



First Miocene fossils of Vivianiaceae shed new light on phylogeny, divergence times, and historical biogeography of Geraniales

LUIS PALAZZESI^{1,2}, MARC GOTTSCHLING³, VIVIANA BARREDA¹ and MAXIMILIAN WEIGEND^{2,*}

¹Sección Paleopalinología, División Paleobotánica, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales 'Bernardino Rivadavia', Avenida Ángel Gallardo 470, C1405DJR, Buenos Aires, Argentina ²Systematische Botanik und Pflanzengeographie, Freie Universität Berlin, Altensteinstrasse 6, D-14195 Berlin, Germany

³Department Biologie, Systematische Botanik und Mykologie, GeoBio-Center, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Menzinger Strasse 67, D-80638 München, Germany

Received 2 December 2011; revised 23 March 2012; accepted for publication 23 March 2012

The origin of Geraniales (approximately 900 species in three families: Geraniaceae, Melianthaceae, and Vivianiaceae) is traced back to the Cretaceous of Gondwana, yet their geotemporal history is largely unknown because of a limited fossil record and incomplete phylogenies. In the present study, we provide the first fossil record of Vivianiaceae and a highly resolved molecular phylogeny for all extant Geraniales genera. Our results support the hypothesis that five (instead of three) families should be recognized in the order Geraniales: Francoaceae A. Juss. (Francoa, Greyia, Tetilla), Geraniaceae Juss. (Erodium, Geranium, Monsonia, Pelargonium), Hypseocharitaceae Wedd. (monogeneric), Melianthaceae Horan. (Bersama, Melianthus), and Vivianiaceae Klotzsch (Balbisia, Rhynchotheca, Viviania). The four major lineages (i.e. Geraniaceae, Francoaceae + Melianthaceae, Hypseocharitaceae, Vivianiaceae) all originated within a narrow time frame during the Eocene (36.9–49.9 Mya) based on the five fossil calibration points. The divergence of most of the extant genera occurred much later, from the Miocene onwards. The South American–South African disjunction in Francoaceae apparently goes back to long distance dispersal with an estimated divergence time of the lineages in the Middle Miocene [11.2 (5.9-17.7) Mya]. Diversification in Melianthus appears to be much more recent than previously assumed [starting approximately 3.4 (1.9-5.2) Mya rather than approximately 8-20 Mya]. However, divergence of the Andean Hypseocharis lineage [36.9 (31.9-42.8) Mya] significantly predates the main Andean uplift: Current distributions likely go back to northward migrations and subsequent extinctions in Patagonia. Similarly, Rhynchotheca, Balbisia, and Viviania have a current southern distribution limit $> 10^{\circ}$ N of the fossil finds, indicating a massive northward displacement. The present evidence suggests that niche conservatism likely played a major role in the historical biogeography of Geraniales. © 2012 The Linnean Society of London, Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 2012, 107, 67–85.

ADDITIONAL KEYWORDS: fossil pollen grains – molecular clock – paleobiogeography – time estimates.

INTRODUCTION

Geraniales are included within the rosid clade (approximately 70 000 species), one of the largest but least-resolved clades of angiosperms (APG III, 2009).

Although Geraniales likely originated during the Cretaceous (Wang *et al.*, 2009), only few fossil remains have been discovered to date, leaving the chronology of divergence events and the historical biogeography of this order largely unknown. The delimitation and circumscription of Geraniales has changed considerably over the years, although molecular studies have provided a progressively more refined view (Chase *et al.*, 1993; Price & Palmer, 1993; Savolainen *et al.*,

^{*}Corresponding author. Current address: Nees-Institut für Biodiversität der Pflanzen, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität, Meckenheimer Allee 170, D-53115 Bonn, Germany. E-mail: mweigend@uni-bonn.de

Family	Genera	Number of species	Distribution
Geraniaceae	Hypseocharis	6	Argentina to Peru
Geraniaceae	Erodium	80	subcosmopolitan
Geraniaceae	Geranium	430	subcosmopolitan
Geraniaceae	Monsonia	40	Africa (+ Madagascar, south-west Asia)
Geraniaceae	Pelargonium	280	Africa (+ Madagascar, south-west Asia, Australia, New Zealand)
Melianthaceae	Bersama	8	Africa
Melianthaceae	Melianthus	8	Southern Africa
Melianthaceae	Greyia	3	Southern Africa
Melianthaceae	Francoa	1 or 2	Chile
Melianthaceae	Tetilla	1	Chile
Vivianiaceae	Balbisia	8	Argentina/Chile to Peru
Vivianiaceae	Wendtia	3	Argentina/Chile
Vivianiaceae	Rhynchotheca	1	Peru, Ecuador
Vivianiaceae	Viviania	6	Chile to Brazil

Table 1. 0	verview o	over curren	t Geraniales	classification	and	distribution
-------------------	-----------	-------------	--------------	----------------	-----	--------------

Families and genera *sensu* APG III (2009). Species numbers and distribution from Albers & van der Walt (2007), Linder (2007) and Weigend (2007).

2000; Wang et al., 2009). Geraniales in their most recent circumscription comprise the families Geraniaceae, Melianthaceae, and Vivianiaceae (APG III, 2009) and are tentatively accepted as sister group to the Myrtales (Zhu et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2009; APG III, 2009; Qiu et al., 2010). Geraniales are termed 'a poorly known order' (APG III, 2009), and especially Melianthaceae are very incompletely understood. APG III (2009) includes Bersama, Greyia, and Melianthus in Melianthaceae, plus 'monogeneric' Francoaceae (i.e. Francoa). However, Francoaceae also includes the Patagonian genus Tetilla DC. (Linder, 2007), not mentioned in APG III (2009). Several phylogenetic studies of individual genera have been published, most notably Erodium and Geranium (Fiz et al., 2006, 2008), Melianthus (Linder et al., 2006), Monsonia (Touloumenidou, Bakker & Albers, 2007), and Pelargonium (Bakker et al., 2000; Bakker, Breman & Merckx, 2006). Nevertheless, phylogenetic relationships within Geraniales are still poorly resolved, especially with regard to the incompletely known South American taxa, for which only incomplete (Hypseocharis, most Viviania and Balbisia) or no (Tetilla) molecular data have been published. Overall, the order comprises approximately 900 species in a total of 13 genera (Table 1) but there has been no attempt made so far at resolving relationships within Geraniales based on a complete sampling of genera.

Geraniales have a clear centre of distribution in the Southern Hemisphere; eight of its genera are restricted to the southern part of South America or Africa. Another three genera have their centres of diversity in South America or Africa, whereas only two genera (Geranium, Erodium) are more diverse in the northern than in the southern hemisphere. The South American genera Francoa and Tetilla are restricted to the western Patagonian forests, a region that is home to several ancient and distinct lineages such as *Gomortega* and Atherospermataceae (Renner & Chanderbali, 2000; Renner, Foreman & Murray, 2000). Hypseocharis, universally placed as the sister group of Geraniaceae s.s. and often considered as separate family Hypseocharitaceae Wedd. (Fiz et al., 2008), is essentially high Andean, ranging from central Argentina to northern Peru (Slanis & Grau, 2001) at elevations of > 2000 m in the southern part of its range and at elevations of up to 4000 m in the northern part.

Vivianiaceae are essentially southern South American: Viviania s.l. (Weigend, 2007) is largely restricted to central and southern Chile, where the genus is most diverse in the Mediterranean climate zone; only a single species is found in southern Brazil and adjacent Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina. Viviania is restricted to at least seasonally moist habitats, with some species in permanently wet forests (e.g. Viviania elegans; Lefor, 1975; Jørgensen & Yanez León, 1999; Weigend, 2005). Balbisia s.l. (Weigend, 2005) is largely restricted to semi-arid to arid habitats on both sides of the Andes but has a single species ranging into the moister parts of the Patagonian steppe (Balbisia gracilis). Several species (Balbisia meyeniana, Balbisia verticillata, Balbisia microphylla, Balbisia stitchkinii) are restricted to the extremely arid northern Atacama desert in northern Chile and southern

Peru (Weigend, 2011). All South American genera of Geraniales thus include at least some species in the south temperate and Mediterranean zones of Chile and Argentina. Only the morphologically distinct Rhynchotheca spinosa represents an exception being restricted to moist scrub forests and the margins of cloud forests in the Central and Northern Andes at elevations of approximately 3000-3500 m.

