Nickrent & A. Wolfe 4102 (SIU), 4102, EF584586*, EF584608*, EF584632*. Thesium fruticosum Hill, South Africa, D. L. Nickrent & E. Brink 4115 (SIU), 4115, EF584587*, EF584609*, EF584633*. Thesium impeditum Hill, South Africa, K. Steiner S.N. (no voucher), 2845, L24423, EF584610*, EF584634*. Viscaceae. Arceuthobium verticilliflorum Engelm., Mexico, D. L. Nickrent & A. Flores 2065 (SIU), 2065, L24042, L26067, N/A. Dendrophthora clavata (Benth.) Urb., Colombia, M. Melampy S.N. (SIU), 2182, L24086, L26069, EF584636*. Ginalloa arnottiana Korth., Malaysia, Yii et al. S.52260 (SAR), 2965, L24144, L26070, EF584637*. Korthalsella lindsayi (D. Oliv.) Engl., New Zealand, B. Molloy S.N. (SIU), 2740, L24150, L26073, EF584638*. Notothixos leiophyllus Schumann, Australia, D. L. Nickrent 2785 (SIU), 2785, L24402, EF584612*, N/A. Phoradendron californicum Nutt., U.S.A, J. Paxton S.N. (SIU), 2689, AF039070, EF584613*, EF584639*. Viscum articulatum Burman, Australia, D. L. Nickrent 2812 (SIU), 2812, L24427, EF464517, N/A. Viscum articulatum Burman, Australia, D. L. Nickrent 2782 (SIU), 2782, N/A, N/A, EF464496.

Outgroup—Schoepfiaceae. Schoepfia schreberi Gmel., Bahamas, D. L. Nickrent 2599 (SIU), 2599, L24418, L11205, N/A. Schoepfia schreberi Gmel., Costa Rica, R. Vidal-Russell S.N. (SIU), 4915, N/A, N/A, DQ787447. Misodendraceae. Misodendrum linearifolium A. DC, Argentina, D. E. Bran S.N. (SIU), 2829, L24397, L26074, N/A. Misodendrum linearifolium A. DC, Chile, G. Amico S.N. (SIU), 4591, N/A, N/A, DQ787438. Loranthaceae. Nuytsia floribunda (Labill.) R. Br. ex G. Don, Australia, B. Lamont S.N. (SIU), 2747, DQ790103, DQ790134, DQ787446. Opiliaceae. Agonandra macrocarpa L. O. Williams, Costa Rica, D. L. Nickrent & E. Olson 2764 (SIU), 2764, L24079, DQ790130, DQ790169. Cansjera leptostachya Benth., Australia, D. L. Nickrent 2815 (SIU), 2815, L24084, DQ790128, DQ790167. Champereia manillana Bl., S. E. Asia, W. Forstreuter S.N. (SIU), 3014, L24746, DQ790129, DQ790168. Lepionurus sylvestris Bl., Indonesia, G. Hambali S.N. (no voucher), 2879, DQ790101, DQ790131, DQ790170. Opilia amentacea Roxb., Australia, D. L. Nickrent 2816 (SIU), 2816, L24407, L2076, AY042621. Pentarhopalopilia marquesii (Engl.) Hiepko, Gabon, J. J. F. E. deWilde & R. W. deWilde-Bakhuizen 11212 (MO), 4180, DQ790102, DQ790127, DQ790166. Urobotrya siamensis Hiepko, Thailand, Geesink, Hiepko & Maxwell 7807 (BHU), 4369, EF584588*, EF584611*, EF584635*.