

SUBSPECIES BOUNDARIES OF THE WILD POTATOES
SOLANUM BULBOCASTANUM AND *S. CARDIOPHYLLUM*
BASED ON MORPHOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR RFLP DATA

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ABSTRACT

Morphological data and single- to low-copy nuclear DNA restriction enzyme site data were used to test subspecies circumscriptions of *Solanum bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum*. A prior chloroplast DNA analysis showed these species to be part of two main clades: 1. *S. bulbocastanum* subsp. *bulbocastanum*, *S. bulbocastanum* subsp. *dolichophyllum*, *S. bulbocastanum* subsp. *partitum*, *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *cardiophyllum* and *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *lanceolatum*, and 2. *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* and other Mexican diploid species. The nuclear DNA and morphological data showed *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* to be slightly distinguishable from the other subspecies of *S. cardiophyllum*, and do not support the distinction of subspecies within either species. These data add to a growing body of evidence that there are too many wild potato taxa recognized.

Key words: nuclear RFLP, *Solanum bulbocastanum*, *Solanum cardiophyllum*, *Solanum* section *Petota*, taxonomy.

RESUMEN

Se analizan los límites intra-específicos de *Solanum bulbocastanum* y *S. cardiophyllum* utilizando caracteres morfológicos y sitios de restricción en ADN nuclear. Un estudio anterior, con base en sitios de restricción en ADN del cloroplasto, mostró a estas dos especies como parte de dos clados. El primero agrupó a *S. bulbocastanum* subsp. *bulbocastanum*, *S. bulbocastanum* subsp.

dolichophyllum, *S. bulbocastanum* subsp. *partitum*, *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *cardiophyllum* y *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *lanceolatum*. El segundo incluyó a *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* y otras especies diploides mexicanas. De acuerdo con los datos morfológicos y moleculares, *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* es ligeramente diferente de las otras subespecies de *S. cardiophyllum*. Por otro lado, el análisis no apoya la distinción de subespecies. Por último, la información aquí presentada se suma a la evidencia publicada en otros artículos en el sentido del reconocimiento de un número demasiado alto de especies silvestres de papa.

Palabras clave: RFLP nuclear, *Solanum bulbocastanum*, *Solanum cardiophyllum*, *Solanum* sección *Petota*, taxonomía.

INTRODUCTION

Solanum L. sect. *Petota* Dumort., the potato and its wild relatives, is distributed from the southwestern United States to south-central Chile, with a concentration of diversity in the Andes. Hawkes (1990) recognized 232 species, partitioned into 21 series. Spooner and Hijmans (2001) updated this to 199 species, considering taxonomic changes since 1990. Within sect. *Petota*, there are widely different philosophies and taxonomic practices regarding species circumscriptions, the rank of infraspecific taxa, the placement of species into series, and the extent and evolutionary significance of interspecific hybridization (Spooner and Sytsma, 1992; Spooner and van den Berg, 1992a,b).

This study examines subspecies differentiation of two Mexican species, *S. bulbocastanum* Dunal and *S. cardiophyllum* Lindl., with phenetic analysis of morphological and single to low-copy nuclear RFLP data (nDNA). A prior chloroplast DNA (cpDNA) cladistic analysis (Rodríguez and Spooner, 1997) showed these species to be part of two well-supported clades: clade 1: *Solanum bulbocastanum* [subsp. *bulbocastanum*, subsp. *dolichophyllum* (Bitter) Hawkes, subsp. *partitum* (Correll) Hawkes] and *S. cardiophyllum* [subsp. *cardiophyllum* and subsp. *lanceolatum* (P. Berthault) Bitter], and clade 2. *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* Bitter and other Mexican diploid species.

Taxonomically, *Solanum bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* have been treated in different ways (Fig. 1). Rydberg (1924) and Correll (1962) recognized *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* as a distinct species, *S. ehrenbergii* (Bitter) Rydb. Preliminary observations of live plants grown from a germplasm bank, study of herbarium specimens, and field observations (Spooner et al., 1991; Rodríguez et al., 1995) suggested to us that these subspecies were morphologically poorly defined.

Solanum bulbocastanum grows from west central Mexico to northwestern Guatemala, in generally open situations of tropical deciduous forests. *Solanum cardiophyllum* grows from west central Mexico to southern Mexico, in open situations of tropical deciduous forests, mesquite-cactus grasslands, and as a weed in corn and bean fields (Correll, 1962; Hawkes, 1990; Luna et al., 1988; Rodríguez, 1991). They are sympatric throughout much of their range.

Solanum bulbocastanum and *S. cardiophyllum* typically are diploid ($2n = 2x = 24$), with occasional triploid cytotypes (Hawkes, 1990). Luna et al. (1988) report diploid, triploid, and even tetraploid cytotypes for *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii*. *Solanum bulbocastanum*, *S. cardiophyllum*, and all other Mexican diploid species (except *S. verrucosum* Schtdl.) are in similar crossing groups in that each has endosperm balance

numbers (EBN: strong crossing barriers involving ratios of maternal and paternal effective ploidy in the endosperm, and governing endosperm function) of 1 (Hanneman, 1994).

Solanum bulbocastanum is one of the most morphologically distinctive species in sect. *Petota*. It has simple leaves, where the majority of wild potatoes have pinnately dissected leaves. All authors have classified it in ser. *Bulbocastana* (Rydb.) Hawkes (e. g. Rydberg, 1924; Correll, 1962; Flores Crespo, 1966; Bukasov, 1978; Hawkes, 1990). However, the composition of this series was different among authors, some making it monotypic, others including *S. clarum* Correll and *S. morelliforme* Bitter & Münch (Spooner and Sytsma, 1992).

