Section *Mimadenia*: its phylogenetic relationships within the genus *Mimosa* (Leguminosae, Mimosoideae) using plastid *trn*L–F sequence data

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Abstract. *Mimosa* L. includes more than 530 species and is subdivided into five sections, including *Mimadenia* Barneby, *Batocaulon* DC., *Habbasia* DC., *Calothamnos* Barneby and *Mimosa*. It has previously been proposed that *Mimosa* is derived from piptadenioid ancestors and that section *Mimadenia* is a morphological group intermediate between the piptadenoid ancestor and the remaining species from *Mimosa*. The main goals of the present study were to assess the monophyly of the genus *Mimosa* as it is currently described, including representatives of all five sections, test the previous evolutionary hypothesis that section *Mimadenia* is primitive within *Mimosa* and discuss the infrageneric classification from a phylogenetic view. We report a phylogenetic analysis of chloroplast nucleotide sequences of the *trnL* intron and the *trnL-trnF* intergenic spacer from 36 species of *Mimosa*, and six related genera. Our analysis indicated that genus *Mimosa* is monophyletic, and the species of section *Mimadenia* constitute a clade sister to the rest of the genus. Although section *Mimadenia*, as described by Barneby (1991), seems to be monophyletic, the remaining sections Barneby (1991) proposed are not resolved as monophyletic. An effort needs to be made towards a new infrageneric classification of *Mimosa* that considers the phylogenetic evidence.

Additional keywords: cpDNA, Mimadenia, Mimosa, Leguminosae, phylogeny.

Introduction

Mimosa L. is a large pantropical genus of ~530 species (~704 taxa), with most of its diversity occurring at low and middle elevations in tropical regions of America (Barneby 1991; Du Puy *et al.* 2002). However, an important number of species are distributed in warm climates in the USA, north of Argentina and south of Uruguay (Barneby 1991; Frodin 2004). The origin of the genus was proposed to be in South America (Polhill *et al.* 1981) and the main centres of diversity are in Brazil (south of Amazonia) and adjacent areas of Paraguay and Mexico (central and southern Mexico).

Generic classification in *Mimosa* has been conflicting. The first comprehensive taxonomic revision of *Mimosa* was proposed by Bentham (1875, 1876); a classification by Britton and Rose (1928) was largely ignored. Bentham recognised two sections in the genus, including (1) *Mimosa*, with haplostemonous flowers, and (2) *Habbasia* DC., with diplostemonous flowers, each organised in infrasectional ranks. Barneby (1991) presented a new taxonomic treatment of *Mimosa* and recognised the following five sections: *Mimadenia* Barneby, *Batocaulon* DC., *Habbasia* DC., *Calothamnos* Barneby and *Mimosa*.

In Barneby's taxonomic treatment, a hypothetical phylogeny based on morphological characters was presented. According to this hypothesis *Mimosa* was derived from piptadenioid ancestors (Barneby 1991). The presence of petiolar nectaries, ovate anthers, and plants that are trees to woody vines, features that are plesiomorphic in an evolutionary context, led him to suggest that sect. *Mimadenia* should be considered the most primitive within the group (see Fig. 1).

According to Barneby (1991), the other groups of *Mimosa* were derived from sect. *Mimadenia* (Fig. 1). Of these groups, he suggested that section *Batocaulon* was the first to differentiate, mainly on the basis of the setae type, rather than the type of androecium (haplostemonous/diplostemonous). It was also proposed that sections *Habbasia* and *Calothamnos* were derived from section *Batocaulon* (Fig. 1). The haplostemonous representatives of section *Calothamnos* present a derived trait in comparison with *Batocaulon* species; the rudimentary inner set of filaments led Barneby to suggest that the section *Calothamnos* was derived from the diplostemonous section *Batocaulon*.

Barneby stated that in section *Habbasia*, capitate inflorescences, tetramerous flowers, broad plurinerved stipules



Fig. 1. Evolutionary hypothesis proposed by Barneby (1991).

and setose indumentums must have been stabilised before speciation. Following his evolutionary hypothesis (Fig. 1), section *Habbasia* can be interpreted as a derived group from section *Batocaulon*. Finally, section *Mimosa*, in Barneby's (1991) scheme, shows the most derived features; the representatives of this section are subshrubs to herbs, and show reduction of the leaf, craspedodromous leaflet venation and reduction of petal and androecial numbers (Barneby 1991).

