106. MALPIGHIACEAE. Malpighia Family

Herbs, vines, shrubs, or trees; leaves opposite, simple, stipulate; flowers solitary or in cymes or racemes, a few cleistogamous flowers sometimes among open ones; sepals 5, some or all of them bearing 1 or 2 sessile or stipitate
glands, rarely glandless; petals 5, strongly clawed, the blades often toothed, 
filaminate, or lobed; stamens 3 or 10 (sometimes fewer by abortion), the 
filaments usually united below or basally; ovary superior, sessile, often lobed, 2- 
to 5-carpellate, but usually with 3 winged or wingless carpels; fruit a capsule, 
drupe, nut, or samara, if the latter then variously winged and often crested.
Sixty genera and about 900 species, tropical to warm-temperate regions of 
Old and New Worlds, especially numerous in South America.

Fruit a strongly winged samara; calyx bearing 8-10 glands; fertile stamens 2-10; plant a 
woody vine:
Samaras with dorsal wings only; fertile stamens 2-7; styles united ............ Janusia
Samaras with lateral wings; those united to form an orbicular wing; fertile stamens 10;
styless distinct ..................... Mascagnia

Fruit a capsule or drupe; calyx bearing 6-10 glands on calyx cup or sepal, or glands lacking 
from calyx; plants shrubs or trees:
Calyx bearing 6-10 glands; fruit an orange or red drupe .... Malpighia
Calyx lacking glands; fruit a 3-lobed capsule .... Thryallis

Janusia
Vines with woody basal parts, herbaceous toward tips of branches; leaves 
entire, linear to narrowly lanceolate or ovate-ovoid, short-petiolate; inflores-
cences of axillary clusters, or flowers solitary; some cleistogamous flowers 
with reduced petals often among petaliferous ones; calyx usually with 8 glands, 
sometimes with 10; sepals 5, narrow, persistent; petals 5, yellow, clawed-clawed, 
unequal, the blades broad, undulate-margined; stamens 3-7 (or reduced to 3); 
ovary 3-lobed; styles united, the stigmas entire; samaras usually 2 or 3, rarely 
one only 1, each with a dorsal wing.
Fig. 697.

Leaves narrowly lanceolate, the margins slightly revolute; larger petals 5-5.5 mm long, the 
blades rhomboid; samara wings 9-12(16) mm long; rocky hillside, gravelly slopes, 
and arroyos, central B.C.; to Arizona, Texas, and Chihuahua; March-Oct.
........................................................................................................... J. praeclara A Gray

Leaves ovate to ovate, the margins not revolute; larger petals 5-7 mm long, the blades 
suborbicular; samara (including body and wing) 9-11 mm long; gravelly slopes and 
banks of arroyos, central and s B.C.; s Sonora; Jan.-Sep. .... J. californica Benth.

Malpighia
Shrubs or trees; leaves glabrous or pubescent, entire or toothed; inflores-
cences of axillary cymes; sepals 5, persistent, bearing 6-10 glands, not appreciably 
acumenous; petals 5, white, pink, or red, the blades undulate, crenate-dentate to 
finnate-margined, sometimes keeled or concave; stamens 10, the filaments 
united to about middle, glabrous; ovary glabrous, 3-lobed; styles distinct; 
stigmas smooth; fruit an orange or red drupe, strongly depressed in ours.
One B.C. species, M. diversifolia Bradege (Fig. 698), of dry hillside, 
arroyos, and canyons, s B.C.; endemic to B.C.; Aug.-Oct.

Mascagnia
Climbing or trailing vines or an upright shrub; leaves thin or leathery, entire; 
sepals 5 persistent; calyx bearing 8-10 glands; petals 5, white, yellowish (in 
ours), blue, or purple, the blades broad, variously shaped; stamens 10, the 
filaments laciniate or subulate, distinct or nearly so; ovary 3-lobed; styles 3, 
distinct; fruit of 3 samaras with distinct in ours) to united lateral wings.

One B.C. species, M. macroptera (Sesse & Mor.) Niedenzu (Fig. 699), of rocky 
washes, hillside, and sandy plains, central and s B.C.; central Sonora, 
throughout most of Mexico; flowering after rains.

Thryallis
Shrubs or small trees; leaves glabrous, paler beneath than above; inflores-
cences racemelike panicles, with deciduous bracts and bractlets; calyx glandless, 
or if glands present then those very small and inconspicuous; sepals 5 persistent; 
petals 5, yellow, usually turning red in age, the blades abruptly narrowed to 
claw; stamens 10, all fertile, the filaments glabrous, united basally; ovary 
3-lobed; styles 3, distinct; fruit a 3-lobed capsule.
One B.C. species, T. angustifolia (Benth.) Kunth (Fig. 700), of rocky or 
gravelly arroyos and hillside, near Santa Rosalia to Cabo San Lucas; to 
Sonora, Texas, and s Mexico; Sep.-March.