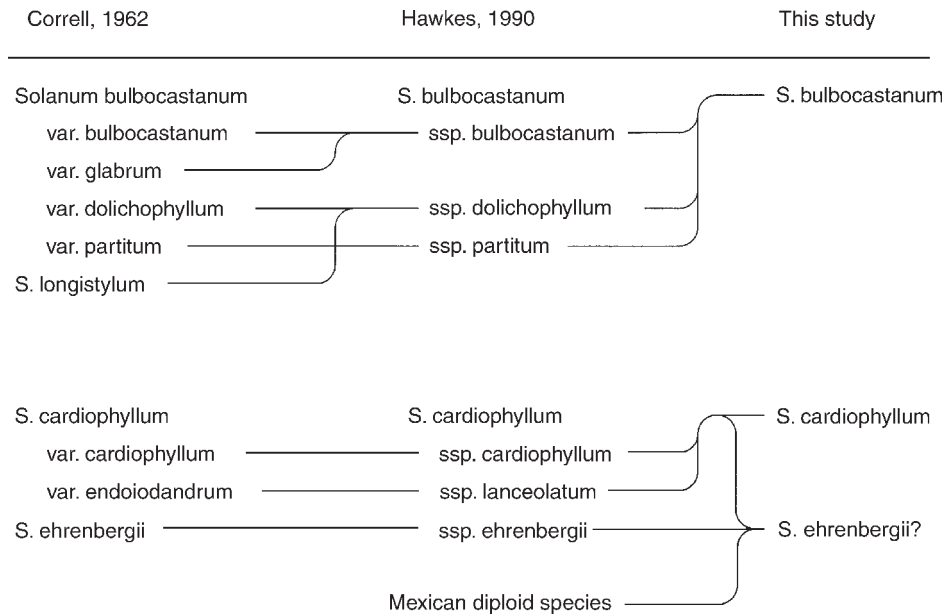


Fig. 1. A comparison of the classifications of infraspecific taxa of *Solanum bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* of Correll (1962), Hawkes (1990), and this study.

Solanum cardiophyllum, on the other hand, has pinnately dissected leaves, but its combination of white to cream colored stellate corollas, usually shiny leaves, and cordate leaflets makes it distinctive and unlikely to be confused with any other wild potato except *S. brachistotrichum* (Bitter) Rydb. or *S. stenophyllidium* Bitter. It has been classified by various authors (e. g. Rydberg, 1924; Correll, 1962; Flores-Crespo, 1966; Bukasov, 1978; Hawkes, 1990) in ser. *Cardiophylla* Correll or ser. *Pinnatisecta* (Rydberg) Hawkes. Like ser. *Bulbocastana*, the placement of putative related species in ser. *Cardiophylla* and ser. *Pinnatisecta* has varied greatly (Spooner and Sytsma, 1992).

A chloroplast DNA (cpDNA) study of 48 accessions of 26 Mexican and Central American species of sect. *Petota*, including two accessions each of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* (Spooner and Sytsma, 1992), showed an unexpected result. These two species formed a distinct clade, well separated from all other Mexican diploid species with which they were thought to be closely related. Neither morphological, crossing, nor immunological data provided a clue to this cladistic relationship. *Solanum bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* are very different morphologically and have always been placed in different series. Both can be hybridized artificially to form F₁ individuals with high pollen stainability, and fertile F₂ plants can be obtained from these (Magoon et al., 1958; Graham and Dionne, 1961). Not all attempts at this hybrid combination were successful (Swaminathan, 1955; Hawkes, 1958). However, equally fertile artificial hybrids also have been reported between *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* with other Mexican diploid species that previously were thought to be related (i. e., *S. jamesii* Torrey, *S. pinnatisectum* Dunal, *S. trifidum* Correll; Magoon et al., 1958; Graham et al., 1959; Graham and Dionne, 1961). Immunological studies (Gell et al., 1960) suggested that *S. bulbocastanum*, *S. cardiophyllum*, and other species in the Mexican diploid clade were equally related.

Restriction enzyme site polymorphisms from single- to low-copy nuclear DNA have been used to detect relationships within section *Petota* (Debener et al., 1990), and to investigate species and subspecies circumscriptions (Hosaka and Spooner, 1992; Giannattasio and Spooner, 1994b; Miller and Spooner, 1999). In addition, morphological studies are useful to test prior classifications (Fig. 1, Tables 1, 2), to check identities of germplasm and field collections, and to examine the relationship between morphological and molecular data. No explicit morphological or molecular study has ever been conducted to test subspecies circumscriptions of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum*.

This study is a counterpart to the cpDNA study of Rodríguez and Spooner (1997), using the same accessions as that study. The objective is to examine the support for subspecies of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* using nDNA and morphology. The results are needed to determine the validity of these taxa for a taxonomic monograph of the wild potatoes of the USA, Mexico, and Central America, currently in progress.

Table 1. Morphological characters used by Hawkes (1990) to distinguish the subspecies of *Solanum bulbocastanum*.