South American Geraniales show a highly stratified distribution pattern with extant lineages restricted to the Mediterranean, warm-temperate, subtropical, and Andean regions. This invites a study of their geographical hierarchies and a comparison of divergence time estimates of lineages to the estimated ages of their current habitats. Several recent studies have attempted to correlate ages of lineages with the ages of their respective habitats (Luebert et al., 2011). Others have provided new insights into the geological processes and geotemporal trajectory of Andean uplift (Hoorn et al., 2010), confirming that elevations of > 2000 m in the Central Andes have become available approximately 10 Mya. The recent origin and consequently ongoing speciation in high Andean habitats is reflected in the consequently ongoing and rapid speciation in animals and plants (Kadereit & von Hagen, 2003; Hughes & Eastwood, 2006; Weir, 2006). So far, phylogenetic reconstructions of Andean plant groups have mostly concentrated on holarctic floristic elements, which entered the Andean chain from the North (e.g. Gentianella: von Hagen & Kadereit, 2001; Ribes: Weigend, Motley & Mohr, 2002; Halenia: Kadereit & von Hagen, 2003; Valeriana: Bell & Donoghue, 2005; Lupinus: Hughes & Eastwood, 2006). These evidently play an important role, although some recent studies also show that southern elements may likewise contribute to the present-day composition of the Andean flora (Malesherbia: Gengler-Nowack, 2002; Chaetanthera: Hershkovitz et al., 2006; Paranepheliinae: Soejima et al., 2008; Heliotropium: Luebert et al., 2011). The present study investigates the phylogeny and historical biogeography of South American Geraniales, another group with a centre of diversity in southern South America but several high Andean representatives towards the Equator.

The stem node of Geraniales has been estimated to be 83-89 Mya (Anderson, Bremer & Friis, 2005) or 99-109 Mya (Wang et al., 2009), and the crown node to be 80-86 Mya (Anderson et al., 2005) or 88-101 Mya (Wang et al., 2009). However, the fossil record of Geraniales is poor and largely restricted to Geraniaceae, and options for internal calibration in dating studies are consequently limited. Fossil pollen from the Late Miocene of Spain assigned to subgroups of Erodium and Geranium have been used to estimate divergence times (Bakker et al., 2004; Fiz et al., 2006; Fiz-Palacios et al., 2010). This evidence consistently points to a diversification in the Late Miocene to Pliocene for all four genera. Increasing aridity, establishment of winter-rainfall regimes, and dispersal into more inclement climates are invoked as causes of these diversification events (Fiz et al., 2008; Fiz-Palacios et al., 2010).

In the present study, we report the discovery of novel, well-preserved Geraniales fossil pollen from Patagonia (southern Argentina). Pollen morphology of Geraniaceae and Vivianiaceae has been intensively but not comprehensively studied (Erdtman, 1952; Bortenschlager, 1967; Heusser, 1971; Lefor, 1975; Markgraf & D'Antoni, 1978). The unusual pantoporate pollen in Vivianiaceae provides a notable diagnostic apomorphy for this family compared to the other families in the Geraniales, which consistently have triaperturate pollen. The occurrence of highly characteristic pantoporate pollen in Vivianiaceae makes their recognition easy (Borsch & Barthlott, 1998). Their high degree of diagnostic micromorphological diversification further permits assignment of these fossil pollen to individual lineages (i.e. species or species groups).

Recent studies by one of us (L.P.) led to the discovery of fossil pollen that can be clearly assigned to Vivianiaceae. The present study illustrates the fossil pollen grains and places them in the context of extant Vivianiaceae. A more evenly and densely sampled phylogeny of the genera of the order Geraniales is presented, with a particular focus on enhanced sampling of Vivianiaceae, which is the most poorly known group in the order. Based on these new fossils and a more complete phylogeny, we attempt to estimate divergence times for lineages within Vivianiaceae and other subgroups of Geraniales to shed light on geotemporal patterns of diversification across Geraniales as a whole.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

FOSSIL DATING AND CALIBRATION

Most of the fossil Geraniales-bearing strata were dated by means of magnetostratigraphy, stratigraphic correlation, or biostratigraphy. Slides containing fossil specimens are housed in the palynological collection of the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales 'Bernardino Rivadavia': BAPal 6011; BAPal 6017; BaPal ex CIRGEO 940; BaPal ex CIRGEO 955a. Coordinates shown in figure explanations of the light microscopy (LM)-illustrated fossil specimens refer to England Finder for accurately providing the position of an area of interest on a specimen slide. Figure 1 shows the fossil localities in relation to the distribution of the extant representatives of the families.

For purposes of morphological comparison, pollen grains of 28 extant Vivianiaceae species were



Figure 1. Global maps showing fossil and extant Geraniales distribution. A, fossil-bearing localities. Circle, *Pelargonium* type from the Oligocene of Australia. Triangle: *Erodium* subg. *Barbata* and *Geranium* subg. *Robertium* from the Late Miocene of Spain. Star: *Viviania marifolia* type, *Viviania albiflora* type, *Balbisia* sect. *Wendtia* type, *Balbisia* sect. *Balbisia* type and *Rhynchotheca* type from the Miocene of eastern Patagonia (Argentina). B, C, D, E, F, extant distribution of the (B) Geraniaceae, (C) Francoaceae, (D) Melianthaceae, (E) Vivianiaceae, and (F) Hypseocharitaceae.

obtained (for a list of specimens examined, see the Appendix, Doc. A1), representing Balbisia, Viviania, and Rhynchoteca (sensu the generic circumscriptions of Weigend, 2007). Recent pollen samples were acetolysed according to the technique of Erdtman (1952). For LM, pollen slides were prepared by mounting pollen directly in glycerol jelly. Size measurements were based on 20 pollen grains per sample. For scanning electron microscopy (SEM), samples were mounted on aluminium stubs. After sputter coating, pollen grains were observed and photographed with a LEO VP 430 SEM at 15 kV. Descriptive terminology of the pollen is carried out sensu Borsch & Barthlott (1998) and Punt et al. (2007). A list of voucher specimens for pollen samples is given in the Appendix (Table A1).

For dating, a total of eight different Geraniales fossil pollen types were considered in the present study (Figs 2, 3; Table 2), including five newlydiscovered fossils of Vivianiaceae (for a detailed description, see the Supporting information, Appendix S1). The absolute time used to calibrate nodes of the phylogenetic tree was derived from the age of the upper boundary of the narrowest stratigraphic interval, to which the oldest fossil species was assigned (sensu Magallón & Castillo, 2009). Tricolporopollenites pelargonioides is the oldest morphotype assigned to Geraniales and unique to Pelargonium of the Geraniaceae (Martin, 1973; Müller, 1981). This fossil species is consistently recorded from the Oligocene to the Pliocene (28.4 ± 0.1 Mya) of Australia (Macphail, 1999) and was used as constraint for the stem node of



Figure 2. Fossil pollen grains assigned to Vivianiaceae (light micrographs). Each taxon is followed by sample catalogue numbers. Stage coordinates refer to the England finder (in parenthesis). Scale bar = 5 μ m. A, B, C, *Viviania marifolia* type BAPal 6017 (G53/G54). D, E, F, *Viviania albiflora* type BAPal 6011 (E39/E40). G, H, I, *Rhynchotheca type* BaPal ex CIRGEO 940 (G37-1). J, K, L, *Balbisia* sect. *Wendtia* type BaPal ex CIRGEO 955a (O31). M, N, O, *Balbisia* sect. *Balbisia* type BAPal 6013 (Q36-4).

© 2012 The Linnean Society of London, Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 2012, 107, 67-85



Figure 3. Scanning electron micrographs of the fossil pollen grains (A–D) and their closest living morphological analogues (E–H). A, general view of *Balbisia* sect. *Wendtia* type. B, details of *Balbisia* sect. *Wendtia* type showing the incomplete microechinate tectum. C, D, *Viviania marifolia* type. C, general view of the slightly corroded specimen. D, details of the specimen in (C) showing rodlet-like elements connecting distal and proximal parts of the mesoporia. E, *Balbisia calycina* Sleumer 246. F, *Balbisia calycina* Mulgura de Romero 4119. G, *Viviania ovata* Boelcke 13740. H, *Viviania marifolia* Ackermann 543. Scale bar = 5 μm in (A), (C), (E), and (G); 1 μm in (B), (D), (F), and (H).

