Philodendron roseospathum


Planta terrestre, raro hemiepiphytica; internodia 1–4 cm longa, 1.5–2.7 cm diam.; cataphylla 12–27 cm longa, acute 2-costata, persistentia semi-intacta nodis superioribus; petiolus U-formatus, obtuse sulcatus, 10–23 cm longus, 3–6 mm diam., crassior quam latus; lamina (22)30–49 cm longa, 9.8–21 cm lata, elliptica vel oblongo-elliptica, interdum oblancoleata, interdum attenuata apice, acute vel anguste rotundata, interdum attenuata basi; inflorencia 1–2; pedunculus 2.5–6 cm longus; spatha 6.5–10 cm longa; lamina spathei extus saepe rubella plerumque ataviridi, intus pallide viridi vel marronii; tubo spathei extus pallido-lineato, intus pallide viridi vel marronii; pistilla (4)5–(7)locularia; loculi 14–18-ovulati; baccae albae.

Terrestrial or rarely hemiepiphytic; stem appressed-climbing or creeping, leaf scars inconspicuous, obscured by cataphyll fibers; internodes short, semiglossy, 1–4 cm long, 1.5–2.7 cm diam., longer than broad, dark green to gray-green to reddish, obscured by cataphyll fibers; roots many, thin, wiry, descending, greenish brown; cataphylls 12–27 cm long, sharply 2-ribbed (unribbed to weakly to sharply 2-ribbed in Colombia), pale red to purple-violet, drying dark brown, sharply D-shaped, persisting semi-intact at upper nodes, as fibers below; petioles 10–27 cm long, 3–6 mm diam., U-shaped, thicker than broad, firm, dark green to reddish, tinged purple, somewhat flattened to obtusely or narrowly sulcate adaxially; geniculum pale green to reddish violet, 1 cm long, 1.5 cm diam.; blades elliptic to oblong-elliptic, sometimes oblancoleate, rarely elliptic, coriaceous to subcoriaceous, conspicuously bicolorous, sometimes acuminate at apex (the acumen inrolled, 1–3 mm long), acute to narrowly rounded, sometimes attenuate at base, (22)30–49 cm long, 9.5–21 cm wide (1.8–3.5(4.5) times longer than broad), (1.6–3.2 times longer than petiole), about twice as long as wide, upper surface dark green, matte to semiglossy, lower surface moderately paler, semiglossy to glossy; midrib narrowly sunken, paler than surface above, narrowly convex, thicker than broad, matte, paler than surface and sometimes reddish green below; basal veins lacking or sometimes 1–2 per side, free to base; primary lateral veins 8–14(16) per side, departing midrib at a 40–55° angle, sunken to narrowly sunken, concolorous to paler than surface above, convex and darker than surface below; interprimary veins few, sunken to narrowly sunken, concolorous to paler than surface above, raised and darker than surface below; minor veins few, moderately obscure above, darker than surface below, arising from midrib only, sometimes prominent and weakly undulate on drying. INFLORENCES 1–2 per axil; peduncle 2.5–6 cm long, 2.5–5 mm diam., reddish, prominently green streaked; spathe 6.5–10 cm long (1.3–3.3(4.6) times longer than peduncle), red to maroon or violet-purple or sometimes green heavily tinged red, sometimes greenish white throughout; spathe blade frequently dark green (red in Colombia) outside, pale green to maroon inside; spathe tube short pale-lineate outside, 3–4 cm long, 2 cm diam., pale green to maroon inside; spadix ± tapered, 6.8–8 cm long, broadest at the base; pistillate portion white to pale green, cylindrical, 2–3.7 mm long, 1–1.5 mm diam. at apex, 11–7.2 mm diam. at middle, 9–11(17) mm wide at base; staminate portion 3.9–4.9(6) cm long; fertile staminate portion cream, cylindrical to somewhat tapered, 10 mm diam. at base, 8 mm diam. at middle, 8 mm diam. at apex, 1 cm from apex, broadest usually at base, narrower than the pistillate or sterile portion; sterile staminate portion as broad as the pistillate portion, 10 mm diam.; pistils 2.5 mm long, 1.6–1.9 mm diam., tinged reddish; ovary (4)5–(7)locular, 1.4 mm long, 1.6 mm diam., with axile placentation; locules 1.4 mm long, 0.5 mm diam.; ovules 14–18 per locule, contained within a gelatinous matrix, 2-seriate, 0.3–0.5 mm long, longer than funicle; funicle 0.2–0.4 mm long, adnate to lower part of partition, style 0.4–0.6 mm long, 1.6–1.8 mm diam., similar to style type B; style apex flat to weakly rounded; stigma usually subdiscoid, 1.1–1.3 mm diam., 0.2–0.5 mm high, covering entire style apex; the androecium truncate, prismatic, oblong, margins irregularly 4–6-sided, 0.7 mm long, 1.2–1.5 mm diam. at apex; thecae oblong to cylindrical, 0.5 mm wide, ± parallel to one another and contiguous; sterile staminate flowers clavate, blunt, irregularly 4–6-sided, 2.3 mm long, 2 mm wide. INFRUCTIONS with pistillate spadix 4–4.5 cm long, 1.5–2.5 cm diam.; berries white (immature), 3.5 mm long, 2.6 mm diam., 12–14 per locule; seeds 7–9 per locule, whitish, oblong, 1.8 mm long, sharply tapered on one end.

