

*Aeonium*  $\times$  *praedictum* Arango nothosp. nov.  
[*Aeonium decorum* var. *decorum* Webb ex Bolle  $\times$   
*Aeonium gomerense* (Praeger) Praeger]. Fig. 3.

Holotype: Spain, Canary Islands: La Gomera, road GM-1 (old part TF-711), near Degollada de San Sebastian, 572 m, 28° 07' 45" N, 17° 10' 32" W, 08.I.2015, O. Arango (LPA 40746). Paratype: ibid., road GM-1, near Degollada de San Sebastian, 580 m, O. Arango (TFC 54562).

**Diagnosis:** The differential diagnosis of *A.  $\times$  praedictum* includes *A.  $\times$  aguajilvense* Bañares (TFC 37963!), an extremely rare hybrid that we have never seen in nature; however, an analysis of the protologue and the study of the holotype, confirms that these are two different nothotaxa. The new hybrid differs from *A.  $\times$  aguajilvense* because the plants consist of a central stem ending in a dominant rosette of larger size (10–12 cm) and 4 to 6 shaped-chandelier branches ending in smaller rosettes. The leaves are yellowish-green similar to those of *A. decorum*; the inflorescence is a conical panicle, glabrous, with bell-shaped flowers, broad petals in a left-contorted arrangement with the margin provided with glandular hairs, the filaments of the stamens are flat tapering. Likewise, *A.  $\times$  praedictum* differs from *A.  $\times$  castelodecorum* Bañares (TFC 19944!), another hybrid of the area with the participation of *A. decorum*, because the plants of the new hybrid are much less branched and the rosettes are larger (10–12 cm), the leaves are oblanceolate-cuneate, glabrescent, yellowish-green with a red border and the margin is provided in the distal half with conical cilia; the flowers have broad petals and are not laterally twisted as is usual in *A. castello-paivae* Bolle hybrids.

**Description:** Perennial subshrub plant, intermediate in size between the parents, 25–35 cm tall, formed by a central stem ending in a main rosette, which

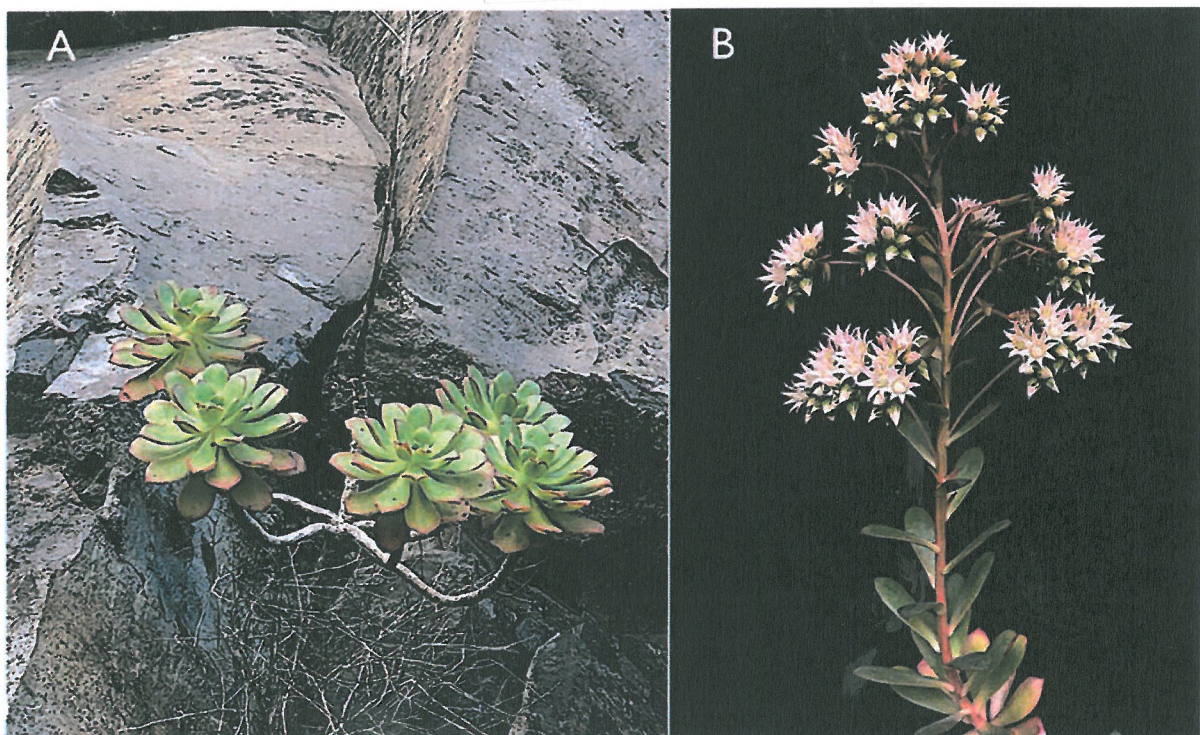
at mid-height divides into 4–6 shaped-chandelier branches. Leaf rosette flattened, 10–12 cm in diameter, lax. Phyllotaxy: 5/13. Leaves oblanceolate-cuneate, glabrate, dark green with a red border, 7  $\times$  2.2  $\times$  0.5 cm, apiculate obtuse apex, cuneate base, margin provided on distal half with conical cilia 0.5 mm long. Inflorescence in conical panicle, 18  $\times$  20 cm, glabrous central axis provided with bracts similar to smaller leaves, and 12–15 dichotomous floral branches in the distal in two floriferous branches, each with 8–10 flowers. Calyx with elongated triangular sepals, 6  $\times$  2 mm, glabrate. Flowers with 8 (7–9) parted, bell-shaped corolla, 2.0–2.2 cm in diameter; petals lanceolate, acuminate, 10  $\times$  3 mm, glabrescent on the margin and abaxially, white with pink hues on the underside, in a left-contorted arrangement. Stamens white with flattened glabrescent filaments and yellow pale rounded anthers. Carpels with white ovaries, glabrous, 4.0  $\times$  1.2 mm; styles 4.0 mm long, white, glabrous, divergent in the distal part and capitate stigmas. Nectariferous scales white, quadrangular in shape, 1.0  $\times$  0.8 mm apically undulate. Fig. 4.