Fossil taxon	Minimum age (Mya)	Assigned to modern group	Locality	Reference
Tricolporopollenites pelargonioides Martin	28.4 ± 0.1	Pelargonium type	Australia	Martin (1973); Macphail (1999)
Balbisia sect. Wendtia type	15.97 ± 0.05	Balbisia aphanifolia, Balbisia calycina, Balbisia gracilis	Patagonia (Chenque Formation)	Present study
Rhynchotheca type	15.97 ± 0.05	Rhynchotheca spinosa	Patagonia (Chenque Formation)	Present study
Balbisia sect. Balbisia type	10 ± 0.3	Balbisia weberbaueri, Balbisia microphylla, Balbisia miniata, Balbisia peduncularis	Patagonia (Puerto Madryn Formation)	Present study
Viviania marifolia type	10 ± 0.3	Viviania crenata, Viviania marifolia, Viviania ovata	Patagonia (Puerto Madryn Formation)	Present study
Viviania albiflora type	10 ± 0.3	Viviania albiflora	Patagonia (Puerto Madryn Formation)	Present study
Erodium sp.	7.246 ± 0.005	Erodium subg. Barbata	Spain	Van Campo (1989); Fiz <i>et al.</i> (2008)
Geranium cf. lucidum	7.246 ± 0.005	Geranium subg. Robertium	Spain	Van Campo (1989); Fiz <i>et al.</i> (2008)

Table 2. Fossil pollen record of Geraniales

Pelargonium. Other fossil types assigned to Geraniaceae are *Erodium* subg. *Barbata* and *Geranium* subg. *Robertium*, recorded from the Late Miocene of Spain $(7.246 \pm 0.005 \text{ Mya}; \text{Van Campo}, 1989; \text{Fiz})$

et al., 2008). They were used as crown node constraints for *Geranium*, respectively, *Erodium*. The most complete fossil assemblage of Geraniales comes from the Miocene of eastern Patagonia (Argentina), representing the first record of Vivianiaceae. These are Balbisia sect. Wendtia type and Rhynchotheca type from the early Middle Miocene $(15.97 \pm 0.05 \text{ Mya})$ and *Balbisia* sect. *Balbisia* type, Viviania marifolia type, and Viviania albiflora type from the Late Miocene $(10 \pm 0.3 \text{ Mya})$ Scasso *et al.* (2001). The Balbisia sect. Wendtia type was selected as fossil constraint for the Balbisia crown node, representing one of the two extant lineages (sect. Wendtia). The two Viviania type fossils were used as crown node constraints for Viviania, representing both of the extant lineages. Balbisia sect. Balbisia type was not used because it is considerably younger than the other crown node fossil of Balbisia (Wendtia type). The *Rhynchotheca* type was not used either as fossil constraint because it represents a monotypic genus and could not make a sensible contribution to the dating effort.

MOLECULAR ANALYSIS

All genera of Geraniales were included in the phylogenetic analysis (the currently recognized families and genera are summarized in Table 1). For the larger genera Erodium, Geranium, and Pelargonium, the major lineages retrieved in published phylogenetic studies were used to represent their diversity (Bakker et al., 2000, 2006; Fiz et al., 2006, 2008). Sequences of Grevia, Hypseocharis, and all Vivianiaceae were newly generated for this study, and those of Bersama, Erodium, Geranium, Melianthus, and *Pelargonium*, plus outgroup taxa, were mostly obtained from GenBank (vouchers and GenBank numbers are listed in the Appendix, Table A1). The final data matrix comprised 63 accessions corresponding to 57 species. In two cases, doubtful segregates were included (Balbisia reynoldsii as doubtfully distinct from *B. gracilis* as well as *Francoa sonchifolia* as doubtfully distinct from Francoa appendiculata). Based on recent studies (Zhu et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2009; APG III, 2009; Qiu et al., 2010), three representatives of Myrtales were used as outgroups. In several cases, especially in Balbisia and Viviania, we failed to sequence the trnL-trnF spacer (trnL-F), so that the phylogeny includes nine taxa with missing data for trnL-F. The final matrix included 54 sequences of trnL-F and 63 sequences of the Internal Transcribed Spacer (ITS) region. For the dated phylogeny, only the 54 accessions sequenced for both loci were used.

DNA extraction, polymerase chain reaction, purification, and sequencing followed standard protocols (Gottschling & Hilger, 2001). The same primers were used for amplification and sequencing. The *trn*L-F sequences were amplified with primers C and F *sensu* Taberlet *et al.* (1991), the primers P5 and P4 of White *et al.* (1990) were used for ITS. Cycle sequencing was carried out with the BigDye Terminator, version 1.1 Cycle Sequencing Kit (Perkin Elmer) on an Applied Biosystems 3130xl Genetic Analyser.

The initial sequence data were edited using CHROMASPRO, version 1.33 (Technelysium Pty Ltd, 2003–2005). The sequences were separately aligned in two partitions by using MAFFT, version 6.624b (Katoh et al., 2005; Katoh & Toh, 2008; http://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/software/index.html) and were concatenated afterwards. Phylogenetic analyses were run using resources of the Leibniz Rechenzentrum (LRZ, Munich; linux cluster HLRB-II) and of the SGI system (Zuse Institute Berlin, ZIB) of the North German High Performance Computer (HLRN). For Maximum Likelihood (ML), RAXML, version 7.0.4 (Stamatakis, 2006; http://sco.h-its.org/ exelixis/software.html) using the GTR + CAT substitution model was used to search for the best-scoring ML tree and a rapid bootstrap analysis of 1000 nonparametric replicates under the partition data mode. Bayesian phylogenetic analysis was performed using MrBayes, version 3.1.2 (Ronquist & Huelsenbeck, 2003;http://mrbayes.sourceforge.net/download.php) under the $GTR + \Gamma$ substitution model and the random-addition-sequence method with ten replicates. We ran two independent analyses of four chains (one cold and three heated) with 20 000 000 cycles, sampled every 1000th iteration, with an appropriate burn-in (10%, after checking convergence and sufficiency of statistical values using TRACER, version 1.5; http:// tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/tracer/). Statistical support values (BPP, Bayesian posterior probabilities; LBS, ML bootstrap support) were drawn on the Bayesian 50% majority-rule consensus tree. Gaps were always treated as missing data.

The phylogeny was dated with BEAST, version 1.6.1 (Drummond & Rambaut, 2007), with settings recommended for interspecific data that might or might not satisfy the molecular clock. A Yule branching process with lognormal priors was adopted using the five calibration points specified above. For the $GTR + \Gamma$ substitution model with four discrete categories, we applied a relaxed molecular clock with a lognormal distribution of rate changes. The unweighted pair group method with arithmetic mean was used to construct a starting tree, and the final topology was estimated by combining three independent chains each of 70 000 000 generations, sampling every 10 000th iteration. TRACER, version 1.5 was used to evaluate effective sample sizes values and to confirm adequate combining of the Markov chain Monte Carlo chains with an appropriate burn-in (10%). Because age estimates may be highly sensitive to inadequate sampling of the outgroup (Linder, 2007), we included more sequences from the Crossosomatales, Fagales, and Myrtales in the dating analysis.

RESULTS

POLLEN MORPHOLOGY IN VIVIANIACEAE

Pollen grains of Vivianiaceae are apolar, spheroidal. and pantoporate, and easily distinguishable from the remaining tri-aperturate Geraniales. Pantoporate pollen superficially similar to that of Vivianiaceae occurs in Amaranthaceae, Zygophyllaceae, Caryophyllaceae, and Convolvulaceae, although it differs in exine sculpture, size, and pore numbers (Borsch & Barthlott, 1998). Most Vivianiaceae are metareticulate (deeply recessed pores and narrow mesoporia), with the exception of R. spinosa, V. albiflora, and V. elegans. The pore number ranges from 15 (V. albiflora) to approximately 180 (Balbisia calycina). Pore diameter is almost uniform on individual grains, except in V. albiflora. Operculate pollen grains occur in R. spinosa and V. elegans. Pore membrane is psilate or covered by ektexinous bodies. The mesoporia are approximately equal in width on individual grains and are flat or strongly vaulted, depending on the species. The most distal parts of the mesoporia form an angular, semi-angular, or rounded side. The mesoporia are simplicolumellate or pluricolumellate; columellae are consistently cylindrical, and the tectum is complete or incomplete and recessed in the vertical parts of the mesoporia or confined to the most distal parts of the mesoporia. Microspines are common in many species and are arranged in one (B. calycina, Viviania tenuicaulis) or two (V. albiflora) rows or are evenly distributed (V. elegans). In some species, they are only present at the conjunction points of the mesoporia (V. marifolia). The fossil specimens described and illustrated in the Supporting information (Appendix S1), as well as in Figures 2, 3, closely correspond to extant B. aphanifolia, B. weberbaueri, R. spinosa, V. albiflora, and V. marifolia, representing the most complete fossil assemblage of Geraniales.