*Philodendron roseospathum* ranges from Panama to Colombia. In Panama, this taxon is restricted to both sides of the Panama Canal, ranging from Ver-
aguas to San Blas, mostly in Premontane rain forest or less frequently in Tropical wet forest life zones, at 350 to 1000 m elevation. In Colombia, it has been collected only in tropical pluvial forest at 100 to 900 m.

Philotendron roseospathum is a member of P. sect. Philodendron subsect. Canniphylum. The typical variety is recognized by its generally erect, frequently terrestrial habit, short internodes, and rousulate cluster of leaves with moderately short, bluntly sulcate, thicker-than-broad petioles. The dark green, elliptic-oblanceolate leaf blades are narrowly rounded to acute at the base. It is especially recognizable by its masses of weathered persistent callathypyls and clusters of inflorescences with reddish spathes (hence the name “roseospathum”). This species is unusual for the genus in that it is generally terrestrial. It has prospered in cultivation and is deemed an important horticultural introduction.

Philotendron roseospathum appears to be most closely related to P. cuneatum Engl. from the Pacific slope of Colombia, but the latter species differs in having acutely sulcate, C-shaped petioles and smaller, more narrowly pedunculate inflorescences with white spathe blades. It is also related to several other undescribed species from the Amazon basin.

Philotendron roseospathum is here divided into two varieties, with variety angustilaminatum Croat differing from the typical variety in having somewhat longer petioles and proportionately much narrower blades (4.5 times longer than broad vs. an average of 2.5 times longer than broad for the typical variety). See P. roseospathum var. angustilaminatum for additional differences.

Key to the Varieties of P. roseospathum

1a. Blades oblong, ca. 4.5 times longer than wide; Panama (Colón), 915 m elevation ....................................... var. angustilaminatum

1b. Blades ± elliptic, ca. 2.5 times longer than wide; Panama to Colombia, 400-900 m elevation ................................... var. roseospathum

**Philotendron roseospathum** Croat var. **roseospathum**

Flowering in Philodendron roseospathum var. roseospathum occurs in the late dry season and early rainy season (March through July) with post-anthesis collections known from March through September and immature fruits from July to December. The few South American collections concur with this pattern. Flowering collections are known from Colombia in July.

In Central America, *P. roseospathum* var. *roseospathum* is commonly local in cloud forests along the Continental Divide as far west as Veraguas and as far east as the El Llano-Cartí Road. It is certainly to be expected in Darién Province.

For differences with *P. var. angustilaminatum*, see the preceding key.

