[Emilia sonchifolia, DC., a widely dispersed plant in the tropics of the Old World, is believed to have been introduced into America, where, however, it is now pretty generally diffused: ex. Orizaba, Mexico (Sallé).]

197. SENECIO.


As here limited, this is the largest genus in the vegetable kingdom, numbering about 900 species, having nearly the same range as the order, and presenting great variety in habit and duration. Several species and groups of species have been raised to the rank of distinct genera by various authors; but we have followed Bentham and Hooker, though a study of the species from all parts of the world might lead to some useful division. Perhaps the genus Cacalia might be retained for some of the species; yet it is not easy to define it for the Mexican species alone. S. cervariapfolius and some of the allied species have a somewhat rigid pappus, though in other respects they do not differ from several others referred by De Candolle and other botanists to Cacalia.

1. Senecio acerifolius, Hemsley, n. sp.
   Prorsus glaberrimus, foliis caulinis longiusculis petiolaris tenuibus saepissime acute 5-lobatis consiste inveniosis, capitulis corymbosis radiatis mediocribus, involucris bracteis ad 12 basi inerasescentes, floribus radiis paucis, ligulis longe tubulosis, achenii glabris sulcatis.
   Herba? omnino glaberrima, ramis vel caulibus crassiusculis, teretibus, striatulis, nitidis, stramineis, internodiis quam folia brevioribus. Folia (canina tantum visa) petiolata, tenuia, subrotundata, ad 5 poll. longa, saepissime 5-lobata, simul obscure remotaeque callosae-denticulata vel integra, palmato-nervosa, conspicue reticulata-venosa, subtus pallidiora, basi leviter cordata, lobis diversicatis, vix acutis, terminali majore; petiolus gracilis, 9–18 lineas longus. Capitulum corymbosa, radiata, 6–9 lineas longa, 30–40-flora, breviter pedunculata; corollae axillares et terminales, 5–10-cepahli, longiusculae pedunculati; pedunculi partiales 6–12 lineas longi, bracteis linearibus instructi; involucris bracteis ad 12, coriaceo-scariosae, basi inerassate, late oblongae, acutiusculae, striate vel fere costatae; receptaculum planum, foveolatum, nudum; flores radii ad 5–7, steriles (?); ligula brevis, elliptico-oblonga, longe graciliterque tubulosa; discur corollae anguste infundibuliformes, breviter 5-lobata, lobis ovatis, vix acutis; antherae basi brevissime mucronulatæ; styli rami apice rotundati, puberuli. Achenia (matura non visa) angusta, glabra, sulcata; pappi setæ tenuissimæ, fere integrae.

SOUTH MEXICO, Oaxaca (Ghiesbrecht). Hb. Kew.

In many of its characters this agrees with S. acutangulus; but the angular stem and eight-leaved involucre of the latter will not admit it.

2. Senecio acutangulus, Hemsley.
   GUATEMALA, Volcan de Agua (Velasquez).

   Cacalia amplifolia, DC. Prodr. vi. p. 328.