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The serrate leaf margined *Juniperus* (Section Sabina) of the western hemisphere: systematics and evolution based on leaf essential oils and Random Amplified Polymorphic DNAs (RAPDs)

Robert P. Adams

Plant Biotechnology Center, Baylor University, Box 669, Gruver, TX 79040, USA Received 12 December 1999; accepted 10 January 2000

Abstract

The volatile leaf essential compositions of all 17 serrate leaf margin species of Juniperus (sect. Sabina) of the western hemisphere are reported and compared: J. angosturana, J. ashei, J. californica, J. coahuilensis, J. comitana, J. deppeana, J. durangensis, J. flaccida, J. gamboana, J. jaliscana, J. monosperma, J. monticola, J. osteosperma, J. occidentalis, J. pinchotii, J. saltillensis, and J. standleyi. A number of previously unidentified compounds of the leaf essential oils have now been identified. In addition, DNA data (RAPDs) of all these species were analyzed. Both the leaf essential oils and DNA show these species to be quite distinct with few apparent subgroups, such that the species groupings were not strong in either data set. These data support the hypothesis that this group of junipers originated in Mexico as part of the Madro-Tertiary flora by rapid radiation into new arid land habitats, leaving few extant intermediate taxa. © 2000 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Juniperus; Cupressaceae; Terpenes; DNA; RAPDs; Systematics; Essential oil

1. Introduction

The group of serrate leaf margined *Juniperus* species of the western hemisphere appears to be a natural division of *Juniperus*, section *Sabina* (Adams and Demeke, 1993). These junipers are characterized by having microscopic $(40 \times)$ serrations

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^{*} Corresponding author. Tel.: + 1-806-733-5558; fax: + 1-806-733-5605. *E-mail address*: rpadams@juno.com (R.P. Adams).

Table 1 Classifications of the serrate leaf junipers taxa in North America

Martinez (1963)	Zanoni and Adams (1976)
Subsection monospermae J. californica Carr. J. comitana Mart. J. erythrocarpa Cory.(= J. coahuilensis (Mart.) Gaussen ex. R. Adams, in part) J. gamboana Mart. J. monosperma (Engelm.) Sarg. var. gracilis Mart.	Monosperman group J. ashei Buch. J. comitana J. erythrocarpa (= J. coahuilensis in part) J. gamboana J. monsperma var. gracilis (= J. angosturana RP Adams) J. pinchotii Sudw. J. saltillensis MT Hall
Subsection monticolae J. durangensis Mart. J. monticola Mart. (plus forma compacta Mart., forma orizabensis Mart.) J. standleyi Steyer.	Monticola group J. durangensis J. monticola J. standleyi
Subsection deppeanae J. deppeana Steudel. var. pachyphaea (Torrey) Mart. var. robusta Mart. var. zacatecensis Mart. J. patoniana Mart.	Deppeana group J. deppeana var. robusta var. patoniana (Mart.) Zanoni var. zacatecensis J. jaliscana
Subsection flaccidae J. flaccida Schlecht.(plus var. problana Mart.)	Flaccida group J. flaccida (plus var. problana)
Subsection jaliscanae J. jaliscana Mart.	Not included in Zanoni and Adams (1976): J. californica Carr., J. occidentalis Hook. and J. osteosperma (Torr.)Little

(teeth) on the scale leaves and these taxa are generally xerophytic, occurring in the great North American deserts and arid mountains adjacent to the deserts. These junipers range from northern Guatemala, into Mexico, thence northward into the southwestern United States, as far north as Oregon (*J. occidentalis*) and eastward to Arkansas (*J. ashei*). The group is thought to had been a part of the Madro-Tertiary flora dating from pre-Eocene (Axlerod, 1958). As the neotropical tertiary geoflora expanding into the drying conditions that created the southwestern deserts, Axlerod (1958) hypothesized that there was a rapid evolution of new species. North-central Mexico has the largest number of *Juniperus* species in the western hemisphere and this is one of three centers of origin for extant Juniperus species. The other two centers of diversity/ origins are the northern Mediterranean region and western China.