MOLECULAR PHYLOGENY

The *trn*L-F/ITS-dataset provides a well-resolved backbone phylogeny for Geraniales (Fig. 4), with

Geraniaceae (1.00BPP, 100LBS) as sister group to the remaining families (1.00BPP, 95LBS). The genera of Geraniaceae are retrieved in the wellestablished relationships with South American Hypseocharis (1.00BPP, 100LBS) sister to the rest, and the core-Geraniaceae (1.00BPP, 100LBS) in (Pelargonium, (Monsonia, (Erodium, the sequence Geranium))). The clades comprising Bersama and Melianthus (i.e. Melianthaceae Horan.), Francoa, Greyia, and Tetilla (Francoaceae A. Juss., syn. Greyiaceae Hutch.) as well as Balbisia, Rhynchotheca, Viviania (Vivianiaceae Klotzsch) are all and retrieved with high support (1.00BPP, >95LBS). The relationships between these clades are not fully resolved, and they are retrieved either in the order (Melianthaceae, (Francoaceae, Vivianiaceae)) or ((Melianthaceae, Francoaceae), Vivianiaceae). South African Grevia is consistently retrieved as sister to South American Francoa and Tetilla (1.00BPP, 99LBS). Within Vivianiaceae, all three genera receive high statistical support (1.00BPP, 100LBS), with a possible sister group relationship between Balbisia and Rhynchotheca (.97BPP). Within Balbisia, Balbisia sect. Wendtia (1.00BPP, 100LBS) and sect. Balbisia (incl. Balbisia miniata from sect. Tricarpellatae Desc., O'Don. & Lourt.: 1.00BPP, 100LBS) are robustly supported as sister clades. In Viviania, two clades are also retrieved, one corresponding to Viviania in the strictest sense (incl. V. marifolia and allies: 1.00BPP, 100LBS), the other to Cissarobryon (V. elegans) and Caesarea (V. albiflora; 1.00BPP, 88LBS).

DIVERGENCE TIMES

The presence of fossil pollen that can be unambiguously assigned to extant species/species groups in both *Balbisia* and *Viviania* provides direct evidence that the divergence of these genera into their extant clades has already taken place at or before 10 Mya. Five fossil calibration points are used to calibrate the phylogeny of Vivianiaceae and the remaining Geraniales; three in Geraniaceae and two in Vivianiaceae. A

Figure 4. Phylogeny of Geraniales based on internal transcribed spacer (ITS) and *trnL*-F. Diversification of the Geraniales into four well-supported lineages: Bayesian 50% majority-rule consensus tree of 59 members of the Geraniales (including 68 new sequences) as inferred from the combined ITS-*trnL*-F dataset (974 parsimony-informative positions). Clades at the family level are indicated, and branch lengths are drawn to scale (with the scale bar indicating the number of nt substitutions per site). Numbers on branches are statistical support values to clusters on the right of them (above: Bayesian posterior probabilities, values < 0.90 are not shown; below: Maximum Likelihood bootstrap support values, values < 50 are not shown), maximal statistical support values are indicated by asterisks. The tree is rooted with members of the Myrtales. Genus abbreviations: Ba., *Balbisia*; Be., *Bersama*; C., *Combretum*; E., *Erodium*; Fr., *Francoa*; Fu., *Fuchsia*; Ge., *Geranium*; Gr., *Greyia*; H., *Hypseocharis*; L., *Lythrum*; Me., *Melianthus*; Mo., *Monsonia*; R., *Rhynchotheca*; V., *Viviania*; numbers behind terminals: KXXXXX = DNA-numbers Kew, BXXX = DNA-numbers Berlin; all others are GenBank-numbers.



Figure 5. Chronogram of Geraniales diversification. Dated phylogeny of the Geraniales as inferred from the combined ITS-trnL-F dataset. Ultrametric maximum clade credibility tree with node ages from the Bayesian uncorrelated lognormal analysis. Nodes with fossil age constraints identified as circles in dark grey (lognormal prior distribution). Small black circles indicate nodes that have been constrained to monophyly, whereas the white circle represents the age of the *Rhynchotheca* fossils not used for calibration. Median rate is given in units of substitutions per million years (including 95% confidence intervals). Absolute ages are in million years, and epochs are indicated (Plc, Pliocene; Q, Quaternary). Genus abbreviations: Ba., *Balbisia*; Be., *Bersama*; Bt., *Betula*; C., *Combretum*; D., *Decodon*; E., *Erodium*; Fr., *Francoa*; Fu., *Fuchsia*; Ga., *Galpinia*; Ge., *Geranium*; Gr., *Greyia*; H., *Hypseocharis*; K., *Koehneria*; La., *Lawsonia*; Lo., *Lopezia*; Ly., *Lythrum*; Me., *Melianthus*; Mo., *Monsonia*; N., *Nesaea*; O., *Ostrya*; Rh., *Rhynchotheca*; Ri., *Ribes*; Sp., *Staphylea*; Su., *Stachyurus*; V., *Viviania*.

time scale for the evolution of the order Geraniales based on a Bayesian dating analysis is depicted in Figure 5 (all EES values > 200). The four major lineages (i.e. Geraniaceae, Francoaceae + Melianthaceae, Hypseocharitaceae, Vivianiaceae) all originated within a narrow time frame: 36.9-49.9 (31.9–58.9) Mya. Based on these data the morphologically closely allied western Andean (Atacama) species in Balbisia sect. Balbisia diversified only since the Pleistocene, approximately 2.0 (0.8-3.5) Mya and south-central Chilean V. marifolia and V. ovata in the Late Pliocene, approximately 3.1 (1.3–5.2 Mya). Rhynchotheca, the only Central Andean genus of Geraniales, diverged from the Viviania lineage around the Oligocene-Miocene boundary at approximately 23.1 (17.4-29.5) Mya. An early divergence of the *Rhynchotheca* is plausible based on the fossil finds of Rhynchotheca-type pollen of approximately 16 Mya (Table 2).

South African Grevia and South American Francoa + Tetilla diverged from each other only in the Middle Miocene at approximately 11.2 (5.9-17.7) Mya. The diversification of the extant species of Greyia is very recent and is placed into the Pleistocene at approximately 0.4 (0.07-0.8) Mya. Morphologically highly divergent Francoa and Tetilla appear to have diverged in the late Pliocene (approximately 4 Mya). Similarly, Bersama and Melianthus diverged in the late Miocene, approximately 10 (5.7-14.9) Mya, and the basal split between *Melianthus major* and the remainder of the genus is retrieved at the end of the Miocene [approximately 3.4 (1.9-5.2) Mya]. The main diversification of Melianthus is dated to the Lower Pleistocene at approximately 2.0 (1.2–2.9) Mya. Conversely, the extant genera of Geraniaceae appear to have diverged much earlier, with (1) the split between *Hypseocharis* and the remainder of the family in the Middle Eocene at approximately 36.9 (31.9-42.8) Mya; (2) the divergence of Pelargonium Middle Eocene at approximately 29.6 (28.4-31.8) Mya; and (3) the divergence of the major lineages in *Erodium*, *Geranium*, and Pelargonium in the Miocene at approximately 8.9-11.0 (7.2-15.5) Mya.