Character	Character states		
	subsp. <i>bulbocastanum</i>	subsp. <i>dolichophyllum</i>	subsp. <i>partitum</i>
Leaf shape	Ovate to ovate-lanceolate; less than 2.5 times as long as wide	Linear-lanceolate; more than 2.5 times as long as wide	Ovate to ovate-lanceolate; less than 2.5 times as long as wide
Pedicle pubescence	Pubescent both below and above the articulation	Pubescent both below and above the articulation	Pubescent below and glabrous above the articulation
Calyx pubescence	Pubescent	Pubescent	Glabrous
Corolla shape	Lobed near the middle	Lobed near the middle	Lobed near the base

Table 2. Morphological characters used by Hawkes (1990) to distinguish the subspecies of *Solanum cardiophyllum*.

Character	Character states		
	subsp. <i>cardiophyllum</i>	subsp. <i>ehrenbergii</i>	subsp. <i>lanceolatum</i>
Leaflet shape	Broadly ovate-cordate; less than 2.5 times as long as wide	Oblong-lanceolate to lanceolate; less than 2.5 times as long as wide	Lanceolate; more than 2.5 times as long as wide
Sepal acumen length	< 0.5 mm	0.5-1.5 mm	0.5-1.0 mm
Anther length	5.0 mm	6.0-7.0 mm	5.0 mm

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plants

Forty-seven accessions of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* and one accession of *S. pinnatisectum* (representing a member of the Mexican diploid species clade) were analyzed for the nDNA study; with few exceptions, accessions were the same used in the cpDNA study of Rodríguez and Spooner (1997) (Table 3). The morphological study used plants of 65 accessions of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum*, including all those used for the cpDNA and nDNA studies (Table 3). Accessions were obtained from the United States potato germplasm bank of the National Research Support Program-6 (NRSP-6) at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (Bamberg et al., 1996) and on an expedition to Mexico (Rodríguez et al., 1995), where these were the two target species.

Table 3. Accessions examined, arranged alphabetically and then geographically within taxa from the northwest to the southeast.

Taxon ¹	Study ²	PI ³	Collector	Locality ⁴
1. blb blb	M,C,N	275187	<i>Hawkes 1584</i>	Mexico. Michoacán.
2. blb blb	M,C,N	347757	<i>Tam 153</i>	Mexico. Michoacán.
3. blb blb	M	498225	<i>Ochoa 14163</i>	Mexico. Michoacán.
4. blb blb	M	595475	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2555</i>	Mexico. Hidalgo.
5. blb blb	M	275184	<i>Hawkes 1581</i>	Mexico. Distrito Federal.
6. blb blb	M,C,N	275185	<i>Hawkes 1582</i>	Mexico. Distrito Federal.
7. blb blb	M,C,N	275186	<i>Hawkes 1583</i>	Mexico. Distrito Federal.
8. blb blb	M,C,N	275197	<i>Hawkes 1594</i>	Mexico. Distrito Federal.
9. blb blb	M,C,N	275188	<i>Hawkes 1585</i>	Mexico.
10. blb blb	M,C,N	275189	<i>Hawkes 1586</i>	Mexico. México.
11. blb blb	M,C,N	275198	<i>Hawkes 1595</i>	Mexico. México.
12. blb blb	M,C,N	275199	<i>Hawkes 1596</i>	Mexico. México.

Table 3. Continuation.

Taxon ¹	Study ²	PI ³	Collector	Locality ⁴
13. blb blb	M,C,N	595471	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2546</i>	Mexico. México.
14. blb blb	M,C	275192	<i>Hawkes 1589</i>	Mexico. Tlaxcala.
15. blb blb	M,C,N	545711	<i>Tarn et al. 149</i>	Mexico. Guerrero.
16. blb blb	M	365379	<i>Tarn 224</i>	Mexico. Veracruz.
17. blb blb	M,C,N	275194	<i>Hawkes 1591</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
18. blb blb	C,N	275195	<i>Hawkes 1592</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
19. blb blb	M,C,N	275196	<i>Hawkes 1593</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
20. blb blb	M,C,N	283096	<i>Hawkes 1719</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
21. blb blb	M,C,N	498011	<i>Tarn et al. 173</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
22. blb blb	M	498223	<i>Ochoa 14142</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
23. blb blb	M,C,N	595464	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2509</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
24. blb blb	M		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2510</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
25. blb blb	M,C,N		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2518</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
26. blb blb	M		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2522</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
27. blb blb	M,C,N		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2523</i>	Mexico. Oaxaca.
28. blb blb	M	347758	<i>Tarn 233B</i>	Mexico.
29. blb dph	C		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2580</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
30. blb dph	M,C	590930	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2581</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
31. blb dph	M,C,N	255516	<i>Graham 300B</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
32. blb dph	M	255518	<i>Graham 313</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
33. blb dph	M	545751	<i>Tarn et al. 237</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
34. blb dph	M,C,N	498224	<i>Ochoa 14162</i>	Mexico. Michoacán.
35. blb dph	M,C,N	545752	<i>Tarn et al. 244</i>	Mexico. México.
36. blb dph	M,C,N	595473	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2548</i>	Mexico. Morelos.
37. blb ptt	M,C,N	558379	<i>Spooner et al. 4224</i>	Mexico. Chiapas.
38. blb ptt	M,C,N	275200	<i>Hawkes 1796</i>	Guatemala. Quetzaltenango.
39. cph cph	M,N	595482	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2570</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
40. cph cph	M,C,N	283062	<i>Graham s. n.</i>	Mexico. México.
41. cph cph	M	283063	<i>Graham s. n.</i>	Mexico. México.
42. cph cph	M,C,N		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2551</i>	Mexico. Morelos.
43. cph cph	M,C,N	347759	<i>Tarn 241D</i>	Mexico. Puebla.
44. cph cph	M,C,N	595465	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2529</i>	Mexico. Puebla.
45. cph cph	M,C,N	595468	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2541</i>	Mexico. Puebla.
46. cph ehr	M	186548	<i>Hawkes 1100</i>	Mexico. Zacatecas.
47. cph ehr	M	186549	<i>Hawkes 1102</i>	Mexico. Zacatecas.
48. cph ehr	M	545824	<i>Tarn et al. 228</i>	Mexico. Zacatecas.
49. cph ehr	M,N	595480	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2567</i>	Mexico. Zacatecas.
50. cph ehr	M,C	279272	<i>Hawkes 1458</i>	Mexico. Aguascalientes.
51. cph ehr	M	255520	<i>Graham 289</i>	Mexico. San Luis Potosí.
52. cph ehr	M,N	545753	<i>Tarn et al. 211</i>	Mexico. San Luis Potosí.
53. cph ehr	M,C,N	595479	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2566</i>	Mexico. San Luis Potosí.
54. cph ehr	M,C,N	595486	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2579</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
55. cph ehr	M,C,N	595488	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2584</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
56. cph ehr	C,N		<i>Rodríguez et al. 2586</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
57. cph ehr	C,N		<i>Rodríguez 2588</i>	Mexico. Jalisco.
58. cph ehr	M,C,N	611097	<i>Rodríguez et al. 2564</i>	Mexico. Guanajuato.