The first systematic treatment of these junipers was made by Martinez. His final treatment (Martinez, 1963) is shown in Table 1, along with the treatment by Zanoni and Adams (1976) based on morphology and essential oils. Martinez (1963) merely drew the groups in a circle, whereas Zanoni and Adams (1976) drew a hypothetical phylogenetic tree showing *J. flaccida* and *J. deppeana* diverging early but with the

other branches being questionable. They concluded that these junipers were loosely associated and a clear phylogenetic pathway was not now apparent.

As a group, these *Juniperus* species have been the most intensively analyzed of the junipers. Extensive studies involving thousands of samples using both terpenoids and morphology have been performed (Adams, 1975a, 1977, 1993, 1994; Adams et al., 1981, 1983, 1984a, b; Zanoni and Adams, 1975, 1976, 1979). These papers mostly utilized terpenoid data at the populational or infraspecific level. The terpenoid data were found to be very useful at this taxonomic level and occasionally at the specific level. But, as a general rule, the terpenoids have not been very useful at the specific level in this section of *Juniperus* (Zanoni and Adams, 1976). With the advent of DNA-based technology, we have found that DNA fingerprinting (Random Amplified Polymorphic DNAs, RAPDs) has been very useful to both supplement and complement morphological and terpenoid data (Adams and Demeke, 1993; Adams et al., 1993; Adams, 1994, 1999, 2000a, b, c). This is the fifth paper in the series (Adams, 1999, 2000a, b, c) to serve as the basis for a modern monographic treatment of the genus *Juniperus*.

The volatile leaf oils and the associated literature have been reported as follows: *J. angosturana* (= *J. monosperma* var. *gracilis* Mart.) (Adams et al., 1981); *J. ashei* (Adams et al., 1980a); *J. californica* (Adams et al., 1983); *J. coahuilensis* (= *J. erythrocarpa* Cory. in part) (Adams et al., 1981); *J. comitana* (Adams et al., 1985b); *J. flaccida* (Adams et al., 1984a); *J. deppeana* (Adams et al., 1985b); *J. jaliscana* (Adams et al., 1985a); *J. monosperma* (Adams et al., 1981; Adams et al., 1983); *J. monticola* (Adams et al., 1980b); *J. occidentalis* (Adams et al., 1983); *J. osteosperma* (Adams et al., 1983); *J. pinchotii* (Adams et al., 1981); *J. saltillensis* (Adams et al., 1980); *J. standleyi* (Adams et al., 1985b);

The purpose of this paper is to examine the systematics of the serrate leaf margined Juniperus in section Sabina of the western hemisphere. Two data sets will be examined: the complete set of the comprehensive leaf oil composition for all the serrate leaf junipers of the western hemisphere: J. angosturana R. P. Adams, J. ashei Buch., J. californica Carr., J. coahuilensis (Mart.) Gaussen ex. R. P. Adams, J. comitana Mart., J. deppeana Steudel var. deppeana, J. durangensis Mart., J. flaccida Schlecht. var. flaccida, J. gamboana Mart., J. jaliscana Mart., J. monosperma (Engelm.) Sarg., J. monticola Mart. forma monticola, J. osteosperma (Torr.) Little, J. occidentalis Hook. var. occidentalis, J. pinchotii Sudw., J. saltillensis M. T. Hall, and J. standleyi Steyerm. and data obtained from Random Amplified Polymorphic DNAs (RAPDs) for these same taxa. Based on these data, the systematics of this group of Juniperus is discussed.

2. Materials and methods

Specimens used in this study (it should be noted that the specimens listed are merely some recent collections for DNA work and reconfirmation of terpenoid compositions, at least 20 individuals and often hundreds, have been used in studies in previous research, see references above): *J. angosturana*, Adams 6881–6885, San Luis Potosi, Mexico; *J. ashei*, Adams 6746, 6751–52, Texas, USA; *J. californica*, Adams, 2598–2600, 2601–06, 8695–97, California, USA and 2607–09, 8698–8700, Arizona, USA;

J. coahuilensis, Adams 6829–31, Durango, Mexico; J. comitana, Adams 6858–62, Chiapas, Mexico; J. deppeana var. deppeana, Adams 7632–34, New Mexico, USA; J. durangensis, Adams 6832–35, Durango, Mexico; J. flaccida var. flaccida, Adams 6892–96, Nuevo Leon, Mexico; J. gamboana, Adams 6863–67, Chiapas, Mexico; J. jaliscana, Adams 6846–48, Jalisco, Mexico; J. monosperma, Adams 7638–40, New Mexico, USA; J. monticola f. monticola, Adams 6874–78, Hidalgo, Mexico; J. osteosperma, Adams 6811–13, Utah, USA; J. occidentalis var. occidentalis, Adams 8592–94, Oregon, USA; J. pinchotii, Adams 7483–87, 8736–45, Texas, USA; J. saltillensis, Adams 6886–90, Nuevo Leon, Mexico; J. standleyi, Adams 6852-56, Huehuetango, Guatemala. Voucher specimens are deposited at SRCG (Science Research Center — Gruver) herbarium, Baylor University.