DISCUSSION

PHYLOGENETIC RELATIONSHIPS AND CLASSIFICATION

The combined marker analysis retrieves a largely resolved and well-supported phylogeny for the group under study. The relationships retrieved within Geraniaceae correspond to those found by Fiz et al. (2008). The sister group relationship between Hypseocharis and the remaining Geraniaceae is, moreover, confirmed with the inclusion of a second species of this genus. Francoaceae (Francoa, Greyia, and Tetilla) are retrieved as a South American-South African disjunct group. The close relationship between Francoa and Grevia retrieved by molecular data confirms the close association previously postulated based on anatomical and ontogenetic data (Ronse Decraene & Smets, 1999). The APG III (2009) treatment of Geraniales could thus be improved by reducing Melianthaceae to Bersama and Melianthus and redefining Francoaceae to include Francoa, Greyia, and Tetilla. Recognition of the genus Wendtia in APG III (2009) is rejected because the two species of "Wendtia" included (i.e. B. miniata and the type species B. gracilis) are retrieved on different clades of Balbisia, as would be expected from morphology (Weigend, 2007). The recognition of Ledocarpaceae and Vivianiaceae, as two distinct but morphologically very similar families with two genera and one genus, respectively, is possible, although superfluous, and we argue for the recognition of a single family Vivianiaceae including all three genera Balbisia, Rhynchotheca, and Viviania (Weigend, 2007). Conversely, the inclusion of Hypseocharis in Geraniaceae does not appear warranted, in view of its discordant fruit, seed, floral, and vegetative morphology (Slanis & Grau, 2001), and the recognition of this distinct clade as a monogeneric family, Hypseocharitaceae, appears justified.

Melianthaceae s.l. (Linder, 2007; corresponding to our Francoaceae and Melianthaceae) comprises a morphologically heterogeneous assemblage that is doubtfully monophyletic when Vivianiaceae are excluded. This leaves two main options for classification: to include the morphologically highly divergent Vivianiaceae in a very broadly defined Melianthaceae



(together with Francoaceae) or to segregate Francoaceae from Melianthaceae s.s. Given both the degree of morphological coherence and the ages of the clades, subdivision of Geraniales into five families appears to be the most defensible option: Hypseocharitaceae Wedd. (monogeneric), Geraniaceae Juss. (*Erodium, Geranium, Monsonia, Pelargonium*), Melianthaceae Horan. (*Bersama, Melianthus*), Francoaceae A.Juss. (*Francoa, Greyia, Tetilla*), and Vivianiaceae Klotzsch (*Balbisia, Rhynchotheca, Viviania*).

DIVERGENCE TIMES

Age estimates for several clades have shown that most disjunctions between South America and Africa must go back to long-distance dispersal (Renner et al., 2010), which is probably by far the most common cause for southern hemisphere disjunctions in plants (Sanmartín & Ronquist, 2004). The Geraniales, with several clades (above the generic level) disjunct between South America and South Africa, appear to show the same pattern. Numerous hypotheses of longdistance dispersal events in Geraniaceae have been compiled for Erodium, Geranium, and Pelargonium by Fiz et al. (2006, 2008); Fiz-Palacios et al., 2010, and it is thus not surprising that the earlier evolutionary history of the group involved additional dispersal events. Diaspores for most genera in Geraniales are illustrated in Figure 6. Capsules in Vivianiaceae and Hypseocharis are incompletely and tardily dehiscent (Fig. 6A, B, C) to indehiscent (Fig. 6E). The seeds, even if released from the capsule, are large, heavy, and poorly adapted to long-distance dispersals. All these genera have more or less continuous ranges, and there is no evidence for long distance dispersal. This is a stark contrast to the small, spindle-shaped seeds of Francoaceae (Francoa, Greyia, Tetilla; Figs. 6N, O), which can likely be dispersed over larger distances by wind. This emphasizes the plausibility of a dispersal event in Francoaceae between South America and Africa, as implied by our dated phylogeny. The only weakly differentiated mericarpids of Rhynchotheca (Fig. 6F) are too heavy for wind-dispersal and are probably dispersed by mammals rather than birds because they lack any specialized structures for attachment to feathers. Conversely, the more highly specialized mericarpids of most Geraniaceae (excl. Hypseocharis) appear to be particularly suited to long distance dispersal by, for example, birds, which is borne out by multiple intercontinental dispersal events as documented by Fiz et al. (2006, 2008) and Fiz-Palacios et al. (2010).

Our analysis is based on an independent set of multiple calibration points (four new Vivianiaceae fossils reported in the present study and three previously reported pollen fossils of Geraniaceae) and arrives at divergence times that are considerably younger than those found in previous studies (Wikström, Savolainen & Chase, 2001; Fiz *et al.*, 2008). Stem group ages for *Erodium*, *Geranium*, and *Monsonia* are estimated at 26–34 Mya in Fiz *et al.* (2008b), whereas we find an age of 15.8–21.1 Mya. Fiz *et al.* (2008) estimated a divergence of *Hypseocharis* from Geraniaceae at approximately 55 Mya, which is much older than the age of 36.9 (31.9–42.8) Mya in the present study. Wikström *et al.* (2001) estimated an age of 59–67 Mya for the divergence of *Bersama* from *Greyia*, whereas our data indicates an age of approximately 31.4 (20.2–42.8) Mya.

Similarly, the divergence times estimated by Linder et al. (2006) within Melianthus and for the split between Bersama and Melianthus are much older than the ages obtained in the present study, with the split between Bersama and Melianthus in the late Oligocene (approximately 27 Mya; our estimate is approximately 10 Mya). The entire diversification of Melianthus was considered by Linder et al. (2006) to have taken place during the Miocene (approximately 8-20 Mya). Our results indicate that diversification started with the split between M. major and the remainder of the genus in the Late Pliocene, approximately 3.4 (1.9–5.2) Mya, and the main diversification of Melianthus is then placed in the Early Pleistocene at approximately 2.0 (1.2-2.9) Mya. The inference of Linder *et al.* (2006) is based on a single secondary calibration point, namely the age limits taken from Wikström et al. (2001) for the divergence times of Bersama and Grevia. As previously demonstrated by Linder et al. (2006), age estimates may be highly sensitive to inadequate sampling of the outgroup, and these factors likely explain the divergent time estimates found by Linder et al. (2006) for Bersama and Melianthus.

Linder *et al.* (2006) discussed the likely influence of paleoclimatic changes on the diversification of *Melianthus*. In their analysis, diversification in South African *Greyia* and *Melianthus* occurred in the late Miocene, a period of minor tectonic uplift in eastern South Africa and incipient aridification from a humid, tropical climate. In our analysis, extant species would have arisen much more recently, after a period of accelerated, major tectonic uplift and accelerated aridification in the Late Pliocene and Pleistocene from approximately 3.4 Mya onwards. This may be more plausible in terms of eco-geographical isolation of the extant and morphologically weakly differentiated species in *Greyia* and *Melianthus*.

HISTORICAL BIOGEOGRAPHY

The Patagonian fossil pollen speciments, representing all five extant lineages in *Balbisia*, *Rhynchotheca*,



Figure 6. Fruits and diaspores of Geraniales. A, B, ventricidal capsule with partical deshiscence of *Balbisia verticillata* (*Weigend s.n.*; B). C, ventricidal capsule with partical deshiscence *Hypseocharis biloba* (*Ortuño 1631*; B). D, ventricidal capsule of *Melianthus pectinatus*, with large, shiny seed (*Weigend 9164*; B). E, dry flower with seeds firmly enclosed as fruit of *Viviania marifolia* (*Weigend 9352*; B). F, fruiting branch of *Rhynchotheca spinosa* with ovary falling into five one-seeded mericarpids (*Weigend 9107*; B). G, H, fruit and mericarpid of *Erodium* with long, later spirally twisted 'awn' (*Weigend 9303*; B). I, mature fruit of *Geranium versicolor* with seeds already expelled (*Weigend 9313*; B). K, L, fruit and mericarpids of *Pelargonium capitatum* (not vouchered, Botanischer Garten Berlin Dahlem). M, large, angular seed of *Hypseocharis biloba* (*Ortuño 1631*; B). N, small, wind-dispersed, spindle-shaped seed of *Greyia flanaganii* (*Weigend 9298*; B). O, small, wind-dispersed, spindle-shaped seed of *Leigli et al. 3132*; P) large, round seed of *V. albiflora* with hair tuft at funicular pole (Krapovickas & Cristobal 419777; F).