Table 3. Continuation.

Taxon ¹	Study ²	PI ³	Collector	Locality ⁴
59. cph ehr	M,C,N	184762	Hawkes 1086	Mexico. Querétaro.
60. cph ehr	M,C,N	275216	Hawkes 1421	Mexico. Querétaro.
61. cph ehr	M	275212	Hawkes 1427	Mexico. Querétaro.
62. cph ehr	M,C	275213	Hawkes 1428	Mexico. Querétaro.
63. cph ehr	M,C,N	275214	Hawkes 1429	Mexico. Querétaro.
64. cph ehr	M		Rodríguez et al. 2496	Mexico. Querétaro.
65. cph ehr	M,C,N		Rodríguez et al. 2497	Mexico. Querétaro.
66. cph ehr	M	595477	Rodríguez et al. 2560	Mexico. Querétaro.
67. cph ehr	M,C,N	595466	Rodríguez et al. 2533	Mexico. Puebla.
68. cph lcl	C,N	595465	Rodríguez et al. 2529L	Mexico. Puebla.
69. cph lcl	M,C,N	Still in quarant.	Rodríguez et al. 2534	Mexico. Puebla.
70. cph lcl	M	595470	Rodríguez et al. 2544	Mexico. Puebla.
71. pnt	C,N	275234	Hawkes 1456	Mexico. Jalisco.

¹Numbers correspond to Figs. 3 and 4 of this paper and Fig. 5 of Rodríguez and Spooner (1997); taxon abbreviations follow Hawkes (1990): blb blb = *S. bulbocastanum* ssp. *bulbocastanum*, blb dph = *S. bulbocastanum* ssp. *dolichophyllum*, blb ptt = *S. bulbocastanum* ssp. *partitum*, cph cph = *S. cardiophyllum* ssp. *cardiophyllum*, cph ehr = *S. cardiophyllum* ssp. *ehrenbergii*, cph lcl = *S. cardiophyllum* ssp. *lanceolatum*, pnt = *S. pinnatisectum*, pls = *S. palustre*. ²M = Accessions examined in this morphological study; C = Accessions examined in the chloroplast DNA study of Rodríguez and Spooner (1997); N = Accessions examined in this nuclear DNA study. ³United States Department of Agriculture Plant Introduction Numbers; those collections without PI numbers did not make it through a successful germplasm increase. ⁴More complete locality data are available in Rodríguez and Spooner (1997).

Identities of the NRSP-6 accessions were provided by visiting taxonomists to NRSP-6 (Spooner and Bamberg, 1991), and are listed in Bamberg et al. (1996). Identities of the subspecies of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* often were not clear during the 1993 expedition to Mexico (Rodríguez et al., 1995), and the plants were identified as expected based on type localities or our best interpretation of the keys in Hawkes (1990) (Tables 1, 2). The rare taxa *S. bulbocastanum* subsp. *partitum* (Correll) Hawkes and *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *lanceolatum* were represented only by two accessions each for the molecular and morphological studies (Table 3). These accessions represent the greatest available geographic and subspecies diversity available from NRSP-6 and recent fieldwork. Voucher specimens for the entire study are deposited at the Mexican National Potato Program in Toluca, Mexico, the University of Guadalajara Herbarium (IBUG), and the United States Potato Introduction Herbarium (PTIS) (Bamberg and Spooner, 1994).

Morphology

Morphological analyses of *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum* assessed 19 and 26 characters, respectively (Table 4). The NRSP-6 germplasm accessions were

measured in an experimental field plot at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, when the plants were in full bloom in September 1993. Other collections (Rodríguez et al., 1995) were measured in the field in Mexico in August and September 1993. Four plants were measured for all characters, and means were used as representative of each accession (the accession represents the Operational Taxonomic Unit, OTU). Measurements of leaves were made on the largest leaf per plant. Sepal acumen length was used by Hawkes (1990) to distinguish the subspecies of *S. cardiophyllum* (Table 2), and was measured for both this species and *S. bulbocastanum* in this study (Table 4). The base of the sepal acumen was measured from the most clearly evident beginning of maximum constriction. Corolla colors were measured with the aid of the R.H.S. Colour Charts (Anonymous, 1986), based on recommendations of Tucker et al. (1991). They were scored as 1-7: 1, violet blue (color 91D); 2, white (155A-D) with violet blue tips of the corolla lobes; 3, white (155A-D); 4, gray-white (156D); 5, yellow-white (158D); 6, yellow-white (158B); 7, yellow (2D).