Fresh leaves (200 g fresh wt) were steam distilled for 2 h using a circulatory Cleavenger apparatus (Adams, 1991). The oil samples were concentrated (ether trap removed) with nitrogen and the samples stored at -20° C until analyzed. The extracted leaves were oven dried (48 h, 100° C) for determination of oil yields. After initial GCMS analyses, composite oil samples were made for each of the taxa in this study. These composite (average) oil samples were then subjected to GCMS for compound identification and quantitation by TIC.

The essential oils were analyzed on a Finnigan Ion Trap (ITD) mass spectrometer, model 800, directly coupled to a Varian 6500 gas chromatograph, using a J & W DB-5, 0.26 mm × 30 m, 0.25 µm coating thickness, fused silica capillary column (see Adams, 1995 for operating details). Identifications were made by library searches of our volatile oil library, (Adams, 1995), using the Finnigan library search routines based on fit and purity, coupled with retention time data of reference compounds. It should be emphasized that all of the entries in the library (nearly 1600 at present) are based on authenticated compounds that have been assembled by the author over the past 20 years. In cases of questionable identification, these references compounds can be re-analyzed (co-chromatographed) to establish identity. Any compounds identified merely by MS are so noted in Table 2 as tentatively identified.

One gram (fresh weight) of the foliage was placed in 20 g of activated silica gel and transported to the lab, thence stored at -20° C until the DNA was extracted. DNA was extracted from juniper leaves by the hot CTAB protocol (Doyle and Doyle, 1987) with 1% (w/v) PVP added to the extraction buffer. The RAPD analyses follow that of Adams and Demeke (1993). Ten-mer primers were purchased from the University of British Colombia (5'-3'): 153: GAG TCA CGA G; 184: CAA ACG GAC C; 204: TTC GGG CCG T; 212: GCT GCG TGA C; 218: CTC AGC CCA G; 239: CTG AAG CGG A; 244: CAG CCA ACC G; 249 GCA TCT ACC G; 250: CGA CAG TCC C; 265: CAG CTG TTC A; 338 CTG TGG CGG T; 347 TTG CTT GGC G; 375 CCG GAC ACG A; 376 CAG GAC ATC G.

PCR was performed in a volume of 15 µl containing 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 9), 2.0 mM MgCl₂, 0.01% gelatin and 0.1% Triton X-100, 0.2 mM of each dNTPs, 0.36 µM primers, 0.3 ng genomic DNA, 15 ng BSA and 0.6 unit of Taq DNA polymerase (Promega). A control PCR tube containing all components, but no genomic DNA, was run with each primer to check for contamination. DNA amplification was performed in an MJ Programmable Thermal Cycler (MJ Research, Inc.). The

Comparisons of the percent total oil for leaf essential oils for *J. pinchotii(PN)*, *J. saltillensis(SA)*, *J. caltfornica(CA)*, *J. osteosperma(OS)*, *J. standlevi(ST)*, *J. gamboana (GM)*, *J. deppena(DP)*, *J. jaliscana(JA)*, *J. durangensis(DR)*, *J. coahuilensis(CH)*, *J. monticola(MT)*, *J. monosperma(MN)*, *J. angosturana(AN)*, *J. flaccida(FL)*, *J. comitana(CM)*, *J. ashei(AS)*, *J. occidentalis(OC)*. Table 2