A previous study on the phylogeny of *Mimosa*, based on sequences of the *trnL* intron and *trnL*–F intergenic spacer (Bessega *et al.* 2008), indicated that the genus is monophyletic; however, the study of Bessega *et al.* (2008) lacked representatives of section *Mimadenia*. Moreover, that study did not suggest that the four other sections included were natural groups. The species assigned to the sections *Habbasia* and *Batocaulon* were shown as basal and did not constitute differentiated clades. The species analysed from section *Mimosa* and those from section *Calothamnos* were intermingled in the same clade, suggesting that the limits of the sections *Mimosa* and *Calothamnos* required further examination.

The main goal of the present study was to use sequence data from *trnL* intron and *trnL*–F intergenic spacer to

- (1) assess the monophyly of the genus *Mimosa* as it is currently described, and including representatives of all five sections;
- (2) test the previous evolutionary hypothesis that section *Mimadenia* is basal within *Mimosa*; and
- (3) identify whether the sections described are natural groups.

For this purpose, representatives from section *Mimadenia*, which were not considered in previous studies, are included and analysed simultaneously with representatives from sections *Batocaulon*, *Habbasia*, *Mimosa* and *Calothamnos*. We present molecular phylogenetic reconstructions for *Mimosa* and some allied genera, by using maximum parsimony and Bayesian inference methods to analyse previously published DNA sequences from plastid *trn*L–F regions (Jobson and Luckow (2007) and Bessega *et al.* (2008)).

Materials and methods

Sequence data

The *trnL* intron and the *trnL-trnF* intergenic spacer regions previously sequenced by present authors or those that were publicly available in GenBank were analysed for a total of 43 taxa belonging to *Mimosa* and allied genera. The matrix here analysed included 36 species from *Mimosa*, representing the five sections described by Barneby (1991), namely *Mimosa*, *Habbasia*, *Calothamnos*, *Batocaulon* and *Mimadenia*, and

seven taxa that were considered outgroups (Table 1). The outgroups included here represent different genera of tribe Mimoseae and the related tribe Mimozygantheae (Fortunato 2005; Luckow 2005). The choice of outgroups was based on previously published phylogenetic reconstructions (Luckow *et al.* 2003; Jobson and Luckow 2007; Bessega *et al.* 2008) and morphological criteria.

Sequence alignment and phylogenetic analysis

Multiple alignment of DNA sequences was accomplished with the CLUSTALX ver. 1.8 (Thompson *et al.* 1997), followed by minor manual corrections. Both DNA regions were merged in WinClada (Nixon 1999). Uncertain positions located near primer annealing sites and regions in which the alignment was ambiguous were excluded from the dataset. Gaps were treated as missing data in analyses and indels were not coded as additional characters.

Parsimony analysis was conducted with NONA (Goloboff 1998), included in the WinClada software (Nixon 1999), by using 1000 random addition sequences, tree bisections and reconnections (TBR), holding 100 trees per replicate and attempting to swap to completion. Characters were considered unordered and equally weighed. The bootstrap analysis used 1000 replications, each with 10 random additions, holding 10 in each replicate, with a maximum of 100 trees saved per replication and mapped to the majority consensus tree.

Bayesian phylogenetic inference was performed with the program Mr Bayes ver. 3.1.2 (Huelsenbeck and Ronquist 2001; Ronquist and Huelsenbeck 2003). The most appropriate model of sequence evolution was determined with the program Modelltest 3.7 (Posada and Crandall 1998) on the basis of the Akaike information criterion (AIC) (Posada and Buckley 2004), and the general time-reversible model (GTR+G) was chosen for the analysis. The chains were run for 2 000 000 generations, sampling every 100 generations. Adequate mixing (sampling of tree and parameter space) was judged by movement among chains and by convergence among independent runs with different starting points (Huelsenbeck et al. 2002). Inadequate mixing in some initial runs was corrected by adjusting the temperature and rerunning the analysis. We considered that the runs had converged when the convergence diagnostics provided in sump output approached 1 and when clade credibilities (post burn-in), branch lengths and topologies were similar across the two independent runs. Four Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) chains (one cold and three heated), with heating parameter of 0.1, were used, together with the default prior probability density (flat Dirichlet distribution) for the base-frequency parameters. The stationary phases of two independent replicate runs were