Table 4. Morphological characters used in the phenetic analysis of *Solanum bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum*. Characters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 23 were not used in the *S. bulbocastanum* analysis; characters 3, 4, 5 and 22 were not used in the *S. cardiophyllum* analysis. All measurements are in millimeters.

Leaf characters:	Floral characters:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leaf width. 2. Ratio: leaf length/leaf width. 3. Leaf length from axis of widest point to apex. 4. Ratio: leaf width/leaf length from axis of widest point to apex. 5. Petiole length. 6. Terminal leaflet width. 7. Terminal leaflet length from axis of widest point to apex. 8. Ratio: terminal leaflet length/terminal leaflet width. 9. Ratio: terminal leaflet width/terminal leaflet length from axis of widest point to apex. 10. Terminal leaflet petiolule length. 11. Primary dorsal lateral leaflet width. 12. Primary dorsal lateral leaflet length from axis of widest point to apex. 13. Ratio: primary dorsal lateral leaflet length/primary dorsal lateral leaflet width. 14. Ratio: primary dorsal lateral leaflet width/primary dorsal lateral leaflet length from axis of widest point to apex. 15. Primary dorsal lateral leaflet petiolule length. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Pedicel length. 17. Ratio: pedicel length/pedicel length from base to articulation. 18. Calyx length. 19. Ratio: calyx length/calyx lobe length. 20. Calyx lobe width at base. 21. Sepal acumen length (see text). 22. Calyx pubescence: glabrous (0), pubescent (1). 23. Corolla color (see text): violet blue (1), white tinged with violet blue towards the tips (2), white (3), gray-white (4), yellow-white (5), deeper yellow-white (6), and yellow (7). 24. Corolla radius, measured from the center of the corolla to the tip of the corolla lobes. 25. Ratio: corolla radius/corolla radius from center to base of corolla lobe. 26. Corolla lobe width. 27. Ratio: corolla lobe width/length from a line drawn across widest point of corolla lobes. 28. Anther length. 29. Style length. 30. Number of flowers per inflorescence, (see Spooner and van den Berg 1992a, for illustrations of characters 24, 25, 26 and 27).

Each character was analyzed for its mean, range, standard deviation, and significance by one-way ANOVA in Minitab (Ryan et al., 1985). Dendrograms including all characters and a reduced subset of characters including only those characters statistically different between subspecies ($p \leq 0.05$) were produced by NTSYS-pc^R, version 1.70 (Rohlf, 1992). Averages for each character were standardized (STAND) and similarity matrices (in SIMINT), using average taxonomic distance (DIST), Manhattan distance (MANHAT), and product-moment correlation (CORR) were generated. Clustering was performed using the unweighted pair-group method (UPGMA) in SAHN. Cophenetic correlation coefficients (COPH, in MXCOMP) were used to measure distortion between the similarity matrices and the resultant two phenograms (Rohlf and Sokal, 1981; Sokal, 1986). Principal Components Analysis was performed with CORR similarity matrices and EIGEN.

Nuclear DNA

Pooled leaf samples of ten plants per accession of the NRSP-6 germplasm accessions were collected from 2-month-old plants for DNA extraction. DNA of the recent collections in Mexico was extracted from 10 pooled leaf samples collected in the field and preserved in silica gel (Chase and Hillis, 1991). Preparations of total DNA were made from about 5 g of fresh or 2 g of dried leaf tissue by the procedure of Doyle and Doyle (1987), substituting 6x CTAB for 2x CTAB (Smith et al., 1991). DNA was purified over CsCl/ethidium bromide gradients. Restriction endonuclease digestions, agarose-gel electrophoresis, unidirectional Southern transfers to nylon membranes (BiotransTM), filter hybridization, and autoradiography followed methods in Palmer (1986).

Five μg of each DNA sample were digested with DraI and EcoRI restriction endonucleases according to manufacturer's instructions. Gel electrophoresis, unidirectional Southern transfers to nylon membranes (Zeta ProbeTM), and autoradiography followed methods in Giannattasio and Spooner (1994b). Hybridization and pre-hybridization used formamide protocols at 42°C (Havey, 1991).

Twenty three nuclear clones from potato, designated as P clones (Hosaka and Spooner, 1992) and tomato, designated as TG clones (Tanksley et al., 1992) were used as hybridization probes for RFLP analysis (P43, P122, P140, P161, P209, P215, P265, P279, P368, P374, P392, P403, P417, P434, P463, P543, P562, P573, P620; T36, T130, T134, T180). The clones were amplified by the Polymerase Chain Reaction and radiolabeled with ³²p-dCTP by the method of Feinberg and Vogelstein (1984).

Only clearly visible bands were scored from only one enzyme per probe to avoid over scoring possible structural mutations (Giannattasio and Spooner, 1994b), except P463 where all accessions gave completely different information and there was evidently no duplication of information. Variable bands were converted to one (presence) and zero (absence) data. Similarity matrices were performed using Jaccard's (J) and simple matching (SM) coefficients. Clustering was performed using the unweighted pair-group method (UPGMA) in SAHN. Cophenetic correlation coefficients (COPH, in MXCOMP) were used to measure distortion between the similarity matrices and the resultant two phenograms (Rohlf and Sokal, 1981; Sokal, 1986). Principal Components Analysis was performed with CORR similarity matrices and EIGEN.

