

Lycianthes is the third most species-rich genus in the Solanaceae and is especially diverse in Mexico and Guatemala. Three Mexican regional floras have covered *Lycianthes*, as well as the Flora of Guatemala (published in 1974), but botanists working in these countries have often struggled to identify the species.

This synopsis of the genus *Lycianthes* in Mexico and Guatemala is the culmination of several decades of work by two of the authors (Ellen Dean and Michael Nee). There is a general discussion (with illustrations) of the important characters used to distinguish the taxa (growth form, pubescence, leaves, flowers, fruits, and seeds).

The work includes one new species, two new combinations, and complete synonymy for all taxa. The identification key, illustrations, morphological descriptions, distribution maps, and conservation assessments for the 53 taxa occurring in this region provide the tools to correctly identify and conserve the *Lycianthes* of Mexico and Guatemala. In addition, it provides a foundation for future taxonomic work on this understudied and highly diverse genus.



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THE GENUS *LYCIANTHES* (SOLANACEAE, CAPSICEAE) IN MEXICO AND GUATEMALA

BY

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Lycianthes ciliolata (M.Martens & Galeotti) Bitter

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For those who want their work rapidly known to the World !

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