Species	GenBank #	Voucher (herbarium)
Tribe Mimozygantheae Burkart ^A		
Mimozyganthus carinatus (Griseb.) Burkart	DQ344570, DQ344604	RHF 7567 (BAB)
Tribe Mimoseae ^A		
Anadenanthera colubrina var. cebil (Griseb.) Altschul.	DQ344571, DQ344605	RHF 7583 (BAB)
Cyclodiscus gabunensis Harms	AY125845	<i>M.S.M. Sosef 645a</i> (BH)
Neptunia pubescens Benth.	DQ344551, DQ344603	RHF 7923 (BAB)
Parapiptadenia excelsa (Griseb.) Burkart	DO344569, DO344602	RHF 7669 (BAB)
Piptadenia minutiflora Ducke	DO784667	C.D.Leme 6 (NY)
Piptadenia viridiflora (Kunth) Benth.	AF522963	C.E. Hughes 1681 (FHO)
Mimosa aculeaticarpa var. biuncifera (Benth.) Barneby	AF278513	Major Howell Seeds (BH)
Mimosa adenotricha Benth.	DO344579, DO344613	RHF 8450 (BAB)
Mimosa albida var. wildenowii (Poir.) Rudd.	AF278512	B.B. Klivgaard 648 (K)
Mimosa balansae Micheli	DO344552, DO344585	<i>RHF</i> 7534 (BAB)
Mimosa hifurca Benth var hifurca	DO344553 DO344586	RHF 7556 (BAB)
Mimosa bonnlandii (Hook & Arn) Benth	DO344581 DO344615	<i>JAG 92</i> (BAB)
Mimosa brevinetiolata Burkart	DO344582 DO344616	<i>JAG 127</i> (BAB)
Mimosa candollei R Grether	DO344555 DO344588	<i>RHF</i> 7555 (BAB)
Mimosa colombiana Britton & Killin	DO784646	Davidse & O. Huber 15198 (NY)
Mimosa debilis Humb & Bonnl ex Willd	DO344561 DO344594	<i>RHF 8085</i> (BAB)
Mimosa detinens Benth	DO344558 DO344591	MAL 4491 (BAB)
Mimosa flagellaris Benth	DO344557 DO344590	RHF 7887 (BAB)
Mimosa guilandinae (DC.) Barneby	DO784647	M Nee 42700 (NY)
Mimosa herandra Micheli	DO344556 DO344589	MAL 4584 (BAB)
Mimosa hirsutissima Mart	DO344562 DO344595	RHF 7962 (BAB)
Mimosa leimonias Barneby & Fortunato	DO344575 DO344609	FM7 41158 (BAB)
Mimosa maguirei Barneby	DO344576 DO344610	RHF 8418 (BAB)
Mimosa muziateri barneoy Mimosa mvriadenia var dispersa Barnehy	DO784648	H Balslev & E. Madsen
Mimosa nothacacia Barneby	DO784649	GPLewis et al. 2353 (NY)
Mimosa obstrigosa Burkart	DO344568 DO344601	RHF 8077 (BAB)
Mimosa oligonhyla Micheli	DQ344574 DQ344608	$\frac{RHF}{RHF} = 8074 (BAB)$
Mimosa paupera Benth	DQ344565 DQ344598	$\frac{RHF}{8018} (BAB)$
Mimosa piara I	DQ344560 DQ344593	I4G 38 (BAB)
Mimosa pilulifara Benth	DQ344573 DQ344607	IAG 30 (BAB)
Mimosa polycarpa Kunth	DQ344566 DQ344599	RHF 8010 (BAB)
Mimosa quitansis Benth	AE278514	R = K lingaard 647 (K)
Mimosa vadula Benth	DO344577 DO344611	BHE 8413 (BAB)
Mimosa rauduta Benth	DQ344577, DQ344011	C = Real + 14424 (NV)
Mimosa revoluta Dellui.	DQ764030 DQ244590 $DQ244614$	G. DECK 14424 (INI)
Mimosa sensibilis Glisco.	DQ344578 DQ344612	$\frac{RHF}{0.000} (\text{DAB})$
Mimosa souniana Humb & Poppl or Wild	DQ344578, DQ344012 DQ344563, DQ344506	$\frac{RHF}{044J} (\text{DAB})$
Mimosa sommans rumo. & Bonpi. ex wind.	DQ344503, DQ344590	RHF (933 (BAB))
Mimosa sirigiliosa 1011. & A.Olay	DQ544507, DQ544000	$K\Pi F \ 0949 \ (DAD)$ $CAND \ 615541$
Mimosa tunadiana Parahy ay Classian & Mashindar	AF 322943 DO244572 DO244606	CAND 01JJ41 $BHE 7040 (DAD)$
Mimosa iweealeana Dameoy ex Glazier & Mackinder	DQ344372, DQ344507	КПГ /949 (BAB) DUE 8050 (DAD)
Mimosa ullginosa Ulloual & Hassi.	DQ344304, DQ344397	КПГ 0039 (ВАВ) РИЕ 7650 (РАР)
wimosu xuninocentru Walt, val. xuninocentru	DQ344337, DQ344372	MIII ⁻ 7030 (DAD)

Table 1. Voucher specimen information and GenBank accession numbers

^AFollowing Luckow (2005) and Fortunato (2005).

pooled after discarding trees for each replicate for the burn-in period that included 2500 generations (trees). Consensus-tree topologies and posterior probabilities (PP) based on the different analyses were found to be essentially identical between the different Bayesian runs.