© 2012 The Linnean Society of London, Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 2012, 107, 67-85

and Viviania, come from an area where extant species of all five lineages are absent. The geographically closest occurrence of a lineage represented in the Puerto Madryn and Chenque formation fossil records is B. gracilis from Patagonian Chile at a latitude of 41°S (i.e. almost at the same latitude the fossils come from but on the much moister western side of Patagonia). The closest region, where extant representatives of at least three of the five lineages represented in the fossil record (B. sects Balbisia and Wendtia, Viviania s.s.) co-occur, is Coquimbo in north-central Chile, at approximately 30°S (Zuloaga, Morrone & Belgrano, 2008): This is more than 10°N of the fossil assemblage in an essentially subtropical to Mediterranean climate. The lineage represented by the fourth pollen fossil, 'Caesarea' (i.e. V. albiflora), is now restricted to northern Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, with a southern distribution limit at approximately 33°S, whereby extant taxa of this lineage also have a southern distribution limit approximately 10°N of their Late Miocene records.

The Rhynchotheca lineage, which had already diverged from Balbisia and was present in Patagonia approximately 16 Mya, migrated even further north and now has its southern limit at approximately 15°N (i.e. 16°N of its Miocene habitat). Miocene paleoclimates are considered to have been relatively warm and only seasonally dry, with low trees and shrubs dominating eastern Patagonia (Barreda & Palazzesi, 2007). Early Miocene (23-16 Mya) pollen and spore assemblages indicate a sub-humid, temperate to warm-temperate climate, whereas conditions changed to warm but seasonally dry by the Late Miocene (9-11 Mya; Palazzesi, Barreda & Tellería, 2009). The climatic conditions prevailing in Patagonia around the time from which our fossils date thus closely paralleled the climatic conditions, in which the bulk of the extant species of the four genera are found. This northward displacement thus appears to have been triggered by tectonic (Andean uplift) and global paleoclimatic (Antarctic ice-sheet development) events during the Oligocene-Miocene, leading to cooler and more arid conditions throughout the Patagonian landscapes (Zachos et al., 2001; Blisniuk et al., 2005). These events had less severe effects at lower latitudes, opening new suitable habitats further north. The northward displacement of the various lineages of South American Geraniales, and the colonization of the Andes, are likely the result of niche conservatism in the sense of limited climatic tolerance and climate tracking (Wiens & Graham, 2005). Niche conservatism has likely played a major role in the patterns of plant distribution over time ranges of tens of millions of years (Crisp *et al.*, 2009), and the historical biogeography of South American Geraniales is just one example of an apparently quite general

phenomenon. Other South American angiosperm groups have consequently followed similar migratory routes, such as *Schlechtendalia* (Asteraceae), nowadays also recorded 10°N of its Miocene fossil locality (Palazzesi *et al.*, 2009).

At least two now exclusively Andean lineages (Hypseocharis and Rhynchotheca) are estimated to have arisen a very long time before Andean orogeny provided the elevations and climatic conditions they currently inhabit. The Central Andes had only reached approximately a third of their current elevation 20 Mva and only half of their current elevation approximately 10-15 Mya (Gregory-Wodzicki, 2000; Graham, 2009). The currently high-Andean Hypseocharis-lineage, 36.9 (31.9–42.8) Mya, far predates even the early phases of Andean uplift to relevant elevations. Páramo communities, where the main distribution of the genus now lies (at least in the northern part of the range), are believed to have come into existence as recently as 3.5 Mya (Graham, 2009), and a relatively recent northward expansion into the Andes has to be assumed.

Similarly complex patterns of lineages much older than the Andean elevations they currently inhabit are found in Asteraceae (Hershkovitz *et al.*, 2006; Palazzesi *et al.*, 2009) and Ranunculaceae (Emadzade *et al.*, 2010), and these may derive from similar biogeographic histories. It must be assumed that these lineages inhabited (then warm-temperate) southern South America in the Miocene and migrated northwards as the Andean uplift provided seasonally arid and temperate climatic conditions in areas previously characterized by wet-tropical conditions. Increasing aridity and increasingly lower temperatures subsequently led to the disappearance of these lineages from Patagonia.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mark Chase and Lazlo Cziba (Jodrell Laboratory, Kew Gardens, UK) for helping out with DNA-isolates; and to Alfredo Grau (Universidad de Tucuman, Argentina), Tobias Kern and Teresa Ortuñez (Berlin), Fernando Zuloaga (Darwinion, Argentina), Michail Belov (Talca, Chile), and Alicia Marticorena, Roberto Rodriguez, Götz Palfner, and Carlos Baeza (Universidad de Concepción, Chile), for helping with the tedious accumulation of the required plant material. We thank H. H. Hilger (Berlin) for the use of equipment and staff and botconsult GmbH (Berlin) for helping to fund the field studies. We further gratefully acknowledge the helpful suggestions of four anonymous reviewers, which greatly improved the manuscript. We are grateful for funding provided for field studies and study abroad by a scholarship by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to L.P., and a grant by CONICET to V.B. and L.P. (PIP 0342).

REFERENCES

- Albers F, Van der Walt JJA. 2007. Geraniaceae. In: Kubitzki K, ed. *The families and genera of vascular plants, Vol. 9.* Berlin: Springer, 157–167.
- Anderson CL, Bremer K, Friis EM. 2005. Dating phylogenetically basal Eudicots using rbcL sequences and multiple fossil reference points. *Amererican Journal of Botany* 92: 1737–1748.
- Angiosperm Phylogeny Group. 2009. An update of the angiosperm phylogeny group classification for the orders and families of flowering plants: APG III. *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* **161**: 105–121.
- Bakker FT, Breman F, Merckx V. 2006. DNA sequence variation in fast evolving nad1 exons in Geraniaceae and Plantaginaceae. Taxon 55: 887–896.
- Bakker FT, Culham A, Hettiarachi P, Touloumenidou T, Gibby M. 2004. Phylogeny of *Pelargonium* (Geraniaceae) based on DNA sequences from three genomes. *Taxon* 53: 17–28.
- Bakker FT, Culham A, Pankhurst CE, Gibby M. 2000. Mitochondrial and chloroplast DNA-based phylogeny of *Pelargonium* (Geraniaceae). *American Journal of Botany* 87: 727–734.
- Barreda V, Palazzesi L. 2007. Patagonian vegetation turnovers during the Paleogene-Early Neogene: origin of arid-adapted floras. *The Botanical Review* **73**: 3-50.
- Blisniuk PM, Stern LA, Chamberlain CP, Zeitler PK, Ramos VA, Sobel ER, Haschke M, Strecker MR, Warkus F. 2005. Links between mountain uplift, climate, and surface processes in the southern patagonian andes. In: Oncken O, Chong G, Franz G, Giese P, Götze HJ, Ramos V, Strecker M, Wigger P, eds. The Andes – active subduction orogeny. Berlin: Springer, 429–440.
- Borsch T, Barthlott W. 1998. Structure and evolution of metareticulate pollen. Grana 37: 68–78.
- Bortenschlager S. 1967. Vorläufige Mitteilungen zur Pollenmorphologie in der Familie der Geraniaceen und ihre systematische Bedeutung. *Grana Palynologica* 7: 400–468.
- Chase MW, Soltis DE, Olmstead RG, Morgan D, Les DH, Mishler BD, Duvall MR, Price RA, Hills HG, Qiu YL, Kron KA, Rettig JH, Conti E, Palmer JD, Manhart JR, Sytsma KJ, Michael HJ, Kress WJ, Karol KA, Clark WD, Hedrén M, Gaut BS, Jansen RK, Kim KJ, Wimpee CF, Smith JF, Furnier GR, Strauss SH, Xiang QY, Plunkett GM, Soltis PS, Swensen SM, Williams SE, Gadek PA, Quinn CJ, Eguiarte LE, Golenberg E, Learn GH, Graham SW Jr, Barrett SCH, Dayanandan S, Albert VA. 1993. Phylogenetics of seed plants: an analysis of nucleotide sequences from the plastid gene rbcL. Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden 80: 528–580.
- Crisp MD, Arroyo MTK, Cook LG, Gandolfo MA, Jordan GJ, McGlone MS, Weston PH, Westoby M, Wilf P,

Linder HP. 2009. Phylogenetic biome conservatism on a global scale. *Nature* 458: 754–757.