RESULTS

Morphology

Individual and averaged data for *S. bulbocastanum* are listed in Rodríguez (1994). One-way ANOVA demonstrated that only three characters examined differed significantly ($p \leq 0.05$) between subspecies (Table 4): 5. petiole length; 17. ratio: pedicel length/pedicel length from base to articulation; and 22. calyx pubescence. Hawkes (1990) used only one of these characters, calyx pubescence, to distinguish subspecies. There was extensive variation in the ranges of character states among subspecies for all three characters.

The phenogram using all 19 morphological characters produced by DIST (not shown, but see Rodríguez, 1994) had the greatest cophenetic correlation coefficient (0.91), but did not separate the subspecies of *S. bulbocastanum*. There were no clusters with a geographic component that would support subspecies, regardless of prior identifications. The DIST phenogram using only the three morphological characters (also highest cophenetic correlation coefficient = 0.91) showing statistical significance between subspecies (not shown, but see Rodríguez, 1994), and the PCA (not shown), likewise failed to separate subspecies.

Individual and averaged data for *S. cardiophyllum* are listed in Rodríguez (1994). The phenogram using all 26 morphological characters with DIST (not shown, but see Rodríguez, 1994) had a cophenetic correlation coefficient of 0.78, but did not separate the subspecies of *S. cardiophyllum*. One-way ANOVA based on three subspecies demonstrated that five characters differed significantly ($p \leq 0.05$) between subspecies: 11. primary dorsal lateral leaflet width; 12. primary dorsal lateral leaflet length from axis of widest point to apex; 16. pedicel length; 23. corolla color; and 28. anther length. Hawkes (1990) used only one of these characters, anther length, to distinguish subspecies. The phenogram using these five characters with DIST (not shown, but see Rodríguez, 1994) had a cophenetic correlation coefficient of 0.82 and intermixed both accessions of subsp. *lanceolatum* with all but one accession of subsp. *cardiophyllum* and two of the 20 accessions of subsp. *ehrenbergii*. There were no clusters with a geographic component.

Because the above phenogram (and PCA) showed some support for *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* (but did not distinguish subsp. *cardiophyllum* from subsp. *lanceolatum*), the ANOVA was run using only two groups: subsp. *ehrenbergii*, and subsp. *cardiophyllum* + subsp. *lanceolatum*. The ANOVA showed seven characters that differed significantly ($p \leq 0.05$) between these two groups: 11. primary dorsal lateral leaflet width; 12. primary dorsal lateral leaflet length from axis of widest point to apex; 16. pedicel length; 17. ratio: pedicel length/pedicel length from base to articulation; 23. corolla color; 28. anther length; and 29. style length. As in *S. bulbocastanum*, there was extensive variation in the ranges of character states among subspecies (Fig. 2).

The phenogram using only the seven morphological characters with DIST (also with the highest cophenetic correlation coefficient = 0.80; Fig. 3), and the PCA (not shown) separated most accessions of *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* from the other subspecies.