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\overline{K}	Compound		SA	CA						DR	СН	MT	N N	AN	FL	CM A	AS O	20
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931	α-Thujene																	4. 0
939	α-Pinene															02.7		7.6
953	α -Fenchene															'		
953	Camphene															0.5		Ξ.
957	Thuja-2,4(10)-diene															0.1		-
296	Verbenene															3		
926	Sabinene															- [:]		5.5
086																6.4		4.0
985	6-Methyl-5-hepten-2-one																	1 -
991																9.8		
1000																		ı
	Methyl ester ^b																	
1001	δ-2-Carene	1		0.5		0.4				1								0.I
1005	α -Phellandrene	ţ		+		0.1				1								8.0
1011	δ-3-Carene	0.5		0.1		1.3				14.9								Ξ;
1018	α -Terpinene	1.3		9.0		1.9				+								2.2
1026	p-Cymene	0.1		0.3		0.1				0.7								3.5
1027	Sylvestrene	ļ								0.1								1 9
1031	Limonene	3.6		2.9		3.0				1.6								1.T
1031	β -Phellandrene	0.1		0.4		8.0				1.7								0.0
1032	1,8-Cineole	0.1								0.1								-
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	<i>n</i> -Pentyl isobutyrate			0.1		'				"								,
	γ -Terpinene	2.2		11		3.1				0.3								ن 4 د
	cis-Sabinene hydrate	1.2		0.4		1.4). Y
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	trans-Linalool oxide (furanoid)	-		ļ														Į.
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Table-continued

Table 2—continued

$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	KIª	Compound	P. N.	SA	CA	SO	ST	GM	DP	JA	DR	Э	MT	MN	AN	FL	CM	1	2
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1526 1529 1532 1533 1538 1542 1542 1554 1556 1606 1606 1600 1640 1640 1640 1640 164

Table 2—continued

KI ^a	KIª Compound	PN	SA	CA	SO	ST	GM	DP	JA	DR	СН	MT	WN	AN	FL	CM AS		00
2054	Manool		ļ				0.0										,	
0800	2024 intalicol	0.3				+	1.		+	+	+	80	1	ļ	ļ	Ì	10	
2102	Diterpene, 41, 191, 257	3	0.5	1		3	Andreas	6.0				1
2243	Trans-Totarol, met		;	1		+					1			;		.	i	1
2252	Methyl sandaracopimarate ^b		9.0			1		I				1	i				İ	1
2278	cis-Totarol		0.4			I					1	I	1			1	1	1
2288	4-epi-Abietal	0.3	1			0.2		1		0.4	t		1	بيد	1	1	i	1
2302	Abieta-7,13-dien-3-one	0.1				1				ţ	1	1	1			+	İ	1
2302			0.2	1		1:1			1.7	1	1	1.3		0.3	-	t	<u>,</u>	l
2325		1	0.1	1	1	+	+	-	0.3		4	t		0.3	l	+		

^aKovat's Index on DB-5(= SE54) column.

^bTentatively identified. Compositional values less than 0.1% are denoted as traces (t). Unidentified components less than 0.5% are not reported.

thermal cycle was: 94°C (1.5 min) for initial strand separation, then 40 cycles of 38°C (2 min), 72°C (2 min), 91°C (1 min). Two additional steps were used: 38°C (2 min) and 72°C (5 min) for final extension.

Bands that occurred once or did not show fidelity within the two replicated samples of each taxon were eliminated. It should be noted that these bands contain very useful information for the study of genetic variance and individual variation, but are merely "noise" in the present taxonomic study. Bands were scored in 4 classes: very bright (=6); medium bright (=5), faint (=4) and absent (=0). See Adams and Demeke (1993) for details on electrophoresis and RAPD band scoring.

Similarity measures were computed using absolute character state differences (Manhattan metric), divided by the maximum observed value for that character over all taxa (= Gower metric, Gower, 1971; Adams, 1975a, b). For the terpenoid data, similarities were computed as quantitative matches as well as simple presence/absence matches. The presence/absence (\pm) matching was found to be more similar to the DNA data. Principal coordinate analysis (PCO) of the similarity matrices follows Gower (1966). Program PCO3D is available for MS DOS IBM compatible computers with a math co-processor (correspond to RPA for distribution details).

3. Results and discussion

Oil yields (calculated as oil wt/wt of oven dried, extracted leaves) varied from 0.4 to 1.5%. The oils were colorless to yellow in color. Table 2 gives the tabulated results. Several components previously unidentified have now been identified.

Some discussion is needed to facilitate recent nomenclature changes. *Juniperus erythrocarpa*, the taxon in trans-Pecos, Texas and Mexico is now treated as *J. coahuilensis*; *J. monosperma* var. *gracilis* Mart., from north-central Mexico, is now *J. angosturana* R. P. Adams; and *J. monsperma*, previously reported from Mexico, is now thought to be confined to the United States.