**Additional specimens examined for P. roseospathum var. roseospathum**

**PANAMA. Coclé:** Continental Divide ridge, Coclesito Road, Hammel 2540 (CR, MO); El Copé region, 7 km N of Copé, Alto Calvario, 800 m, Folsom & Mauseth 7948 (MO); 750-900 m, Croat 44738 (F, MO); 710-800 m, 8°39'N, 80°36'W, 68763 (MO); 900-1000 m, 8°39'N, 80°36'W, Croat 75057 (MO); El Valle region, La Mesa, N of El Valle de Antón, 800-900 m, 8°38'N, 80°09'W, Croat 67130 (CAS, CM, K, MEXU, MO, NY, PMA, TEX); 860-900 m, 37°34 (F, MO); 830-900 m, 8°36'N, 80°07'W, 74810 (CM, LE, MO, WIS); ca. 800 m, 52453 (F, MO); Luteyn & Kennedy 1632 (MO); 850 m, 8°37'N, 80°06'W, de Nevers et al. 3513 (MO); 2700 ft., Sysma et al. 4350 (CM, MO); 840-880 m, 8°33'N, 807.5°W, Grayum & Evans 9908 (MO); Cerro Gaial, 900-1000 m, 8°40'W, Knap 5311 (MO); 860 m, 8°37'N, 80°08'W, Croat & Zhu 76734 (AAU, CAS, CM, MEXU, MO); N slope and summit of Cerro Píllon, 900-1173 m, Croat 22951 (MO).

**Panamá:** El Llano–Cartí Road, 4 mi. beyond the highway, 500 m, Croat 49135 (MO); Cerro Jefe region, 750-850 m, 9°15'N, 79°30'W, McPherson 11166 (MO), 11197 (CM, MO); 1000 m, Croat 49098 (MO); ca. 1000 m, Mori et al. 3795 (MO); ca. 930 m, ca. 9°15’N, 79°30’W, McPherson 7107 (B, K, MO, US); 2500-3000 ft., Hammel 3704 (MO); 750 m, 8°14’N, 79°29’W, Croat 67089 (MO); vic. Altos de Pacora, 800-1000 m, Croat 22672 (CM, L, MO, WIS); 3-3.5 mi. NE of Altos de Pacora, 700-750 m, 9°15’N, 79°25’W, Croat 68635 (MO); La Eneida, ca. 800 m, Kennedy et al. 3374 (US); Powell & Weil 3158 (ECON); 1000 m, Folsom & Page 5938 (MO); 6 mi. above Lago Cerro Azul, Croat 15225 (MO); Campo Tres, ca. 700 m, Croat 27069 (F, MO); 4.6 km beyond peak, on road to Altos de Pacora, 26.3 km from the Inter-American Highway, ca. 600 m, Croat 35931 (CAS, CM, F, GH, M, MEXU, MO, P).

**San Blas:** El Llano–Cartí Road, Nusagandi, 300-350 m, 9°15’N, 79°29’W, Croat 69222 (MO); Mile 10.9, 450 m, 9°18’W, 79°59’W, Croat 75123A (MO); Cerro Ohu, 400-500 m, 400-500 m, de Nevers et al. 8054 (MO). **Veraguas:** Santa Fe region, Santa Fe–Río San Luis, past Escuela Agricola Alto de Piedra, ca. 5 mi. N of school, 670 m, 8°33’N, 81°08’W, Croat 66972 (GB, MO, RSA); Santa Fe–Calóvédora, 1.7 mi. past Alto Piedra School, 570 m, 8°33’N, 81°08’W, Croat & Zhu 76857B (MO).

**COLOMBIA. Antioquia:** Parque Nacional Natural “Las Orquídeas,” Sector Venados, 900 m, 6°33’N, 76°19’W, Cogollo et al. 3344 (MO). **Chocó:** Quibdó–Istmina, vicinity of Quibdó, <100 m, 6°29’N, 76°36’W, Croat & Cogollo 52233 (MO); Quibdó–Bolívar, 117-118 km E of Quibdó, 465 m, 5°44’N, 76°28’W, Croat 57515 (CHOCO, CM, COL, JAUM, MO, NY, PMA); Río Baudó, Fuchs et al. 22048 (COL); Meledellín–Quibdó at Km 208.5, 9 km W of Tununendo, ca. 9 km E of Quibdó, <100 m, 5°39’N, 76°40’W, Croat 56202.