The following herbarium abbreviations are used all throughout

- BAB Instituto de Recursos Biológicos, (Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria)
- BH Cornell University Bailey Hortorium

FHO University of Oxford Daubeny

K Royal Botanic Gardens

NY New York Botanical Garden

Results

The combined *trnL* and *trnL–trnF* matrix (available on request from the corresponding author) included 36 ingroup and seven outgroup taxa. The aligned matrix contained 1272 characters, of which 137 (11%) were phylogenetically informative. In total, 41 indels were found and gaps varied from 1 to 47 bp in length.

Results from the maximum parsimony (MP) and Bayesian analyses exhibited a general correspondence and did not show incongruence of supported nodes; bootstrap-supported (BS) nodes mostly also had high Bayesian PP. MP analysis resulted in 19 MP trees of 482 steps, with CI=0.74 and RI=0.80. The majority-rule consensus tree is presented in Fig. 2 and a tree based on Bayesian inference is shown in Fig. 3.

In the MP and Bayesian analyses, the genus *Mimosa* was recovered as a monophyletic group with moderate support (BS = 81%, PP = 0.93), in agreement with a previous study where representatives of section *Mimadenia* were lacking (Bessega *et al.* 2008).

In our analysis, the representatives of section *Mimadenia* clustered together with high support in both the MP tree (BS = 99%) and in the Bayesian analysis (PP = 1). Within section *Mimadenia*, *M. nothacacia* and *M. revoluta* formed a group (BS = 86%, PP = 0.98) sister to a group including the other

species here analysed. Among these, *M. colombiana* and *M. myriadenia* formed a group (BS=100%) on the MP tree that is shown as sister to *M. guilandinae*. Although the last association was not observed in the Bayesian analysis, the topology is consistent.

Excluding section *Mimadenia*, the remaining sections considered by Barneby (1991) do not constitute monophyletic groups. The representatives from section *Habbassia* fall within section *Batocaulon*; however, the relationships of the members cannot be resolved with the sequences here analysed. The representatives of sections *Mimosa* and *Calothamnos* constitute a cluster sister to the clade of *Batocaulon* and *Habassia* representatives. The *Calothamnos* species included are nested within section *Mimosa* (BS = 61%, PP = 1). *M. acualeticarpa* and *M. quitensis* were placed in a clade including *M. detinens* and *M. hexandra* (BS = 79%, PP = 0.98). The position of *M. albida* is not well supported in either of the



Fig. 2. Majority-rule consensus tree obtained from 19 most parsimonious trees (length = 482 steps, CI = 0.74, RI = 0.80) based on *trnL* intron and *trnL-trnF* intergenic spacer sequence data. Numbers above branches are bootstrap values and branches that collapse in the strict consensus tree are indicated with arrows. The sections of the genus are shown, using the classification of Barneby (1991).



Fig. 3. Majority-rule consensus tree obtained from the Bayesian analysis, based on sequences of the trnL intron and trnL-trnF intergenic spacer applying the GTR+G model of substitution. Values above branches indicate posterior probabilities. The classification corresponding to Barneby (1991) is indicated at the right-hand side. The scale bar represents 0.1 substitutions per site.

analyses; however, MP and Bayesian analyses both place *M. albida* with *M. xanthocentra, M. debilis, M. hirsutissima* and *M. radula*.

Discussion

Section Mimadenia

As described in the introduction, the section *Mimadenia* was proposed by Barneby (1991), on the basis of external morphological traits, to be basal within the *Mimosa* and the progenitor of other sections. *Mimadenia* species are trees or

scandent shrubs that have haplostemonous and diplostemonous white to white-green or vellow-green flowers with free filaments and functional petiolar nectaries. These characters led Barneby (1991) to consider this section the more primitive in an evolutionary sequence. Within section Mimadenia, two groups were found here. Mimosa colombiana and M. guilandinae, from series Glanduriferae, were clustered with M. myriadenia, the only species described in series Myriadeniae. The association between these two series was reported by Barneby (1991) who suggested that M. myriadenia arose from the same stock as series Glanduriferae which lost one

cycle of stamens. This transition might have occurred several times in the evolutionary history of the genus, as described in section *Calothamnos* (see Introduction).

