PRELIMINARY NOTES ON SARCOYGME,
A NEW RUBIACEOUS GENUS FROM SAMOA

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In 1898 Reinecke\(^1\) extended the range of *Sarcocephalus* to include the Samoan Islands, describing a new species, *Sarcocephalus pacificus*. In 1908 Lauterbach\(^2\) described an additional species from Samoa, *Sarcocephalus ramusus*, and Rechinger\(^3\) and Hochreutiner\(^4\) also record *Sarcocephalus pacificus* for Samoa.

In 1921 Setchell\(^5\) discovered plants on Tutuila which are undoubtedly congeneric with *Sarcocephalus pacificus* Reinecke, finding, however, that they could not be referred to this genus. They were temporarily placed in the genus *Breonia*, but a closer examination of the more ample material collected later by Setchell, Christophersen, and others on all the larger islands of Samoa has definitely proved that the plants of this affinity group belong to an undescribed genus, for which we propose the name *Sarcogyme*. The name alludes to the character of the infructescence, the ovaries being united into a fleshy fist.

*Sarcogyme* shows a superficial resemblance to *Sarcocephalus* in the fruiting heads, but is markedly different from this genus in its single ovules in each cell of the ovary. In *Sarcocephalus* the cells of the ovary are multiovular. The ovules in both genera are anatropous, but they are ascending or erect in *Sarcogyme*, horizontal or pendant in *Sarcocephalus*.

*Sarcogyme* is most closely related to *Morinda* as typified by *M. citrifolia* Linnaeus. Points of difference are: *Sarcogyme*, stipules caducous, involucre present, all (or most) flowers in the head open simultaneously, calyx distinct, stigma club-shaped; *Morinda citrifolia*, stipules persistent, involucre absent, only a few flowers open at a time, starting from below, calyx indistinct, fleshy, stigma 2-parted.

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Genus SARCOPYGME, genus novum


Sarcocephalum pacificus (Reinecke), combinatio nova.


Type: Upolu, Graeffe no. 49 (= Reinecke no. 1623) (herb. Hamburg). Reinecke also cites a specimen collected by himself (Upolu, Tofoa, November 1893, no. 168) but we have not been able to locate this specimen.

Sarcocephalum ramosus (Lauterbach), combinatio nova.


Type: Savaii, Mataana. altitude 1,600 meters, September 20, 1906, Vaupel no. 525 (herb. Berol.).
Sarcopygme Mayorii (Setchell), combinatio nova.

Breonia (? Mayorii Setchell, pro parte: Am. Samoa, p. 44, pls. 6 and 7, 1924.

Type: Tutuila, trail to Matafao, January 1922, Setchell no. 419, leg. Siitupe (herb. Univ. Calif., no. 215051).