

Acalypha stuhlmannii
(EUPHORBIACEAE)

NOMENCLATURE: IDENTIFICATION:

Accepted Name: Acalypha stuhlmannii Pax

Approved by:

References: See Bibliography*

Synonyms:

Identification:

FRACTIONATOR:

DESCRIPTION: A perennial, monoecious herb with erect, unbranched stems. Stems arising from a woody many-headed rhizome, slender, pubescent or nearly glabrous. Leaves sessile, variable in shape and size, oblong or linear-oblong, obtuse or subacute, mostly rounded or very obtuse at the base, 1-4 in. long, 1/2-1 mm. broad, crenate-serrate, rigidly subchartaceous, at first thinly pubescent on both surfaces, at length becoming glabrous or nearly so; lateral nerves 3-5 on each side, ascending, prominent below; stipules subulate, about 1-1/2 in. long. Flowers normally monoecious. Inflorescence axillary, bisexual or rarely subunisexual, up to 2-1/2 in. long, 1 to few females at the base, the remainder consisting of a slender male spike sometimes the short lateral shoots towards the apex of each stem entirely (?) female; male portion of each inflorescence very slender, pedunculate; axis very shortly pubescent. Buds sparingly puberulous. Female bracts deeply lacinate, about 2 mm. long; segments about 10, linear or subulate, very acute, the middle one longer than the rest, long-pilose or almost villous, not glandular. Sepals 3, linear-lanceolate about 1/2 mm. long, ciliate towards apex. Ovary tomentose, not glandular; styles free, multilacinate, about 2 mm. long, pubescent on the back. Seeds ovoid-ellipsoid, 1-1/3 mm. long. glabrous.

Distinguishing Characters: Woody rhizome, and female axillary flowers that are sessile with bracts deeply palmately divided to half way or more into oblong lobes.

ECOLOGY: Montane grasslands.

COMMENTS: This species was not found in the literature on vegetational studies. Other species of Acalypha were noted: A. psilostachya, A. fruticosa, A. ornata, A. senensis, A. bipartita and A. volkensii. These species occur within the geographical range of A. stuhlmannii.

Agnew mentions that A. stuhlmannii is common in its area of occurrence in Kenya.

USES:

ACTIVITY DATA IN Acalypha:

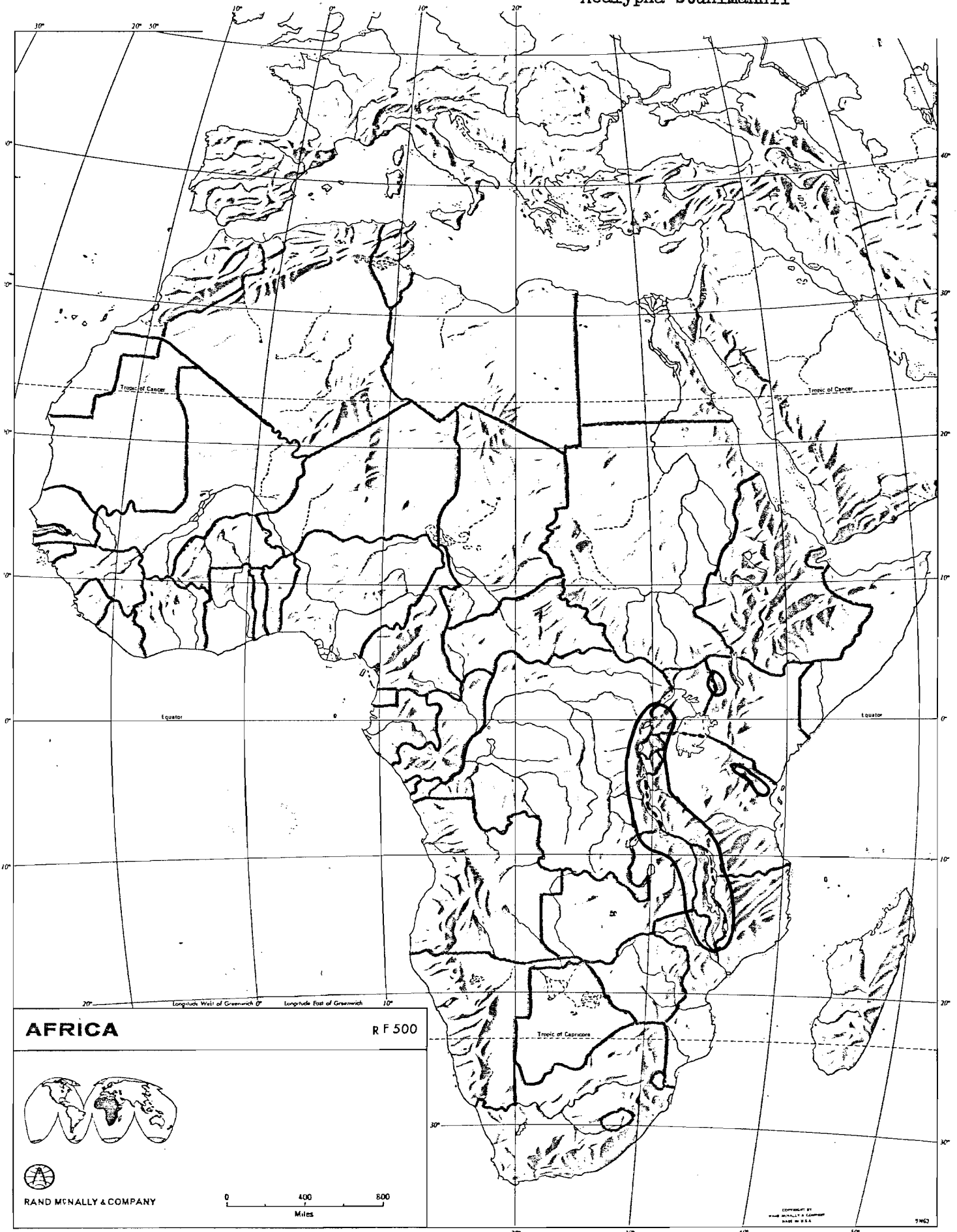
<u>A. diversifolia</u>	PS	C		Hudson
<u>A. hederacea</u>	KB	DL		Brewer
<u>A. hispida</u>	WA	DK	tannin	
<u>A. lanceolata</u>	WA	DK	phytosterol	Oleson
<u>Acalypha</u> sp. (Puerto Rico)	WA, KB	C		Cole
<u>Acalypha</u> sp. (Costa Rica)	WA, KB	C		Hudson
<u>A. stuhlmannii</u>	KB	C		

REFERENCES:

- *Agnew, A.D.Q., 1974. Upland Kenya Wild Flowers. Oxford Univ. Press;
p. 215.
- *Fanshawe, D.B., 1973. Check List of the Woody Plants of Zambia Showing
Their Distribution. Govt. Printer, Lusaka.
- Hutchinson, J., 1912. In Thiselton-Dyer's Flora of Tropical Africa.
Lovell Reeve & Co., London; Vol. 6(1): 905-906.

PREPARED BY: R. W. Spjut DATE: May 18, 1977

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CLASS _____

NAME _____