

## 100. ELAEAGNACEAE

Shrubs or rarely trees, often spinescent and scandent. Leaves with copious silvery, brown-stellate scales, sometimes entire, alternate or opposite, estipulate. Flowers small, regular, unisexual or bisexual in axillary fascicles or cymes; perianth of pistillate flowers tubular, 2- to 6-cleft, those of staminate with 2 membranous sepals; stamens adnate to perianth tube, twice as many as lobes in staminate flowers or as many as lobes and opposite them in pistillate; filaments abortive; anthers dorsally attached, longitudinally dehiscent; ovaries superior, 1-celled, free, with single ovule; styles filiform; stigmas capitate or cylindric, often lateral. Fruits indehiscent, enclosed in thin, fleshy perianth tube; seeds with hard, stone-like or coriaceous shell.

Genera 3, species 50; mostly in the north temperate regions of both hemispheres; 1 genus and 1 species in the Philippines.

## 1. ELAEAGNUS Linnaeus

Shrubs scandent (in ours). Leaves alternate, silvery or yellowish to brown-lepidote beneath. Flowers bisexual; similarly scaly, solitary or in axillary to terminal fascicles, pedicelled; calyx segments white or yellowish; perianth tube closely surrounding ovary and constricted above it, its limbs 4, sometimes 6, deciduous, oblong; stamens 4, alternating lobes and inserted upon a cylindric or funnel-shaped rim attached at base of perianth lobes; styles linear; stigmas lateral. Fruits fleshy drupes, outer coat fleshy; seeds coriaceous or crustaceous.

Species 40, in warm parts of the northern hemisphere; a few in the tropics.

1. *Elaeagnus triflora* Roxb. (Hort. Beng. 11, 1814 *nomen*), Fl. Ind. ed. 1, 459, 1820. – *E. philippinensis* Perr., Mem. Soc. Linn. Paris 3: 114, 1824; Merr., En. Philip. 3: 134, 1923. **Figure 130**

Shrubs. Leaves subelliptic to ovately oblong, 4-9 x 4 cm, often variable, shiny dark green above, copper-brown-lepidote or grayish white beneath, obtuse, base rounded; petioles 1 cm long, densely scurfy. Flowers solitary or few-fascicled, ascending from uppermost leaf axils, short-pedicelled; perianth thick, subangular, silvery white, flecked with brown scales, with 4 ovate lobes. Fruits juicy, sweet, yellowish to red.

Throughout the Philippines, in coconut plantations and forests at low altitudes, up to 1500 m; in Mt. Makiling, Luzon, in coconut plantations and in the *parang*.

Com. name – *Alingaro* (Tag.).

Exsicc. – *Orlido* CA 10312\*; *Desampero* CA 10865; *Sulit* CA 10741, 10742; *Gates* CA 1939, 1940; *Cabrera* CA 5067 (CAHP); *McGregor* BS 456, 90093 (US).

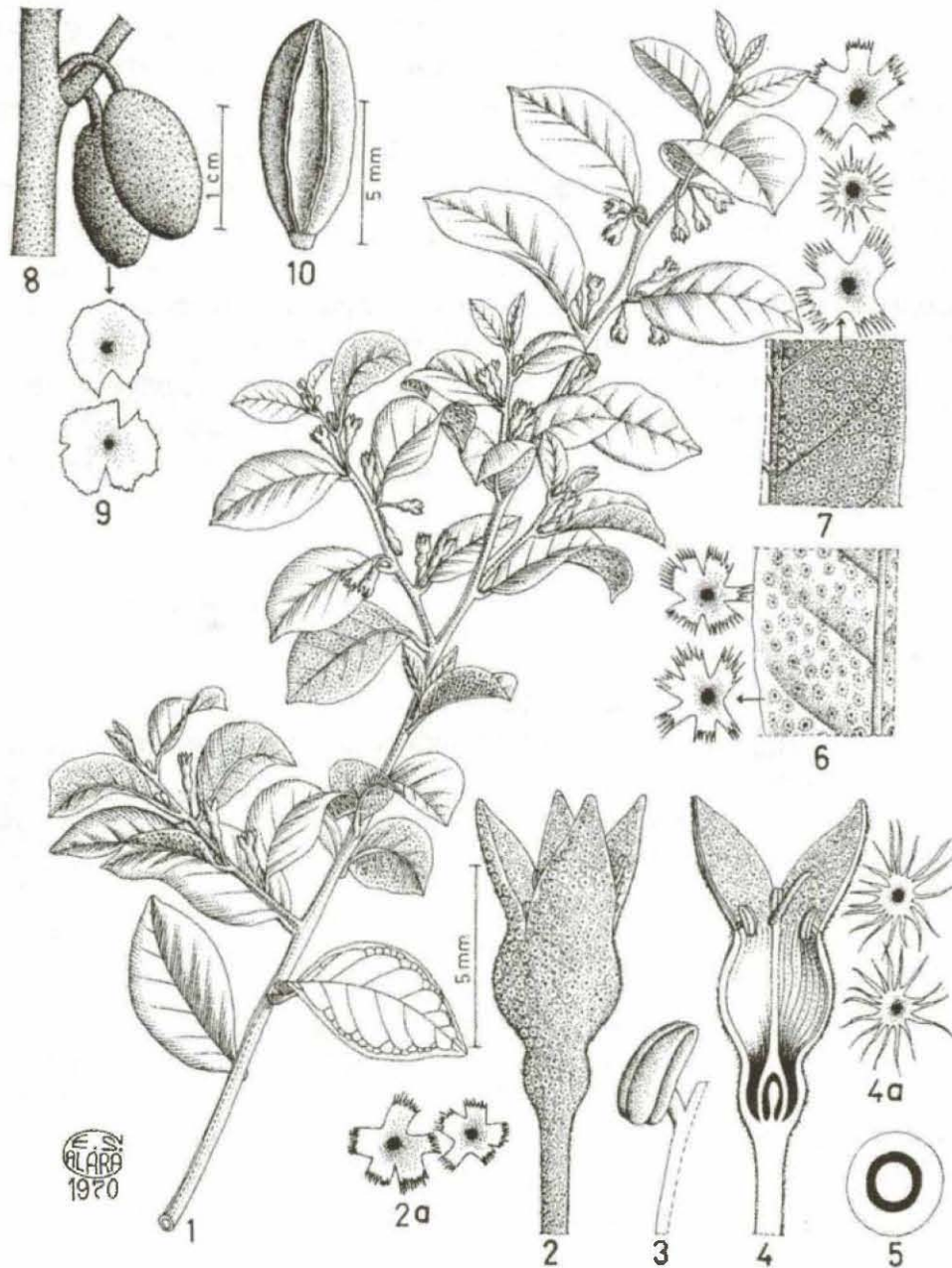


Figure 130. *Elaeagnus triflora*: 1. flowering branch; 2. flower; 2a. outer scales of flower; 3. stamen; 4. ovary, vertical section; 4a. inner scales of flower; 5. ovary, cross section; 6, 7. dorsal (6) and ventral (7) surfaces of leaf with scales; 8. fruits; 9. fruit scales; 10. seed.