

to tip yellow. *Petals* 5, united at base, 7–8 mm at widest part, orange with yellow at tip on underside, overall yellow on inner face, nectarial chamber conspicuous. Stamens 10, *filaments* yellowish, antisepals ca. 7 mm long, yellowish, epipetals ca. 5 mm long, anthers yellow, nectarial cavity 1.5 mm, *nectaries* reniform, yellowish, ca. 2.5 mm wide, sunken at base of ovaries. *Gynoeceum* 5 apocarpic carpels, ca. 5 mm long, ca. 6.5 mm thick, white near base, yellowish towards tip, styles bicoloured, yellow at base and purple the rest, stigma lobes green (Table 3).

Discussion

The páramo known as El Almorzadero was the penultimate location visited on this trip. Our Colombian travel companions Adriana Bohórquez and Héctor Largo reserved this place for the end of the trip on purpose. It was fantastic to see and learn about the so-called *frailejones* of the genus *Espeletia*, Asteraceae family, as well as its emblematic and endangered bird, the Andean condor (*Vultur gryphus*). Seeing all this in habitat was astonishing, to say the least.

On our visit to the páramo we had the environmental leader of Cerrito, Don Seráfico Calderón Tarazona as a guide. He showed us places that were truly out of this world. Crags covered with moss were dominant in this landscape. At one of these sites, we visited a place called "Cueva de La Nutria", where we found what would turn out to be a new species for Colombia and for the páramo (21). Fortunately, the plants were in bloom, and they were collected with great care so as not to cut the inflorescences and to collect the seeds. A complete specimen was sent to the

Colombian National Herbarium (COL) of the Institute of Natural Sciences of the National University of Colombia with Dr Diego Giraldo-Cañas, researcher of the herbarium (16 & 18).

When studying the new taxon, it turned out that *E. cojitambensis* would be the closest species. Because of its thick, long stems and glabrous rosettes, *E. mutisii* sp. nov. should be placed in series *Nudae* Walther.

(M)

Distribution and habitat

This new species grows in the páramo of El Almorzadero, whose vegetation corresponds to typical expressions of this type of high Andean environment, including shrublands (*Aragoa*, *Baccharis*, *Bejaria*, *Diplostephium*, *Escallonia*, *Hypericum*, *Pentacalia*), frailejones (*Espeletia* spp.), scrubland (dominated by different species of grasses of the genera *Aciachne*, *Agrostis*, *Calamagrostis*, *Chusquea*, *Festuca*, *Muhlenbergia*, *Paramochloa*, and *Poa*), rosetales (*Puya* spp., *Eryngium* sp., *Paepalanthus* spp.), as well as numerous ferns, liverworts and mosses (17 & 19).

Eponym

This new species honours the Spaniard José Celestino Mutis y Bosio who was a physician, botanist, geographer, mathematician, and priest. During the 18th century, between 1783 and 1816, he carried out botanical explorations in New Granada (now Colombia) with the objective of studying its flora and natural resources.

Flowering time July to September.

The date of collection of this new species was in early August (20).

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Echeveria boyacaensis
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and associated vegetation



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