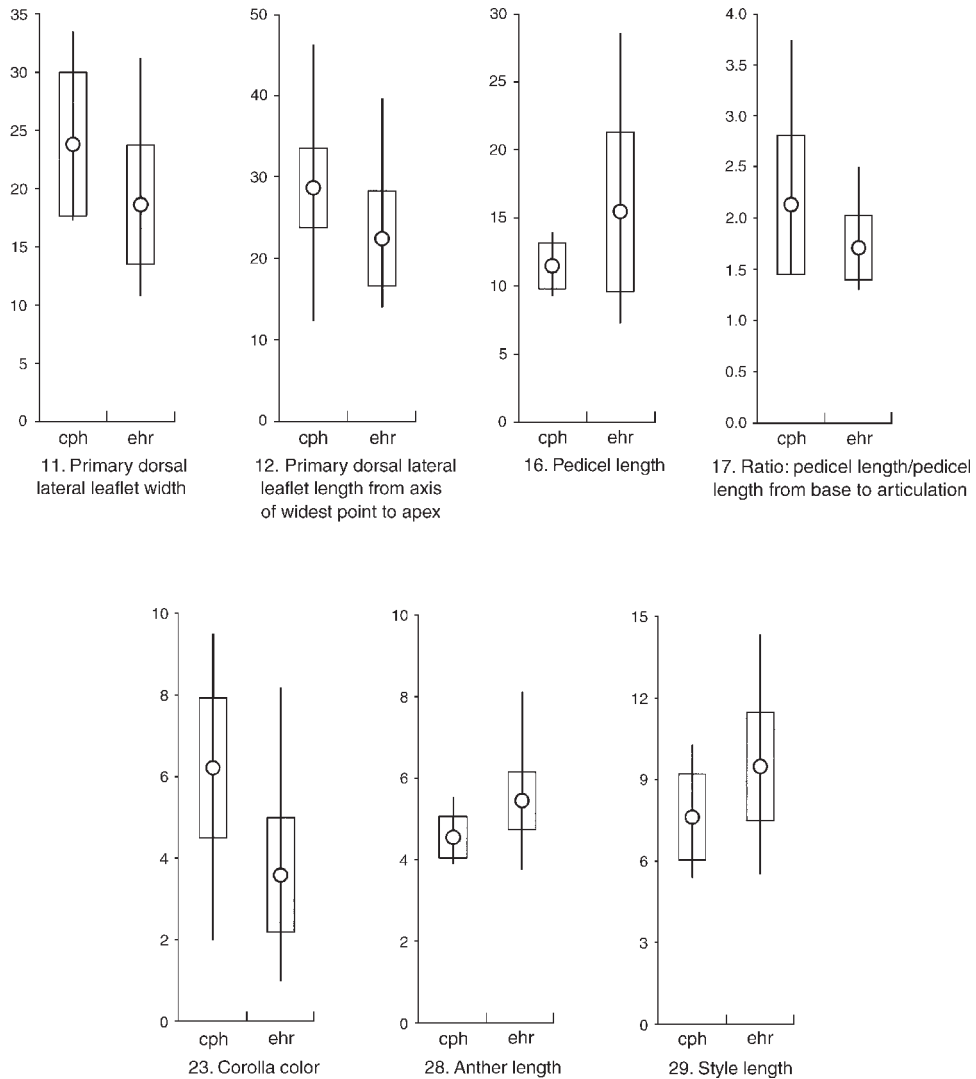


Fig. 2. Means, ranges, and one standard deviation of the mean for the seven morphological characters showing significant differences between *Solanum cardiophyllum* subsp. *cardiophyllum* + subsp. *lanceolatum* (cph), and subsp. *ebrenbergii* (ehr) ($p \leq 0.05$).

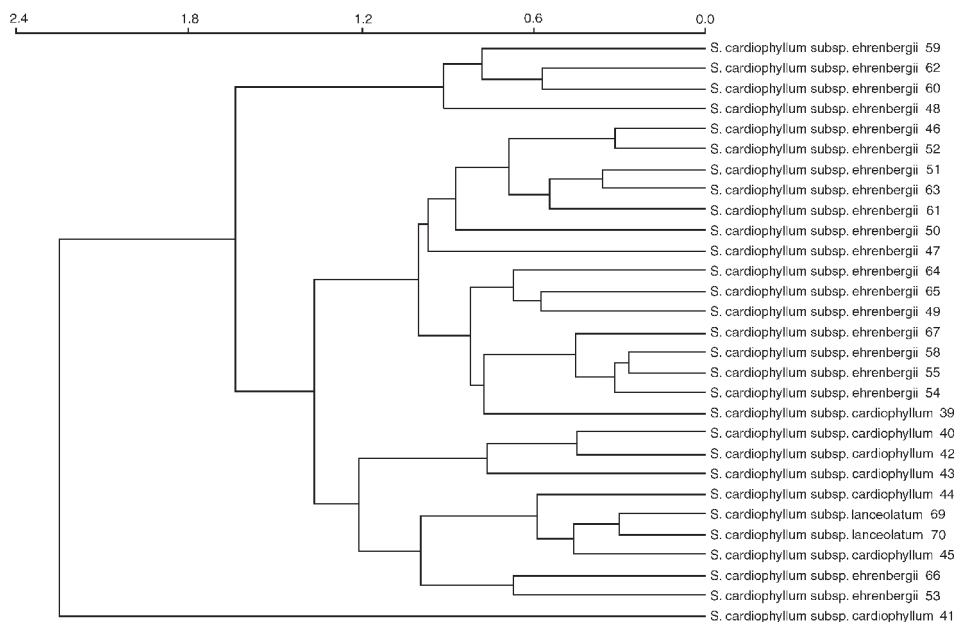


Fig. 3. UPGMA phenogram (DIST similarity option) based on seven of the 26 morphological characters that showed statistically significant differences among the subspecies of *Solanum cardiophyllum* ($p < 0.05$).

Nuclear DNA

The 23 clones produced 71 clearly scoreable bands (Rodríguez, 1994). The phenograms with J and SM coefficients had similar cophenetic correlation coefficients 0.95 and 0.94, respectively, were extremely similar in topology, and are similar to the results of the PCA of the nDNA data. The J phenogram (Fig. 4) and the PCA define three well-defined clusters: *S. bulbocastanum*, *S. cardiophyllum*, and *S. pinnatisectum*. Within *S. bulbocastanum*, subsp. *bulbocastanum* and subsp. *dolichophyllum* do not cluster. The two accessions of subsp. *partitum* cluster, but within a part of the phenogram containing representatives of the other two subspecies. Within *S. cardiophyllum*, all accessions of subsp. *cardiophyllum* and one of the two accessions of subsp. *lanceolatum* cluster separately from all representatives of subsp. *ehrenbergii* and the other accession of subsp. *lanceolatum*.