Within section *Mimadenia*, the association observed with *M. revoluta* (series *Revolutae*) and *M. nothoacacia* (series *Nothoacaciae*) was supported by similarity in the cupular petiolar nectaries. *Mimosa myriadenia*, which is shown in another cluster, also has petiolar nectaries; however, it has the typical indumentum of series *Glanduliferae*, as well as the same type of inflorescence and haplostemonous flowers.

Sections Batocaulon, Habassia, Calothamnos and Mimosa

Bessega et al. (2008) stated that sections Batocaulon, Habbasia, Mimosa and Calothamnos might have been derived from a common ancestor, which was also supported by the present analysis. The divisions proposed by Barneby (1991) were not supported by the present work, because the four sections were not resolved as monophyletic. Members of sections Batocaulon and Habbasia are in multiple positions in the cladogram. Section Batocaulon might be at least paraphyletic and is possibly polyphyletic, and the members of section Habassia are unresolved. Phylogenies suggest that the representatives from sections Batocaulon and Habbasia are early diverged lineages and the representatives from sections Mimosa and Calothamnos can be considered a more derived natural group. Although few representatives from section Calothamnos were included in the present study, namely only M. bonplandii and M. pilulifera, both the Bayesian and parsimony analyses suggested that it is not a natural group.

According to Bentham (1841), the section *Mimosa* also included all the representatives of Barneby's section *Calothamnos*. In the light of the results obtained here, Bentham's position can be supported by the molecular data. The section *Calothamnos* proposed by Barneby (1991) is equivalent to the section *Mimosa* series *Lepidotae* described by Bentham (1841), which was based on possession of plumose or stelliform setae and haplostemenous flowers.

Within section *Batocaulon*, *M. aculeaticarpa* (series *Acanthocarpae*) and *M. quitensis* (series *Andinae*) are two species that were also not analysed by Bessega *et al.* (2008). The relationships among these species cannot be fully resolved with the grouping here, using either the Bayesian or the MP analysis. However, they are grouped within a clade constituted by species from section *Batocaulon* series *Farinosae* (*M. detinens*) and series *Bimucronata* (*M. hexandra*). This grouping of the species can be supported by their potentially synapomorphic traits, including a xerophilous habit and possession of white staminal filaments.

Within section *Mimosa* series *Mimosa*, *M. albida* (subseries *Mimosa*) is grouped with the following species from different subseries: *M. xanthocentra* (subseries *Pudicae*), *M. debilis* (subseries *Mimosa*), *M. hirsutissima* (subseries *Hirsutae*) and *M. radula* (subseries *Polycephalae*). This grouping, although weak, does not give support to Barneby's (1991) proposal for subseries subdivision; however, all of these species are herbs or subshrubs, with cauline aculei and spicules.

Final remarks

Our analysis indicated that genus *Mimosa* is monophyletic, the species of section *Mimadenia* constitute a clade sister to the remaining *Mimosa* species. In the present study, 5 of 16 species of section *Mimadenia* are included, and although the number of species is low, it can be considered representative of the section (32%). Moreover, representatives of each series in *Mimadenia* are included. The section *Mimadenia*, as described by Barneby (1991), seems to be a phylogenetically supported group. He proposed a basal and non-evolved place for this section; however, in our analysis the section *Mimadenia* is not a basal group. The position given by Barneby for section *Mimadenia* can be explained by the fact that the members have a tree habit, petiolar nectaries, flowers that are either four- or five-merous and have compound tetrads, features that can be considered to be plesiomorphic from a phylogenetic standpoint.

Following the phylogenetic hypothesis retrieved by analysis of *trnL-trnF* sequences, the remaining sections from genus *Mimosa*, *Batocaulon*, *Habbasia*, *Calothamnos* and *Mimosa* might have derived from a common ancestor and do not constitute natural groups. Further study that incorporates a more intense taxon sampling, especially in section *Calothamnos*, together with a morphological matrix and additional molecular information, is needed for better understanding of the evolution of this complex group of species, where hybridisation and polyploidisation may be important in the speciation process (Morales *et al.* 2010). Finally, if different markers are consistent with the results shown here, an effort needs to be made towards a new infrageneric classification of *Mimosa* that considers the phylogenetic evidence.

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