**Phenology:** Flowering April to June.

**Etymology:** The epithet infraspecific refers to botanist Volker Voggenreiter's prediction that human action would make this hybrid possible in nature.

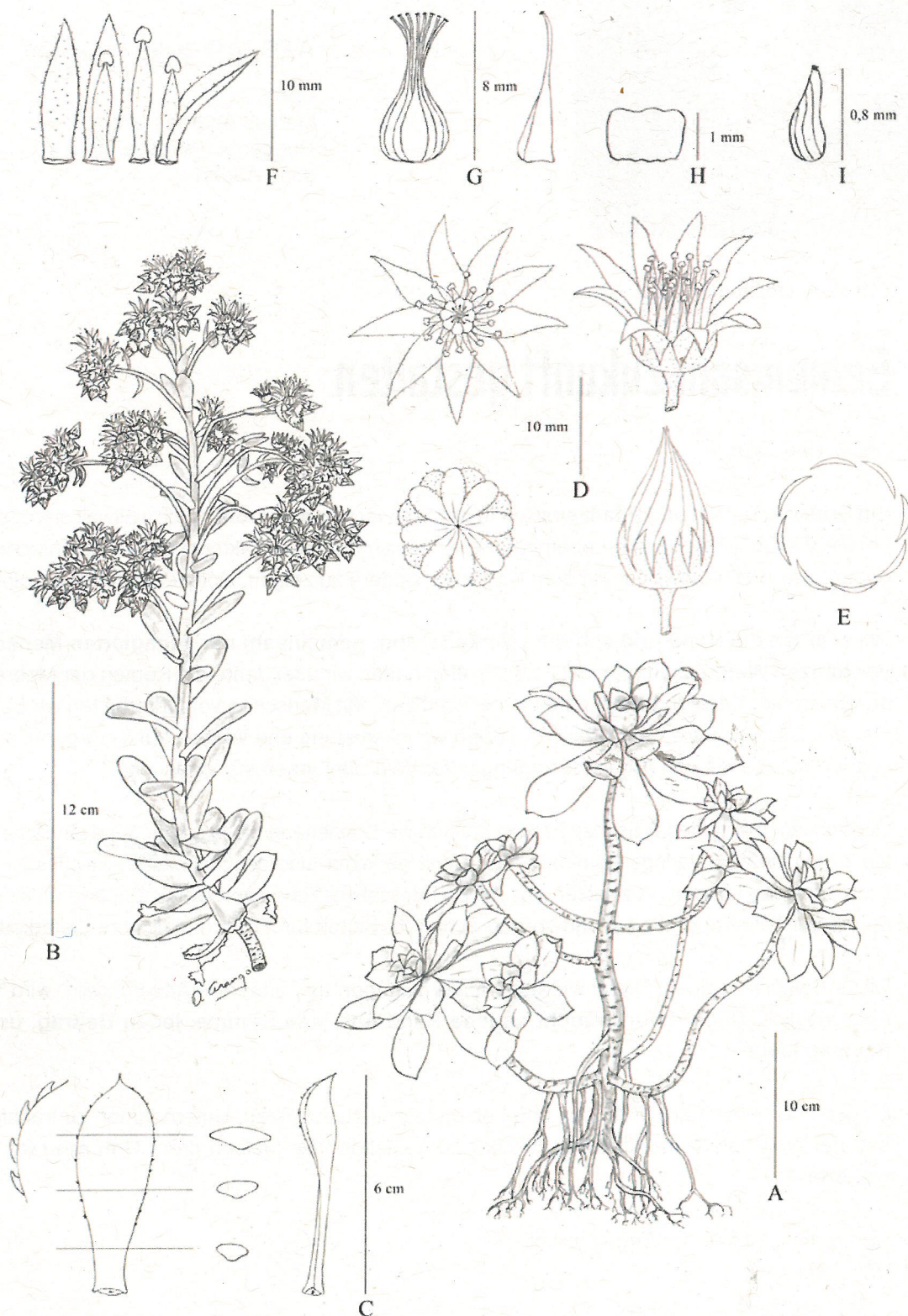
**Habitat:** It is a sporadic natural hybrid that was found living in a rocky and sunny area, on the Canary vegetation belt of the thermosclerophyllous forest, 200–800 m.

The distribution areas of *A. gomerense* (Praeger) Praeger and *A. decorum* var. *decorum* Webb ex Bolle, which previously did not coincide spatially, came into contact due the effect that Voggenreiter (1999) called "anthropogenic translocation following roads" which favored the progressive colonization of roadsides by *A. decorum* bringing the populations of both parents closer together and as predicted by the German botanist, hybridization between.



**Figure 3.** *Aeonium*  $\times$  *praedictum* Arango nothosp. nov.: (A), aspect of the plant growing in its habitat; (B), inflorescence (photographs: O. Arango).





**Figure 4.** *Aeonium*  $\times$  *praedictum* Arango nothosp. nov.: (A), plant habit; (B) inflorescence; (C) leaves and leaf margin detail; (D), flowers and flower buds; (E), levo-contorta arrangement of petals in the corolla; (F), petals on both sides and stamens; (G), carpels; (H), nectariferous scales; (I), seeds (drawings: O. Arango).