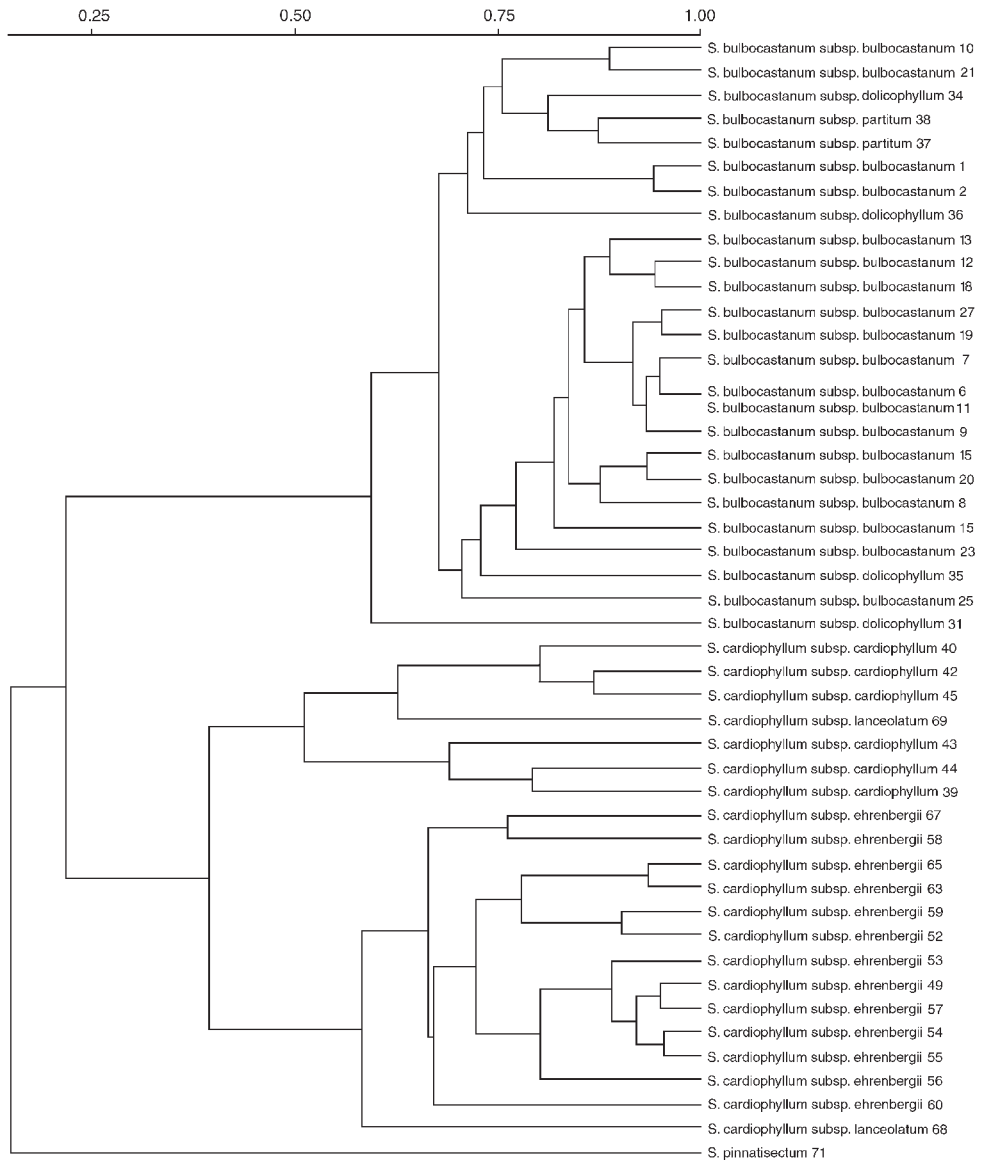


Fig. 4. UPGMA phenogram (J similarity option) based on 71 nDNA bands of *Solanum bulbocastanum*, *S. cardiophyllum* and *S. pinnatisectum*.

DISCUSSION

Subspecies circumscriptions

The morphological and molecular results, exclusive of *S. cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii*, fail to support subspecies within *S. bulbocastanum* and *S. cardiophyllum*. Neither is there a geographical component to the morphological or molecular phenograms suggesting subspecies differentiation. Exclusive of subsp. *ehrenbergii*, the only suggestion of subspecies differences is seen in the results of the *S. cardiophyllum* morphological reduced data set (Fig. 3), where both examined accessions of subsp. *lanceolatum* cluster. However, these accessions are intermixed with both other subspecies, and the “defining” character state of narrow leaflets varies tremendously in the other subspecies.

Origin of *Solanum cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii*

The morphological results (Figs. 2, 3, 4) show subsp. *ehrenbergii* to be similar to other two subspecies. The cpDNA results however show subsp. *ehrenbergii* to be on a very well-separated clade, containing other Mexican diploid species, separate from the other subspecies of *S. cardiophyllum*. These data suggest that subsp. *ehrenbergii* may have been formed by hybridization of *S. cardiophyllum* and a species in the Mexican diploid species clade (Spooner and Sytsma, 1992), or one of their relatives. Correll (1962) insightfully suggested that *Solanum cardiophyllum* subsp. *ehrenbergii* was a “connecting link” between *S. cardiophyllum* and the members of the Mexican diploid species clade. This hypothesis of hybrid origin, however, awaits more complete species sampling.

Implications for the number of taxa of sect. *Petota*

This study shows the value of parallel morphological and molecular data when investigating systematics of sect. *Petota*. Giannattasio and Spooner (1994a,b) showed general concordance of morphological and nDNA data, and suggested that *S. megistacroloum* Bitter and *S. toralapanum* Cárdenas should be reduced to subspecies rank. Van den Berg et al. (1998) and Miller and Spooner (1999) showed general concordance of morphological, RFLP and RAPD data for the *Solanum brevicaule* complex, and like this study suggested that there are too many wild potato taxa recognized. This study, on the other hand, shows discordance of morphological and molecular data suggesting that subsp. *ehrenbergii* may be a hybrid of *S. cardiophyllum* and a member of the Mexican diploid species clade. Spooner and Hijmans’s (2001) compilation of 199 currently accepted species of wild potatoes surely will continue to be reduced.

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