- Drummond AJ, Rambaut A. 2007. BEAST: bayesian evolutionary analysis by sampling trees. *BMC Evolutionary Biology* 7: 214.
- Emadzade K, Lehnebach C, Lockhart P, Hörandl E. 2010. A molecular phylogeny, morphology and classification of genera of Ranunculeae (Ranunculaceae). *Taxon* 59: 809–828.
- Erdtman G. 1952. Pollen morphology and plant taxonomy: angiosperms. An introduction to palynology. Stockholm: Almqvist I, Wiksell.
- Fiz O, Vargas P, Alarcón M, Aldasoro JJ. 2006. Phylogenetic relationships and evolution in *Erodium* (Geraniaceae) based on trnL-trnF sequences. *Systematic Botany* 31: 739– 763.
- Fiz O, Vargas P, Alarcón M, Aedo C, García JL, Aldasoro JJ. 2008. Phylogeny and historical biogeography of Geraniaceae in relation to climate changes and pollination ecology. Systematic Botany 33: 326–342.
- Fiz-Palacios O, Vargas P, Vila R, Papadopulos AST, Aldasoro JJ. 2010. The uneven phylogeny and biogeography of *Erodium* (Geraniaceae): radiations in the Mediterranean and recent recurrent intercontinental colonization. *Annals of Botany* **106**: 871–884.
- Gengler-Nowack K. 2002. Reconstruction of the biogeographical history of malesherbiaceae. *Botanical Review* 68: 171–188.
- Gottschling M, Hilger HH. 2001. Phylogenetic analysis and character evolution of *Ehretia* and *Bourreria* (Ehretiaceae, Boraginales) based on ITS1 sequences. *Botanische Jahrbücher für Systematik* 123: 249–268.
- Graham A. 2009. The Andes: a geological overview from a biological perspective. Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden 96: 371–385.
- Gregory-Wodzicki KM. 2000. Uplift history of the Central and Northern Andes: a review. Geological Society of America, Bulletin 112: 1091–1105.
- von Hagen KB, Kadereit JW. 2001. The phylogeny of Gentianella (Gentianaceae) and its colonization of the southern hemisphere as revealed by nuclear and chloroplast DNA sequence variation. Organism Diversity and Evolution 1: 61-79.
- Hershkovitz MA, Arroyo MT, Bell C, Hinojosa LF. 2006. Phylogeny of *Chaetanthera* (Asteraceae: Mutisieae) reveals both ancient and recent origins of the high elevation lineages. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* **41**: 594– 605.
- **Heusser CJ. 1971.** Pollen and spores of Chile. Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona Press, 1–167.
- Hoorn C, Wesselingh FP, ter Steege H, Bermudez MA, Mora A, Sevink J, Sanmartín I, Sanchez-Meseguer A, Anderson CL, Figueiredo JP, Jaramillo C, Riff D, Negri FR, Hooghiemstra H, Lundberg J, Stadler T, Sarkinen T, Antonelli A. 2010. Amazonia through time: andean uplift, climate change, landscape evolution, and biodiversity. Science 330: 927–931.
- Hughes C, Eastwood R. 2006. Island radiation on a

continental scale: exceptional rates of plant diversification after uplift of the Andes. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* **103**: 10334–10339.

- Jørgensen PM, Yanez León S. 1999. Checklist of the vascular plants of Ecuador. Monograph in Systematic Botany from the Missouri Botanical Garden 75: 492.
- Kadereit JW, von Hagen KB. 2003. The evolution of flower morphology in Gentianaceae-Swertiinae and the roles of key innovations and niche width for the diversification of Gentianella and Halenia in South America. *International Journal of Plant Science* 164: 441–452.
- Katoh K, Kuma K, Toh H, Miyata T. 2005. MAFFT version 5: improvement in accuracy of multiple sequence alignment. *Nucleic Acids Research* 33: 511–518.
- Katoh K, Toh H. 2008. Recent developments in the MAFFT multiple sequence alignment program. *Briefings in Bioin*formatics 9: 286–298.
- Lefor MWM. 1975. A taxonomic revision of the Vivianiaceae. University of Connecticut. Occasional Papers. Biological Science Series 2: 225–255.
- Linder HP. 2007. Melianthaceae. In: Kubitzki K, ed. The families and genera of vascular plants, IX. Eudicots. Berlin: Springer, 250–259.
- Linder HP, Dlamini T, Henning J, Verboom GA. 2006. The evolutionary history of *Melianthus* (Melianthaceae). *American Journal of Botany* **93**: 1052–1064.
- Luebert F, Brokamp G, Wen J, Weigend M. 2011. Phylogenetic relationships and morphological diversity in Neotropical *Heliotropium* (Heliotropiaceae). *Taxon* 60: 663–680.
- Macphail MK. 1999. Palynostratigraphy of the Murray Basin, inland Southeastern Australia. *Palynology* 23: 197– 240.
- Magallón S, Castillo A. 2009. Angiosperm diversification through time. American Journal of Botany 96: 349–365.
- Markgraf V, D'Antoni HL. 1978. Pollen flora of Argentina. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press, 208.
- Martin HA. 1973. Upper tertiary palynology in southern New South Wales. *Geological Survey of Australia Special Publication* 4: 35–54.
- Müller J. 1981. Fossil pollen records of extant angiosperms. The Botanical Review 47: 1–142.
- Palazzesi L, Barreda V, Tellería MC. 2009. Fossil pollen grains of Asteraceae from the Miocene of Patagonia: barnadesioideae affinity. *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynol*ogy 155: 83–88.
- Price RA, Palmer JD. 1993. Phylogenetic relationships of Geraniaceae and Geraniales from rbcL sequence comparison. Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden 80: 661–671.
- Punt W, Hoen PP, Blackmore S, Nilsson S, Le Thomas A. 2007. Glossary of pollen and spore terminology. *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology* 143: 1–81.
- Qiu YL, Lin L, Wang B, Xue BY, Hendry TA, Li RQ, Brown JW, Liu Y, Hudson GT, Chen ZD. 2010. Angiosperm phylogeny inferred from sequences of four mitochondrial genes. Journal of Systematics and Evolution 48: 391–425.
- Renner SS, Chanderbali AS. 2000. What is the relationship

among Hernandiaceae, Lauraceae and Monimiaceae, and why is this questions so difficult to answer? *International Journal of Plant Science* **161:** 109–S119.

- Renner SS, Foreman DB, Murray D. 2000. Timing transantarctic disjunctions in the Atherospermataceae (Laurales): evidence from coding and noncoding chloroplast sequences. *Systematic Biology* **49**: 579–591.
- Renner SS, Strijk JS, Strasberg D, Thébaud C. 2010. Biogeography of the Monimiaceae (Laurales): a role for East Gondwana and long distance dispersal, but not West Gondwana. *Journal of Biogeography* 37: 1227–1238.
- Ronquist F, Huelsenbeck JP. 2003. MrBayes 3: bayesian phylogenetic inference under mixed models. *Bioinformatics* 19: 1572–1574.
- Ronse Decraene LP, Smets EF. 1999. Similarities in floral ontogeny and anatomy between the genera *Francoa* (Francoaceae) and *Greyia* (Greyiaceae). *International Journal of Plant Science* 160: 377–393.
- Sanmartín I, Ronquist F. 2004. Southern Hemisphere biogeography inferred by event-based models: plant versus animal patterns. Systematic Biology 53: 216–243.
- Savolainen V, Fay MF, Albach DC, Backlund A, van der Bank M, Cameron KM, Johnson SA, Lledó MD, Pintaud JC, Powell M, Sheahan MC, Soltis DE, Soltis PS, Weston P, Whitten WM, Wurdack KJ, Chase MW. 2000. Phylogeny of the Eudicots: a nearly complete familial analysis based on rbcL gene sequences. *Kew Bulletin* 55: 257–309.
- Scasso RA, McArthur JM, del Rio CJ, Martinez S, Thirlwall MF. 2001. 87Sr/86Sr Late Miocene age of fossil mollusks in the 'Entrerriense' of the Valdés Peninsula (Chubut, Argentina). Journal of South American Earth Science 14: 319–329.
- Slanis AC, Grau A. 2001. El género Hypseocharis (Oxalidaceae) en la Argentina. Darwiniana 39: 343–352.
- Soejima A, Wen J, Zapata M, Dillon MO. 2008. Phylogeny and putative hybridization in the subtribe Paranepheliinae (Liabeae, Asteraceae), implications for classification, biogeography, and Andean orogeny. *Journal of Systematics and Evolution* 46: 375–390.
- Stamatakis A. 2006. RAxML-VI-HPC: maximum likelihoodbased phylogenetic analyses with thousands of taxa and mixed models. *Bioinformatics* 22: 2688–2690.
- Taberlet P, Gielly L, Patou G, Bouvet J. 1991. Universal primers for amplification of three noncoding regions of chloroplast DNA. *Plant Molecular Biology* 17: 1105–1109.
- Touloumenidou T, Bakker FT, Albers F. 2007. The phylogeny of Monsonia L. (Geraniaceae). Plant Systematics and Evolution 264: 1–14.
- Van Campo E. 1989. Flore pollinique du Miocene superieur de Venta del Moro. Acta Palinológica 1: 9–32.
- Wang H, Moore MJ, Soltis PS, Bell CD, Brockington SF, Alexandre R, Davis CC, Latvis M, Manchester SR, Soltis DE. 2009. Rosid radiation and the rapid rise of angiosperm-dominated forests. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 106: 3853–3858.
- Weigend M. 2005. Notes on the floral morphology in