The oils of this section are quite diverse. The presence of very large amounts of camphor (64.9%, *J. ashei*) is common in this section (Table 2). In general, these junipers do not accumulate large amounts of diterpenes as seen in the junipers of the eastern hemisphere (Adams, 1999, 2000b). Except for a chemical polymorphism in *J. californica* (Adams et al., 1983) involving camphor, the pinenes, and terpinen-4-ol, no chemical races have been found in the junipers of this section. The presence of cedrol, a major constituent of the juniper wood oils (Adams, 1991), is found only as trace component in the leaves of a few taxa (Table 2). This is in contrast to many junipers of the eastern hemisphere where cedrol is a major component (up to 30%) of the leaf oils (Adams, 1999).

The overall similarities of the oils are shown by a minimum spanning network of these junipers, based on presence/absence matching (Fig. 1). One is immediately impressed that the taxa are all distinct. This is not surprising because the varieties of *J. deppeana*, *J. flaccida*, and *J. coahuilensis* and the forms of *J. monticola* were not included in this study. However, several species are, morphologically, quite similar

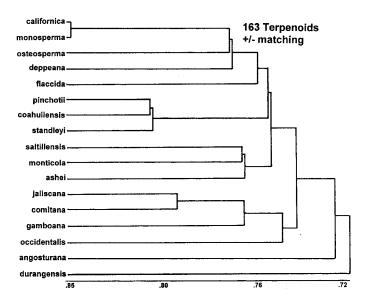


Fig. 1. Minimum spanning network based on 163 terpenoids, with similarities computed as presence/absence data.

(angosturana-coahuilensis-monosperma-pinchotii, ashei-saltillensis, comitana-gam-boana, californica-osteosperma). This is not particularly reflected in their terpenoids based on presence/absence matching. Juniperus pinchotii and J. coahuilensis do form a loose cluster (with J standleyi) (Fig. 1) and J. comitana and J. jaliscana form another loose cluster. Juniperus ashei and J. saltillensis (plus J. monticola) form another loose cluster (Fig. 1) This pattern of very distinct species is similar to that found by Zanoni and Adams (1976).

The DNA (RAPDs) data revealed a similar pattern (Fig. 2) in that the taxa are each very distinct with little clustering. Juniperus durangensis and J. jaliscana are the most similar species (Fig. 2), but only slightly removed from J. coahuilensis, J. deppeana, J. gamboana, and J. standleyi. As with the terpenoids, the species in this section of Juniperus are distinct. There is some clustering of J. pinchotii, and J. saltillensis, followed with J. californica and J. osteosperma (Fig. 2). Juniperus flaccida, J. comitana, J. ashei, and J. occidentalis are very loosely associated with the other junipers (Fig. 2).

The evolution of these xerophytic junipers of the high deserts and arid mountains seems to present a somewhat reticulate pattern of evolution. One finds quadrangular bark (only found in this section of *Juniperus*), expressed in *J. angosturana*, *J. deppeana*, and *J. gamboana* (Zanoni and Adams, 1976). In the middle of the one seeded junipers cluster (Figs. 1 and 2), one finds the multi-seeded species, *J. deppeana*. If, as Axlerod (1958) suggests, there was a rapid speciation into the newly formed deserts, it is

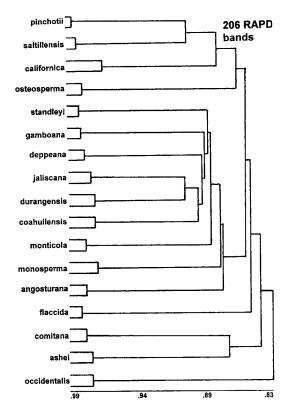


Fig. 2. Minimum spanning network based on 206 RAPD bands. Each OTU is represented by two individuals.

possible that the ancestral *Juniperus* species became extinct, leaving a number of adaptive lines of radiation. In addition, hybridization is likely to have been involved, further obscuring the patterns of adaptive radiation. Sequence data may help elucidate the problem, but for now, the essential oils and RAPDs both argue for a very loose assemblage of species that diverged into distinct taxa leaving no clear path of intermediate extant taxa.

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