Vivianiaceae (Geraniales). *Plant Systematics and Evolution* **253:** 125–131.

- Weigend M. 2007. Ledocarpaceae. In: Kubitzki K ed. *The* families and genera of vascular plants. Berlin: Springer, 213–220.
- Weigend M. 2011. The genus *Balbisia* (Vivianiaceae, Geraniales) in Peru, Bolivia and northern Chile. *Phytotaxa* 22: 47–56.
- Weigend M, Motley T, Mohr O. 2002. Phylogeny and classification in the genus *Ribes* (Grossulariaceae) based on 5S-NTS sequences and morphological and anatomical data. *Botanische Jahrbücher für Systematik und Pflanzengeographie* 124: 163–182.
- Weir JT. 2006. Divergent timing and patterns of species accumulation in lowland and highland neotropical birds. *Evolution* 60: 842–855.
- White TJ, Bruns T, Lee S, Taylor J. 1990. Amplification and direct sequencing of fungal ribosomal RNA genes for phylogenetics. In: Innis MA, Gelfand DH, Sninsky JJ, White

TJ, eds. *PCR Protocols: a guide to methods and applications*. New York, NY: Academic Press, 315–322.

- Wiens JJ, Graham CH. 2005. Niche conservatism: integrating evolution, Ecology, and conservation biology. Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution and. Systematics 36: 519–539.
- Wikström N, Savolainen V, Chase MW. 2001. Evolution of the angiosperms: calibrating the family tree. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Botany* 268: 2211–2220.
- Zachos J, Billups K, Pagani H, Sloan L, Thomas E. 2001. Trends, rhythms, and aberrations in global climate 65 Ma to Present. *Science* **292:** 686–693.
- Zhu XY, Chase MW, Qiu YL, Kong HZ, Dilcher DL, Li JH, Chen ZD. 2007. Mitochondrial matR sequences help to resolve deep phylogenetic relationships in rosids. BMC Evolutionary Biology 71: 217.
- Zuloaga FO, Morrone O, Belgrano MJ. 2008. Catálogo de las plantas vasculares del Cono Sur (Argentina, sur de Brasil, Chile, Paraguay y Uruguay). Monographs in Systematic Botany from the Missouri Botanical Garden 107: 3486.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article:

Appendix S1. Description of the fossil Vivianiaceae-pollen from Patagonia.

Please note: Wiley-Blackwell are not responsible for the content or functionality of any supporting materials supplied by the authors. Any queries (other than missing material) should be directed to the corresponding author for the article.

APPENDIX

DOC. A1. VOUCHER FOR THE POLLEN STUDIES

Vouchers for pollen studies of Ledocarpaceae and allied families: Balbisia aphanifolia (Griseb.) Hunz. & Ariza, R. Kiesling 6645 (IBODA), B. calycina (Griseb.) Hunz. & Ariza, M. E. Múlgura de Romero 4119 (IBODA), H. Sleumer 246 (B); B. gracilis (Meyen) Hunz. & Ariza, A. Burkart 19824 (IBODA); B. meyeniana Klotzsch, K. Fiebrig 3094 (B), M. Ackermann & F. Cáceres H. 658 (M, B, HUSA, USM); B. microphylla (Phil.) Reiche, E. Werdermann 1063 (IBODA, B, F, SI); B. miniata (I.M. Johnst.) Descole & O'Donell & Lourteig, R. Kiesling 9463 (IBODA), B. E. Leuenberger et al. 4195 (B); B. peduncularis (Lindl.) D. Don, E. Werdermann 800 (IBODA, B, E, F, SI), M. Quezada & E. Ruiz 193 (CONC), M. Quezada & E. Ruiz 383 (CONC), C. Aedo 6846 (CONC); B. stitchkinii Ricardi, Villagrán 32987 (CONC), M. Ricardi et al. 36407 (CONC); B. verticillata Cav., N. Dostert & F. Cáceres-H. 1020 (B), M. Weigend & N. Dostert 97/13 (F, M); Bersama abyssinica Fresen., Polhill & Paulo 1659 (B), R. Koelker 01 (B); Francoa sonchifolia Cav., Gartenherbarbeleg 36921, Beurton 3/2002 (B); Greyia radlkoferi Szyszył., Gartenherbarbeleg 45227, Leuenberger 8.4.2008 (B); G. sutherlandii Hook. & Harv., M. Weigend 9168 (B); Hypseocharis pimpinellifolia Remy, K. Fiebrig 2626 (B); Melianthus major L., Gartenherbarbeleg 34732, Leuenberger 1996 (B); M. villosus Bolus, M. Weigend 9163 (B); Rhynchotheca spinosa Ruiz & Pav., D. N. Smith 6611 (USM); Tetilla hydrocotylaefolia DC., U. Eggli et al. 3132 (B); Viviania albiflora (Cambess.) Reiche, V. Solís Neffa 888 (IBODA), F. O. Zuloaga 8193 (IBODA), G. Herter 99150 (B), B. Rambo 43528 (B), B. Rambo 51647 (B), V. crenata (Hook.) G. Don, F. Schlegel 1677 (B), R. A. Philippi s.n. (B); V. elegans (Kunze ex Poepp.) Reiche & Johow, M. K. Arroyo et al. 996032 (CONC); S. Teillier & C. Márquez 4910 (CONC); V. marifolia Cav., T. S. Tombesi 216 (IBODA), W. Schwabe s.n. (B) V. marifolia Cav., M. Ackermann 543 (B, M); V. ovata Phil., O. Boelcke 13740 (IBODA), C. Marticorena & O. Mathei 715 (B, CONC), V. tenuicaulis Barnéoud in Gay, C. Marticorena et al. 1581 (CONC), M. Ricardi & C. Marticorena 4515/900 (CONC).

Species	Voucher	Herbarium	Country of origin	DNA-number	ITS genbank nr.	<i>trn</i> L-F genbank nr.
Balbisia calycina (Griseb.) Hunz. & Ariza Balbisia gracilis (Meyen) Hunz. & Ariza Balbisia gracilis (Meyen) Hunz. & Ariza (= Wendtia	A. Grau s.n. M. Weigend <i>et al</i> . 5817 J. Grau 2936	LIIL B M	Argentina Argentina Chile	BSB 3006 KEW 18830 BSB 2889	HE795044 HE795045 HE795046	HE795452 HE795453 -
reynoidsu Endi.) Balbisia gracilis (Meyen) Hunz. & Ariza (= Wendtia	M. Weigend 9439	BSB	Chile	BSB 3072	HE795047	HE795454
reynoldsn Endl.) Balbisia meyeniana Klotzsch Balbisia microphylla Reiche Balbisia miniata (I.M. Johnst.) Descole, O'Donell &	M. Weigend & M. Ackermann 9266 Eggli, U. <i>et al.</i> 2735 Leuenberger <i>et al.</i> 4195	B, USM, HUSA, B B	Peru Chile Argentina	BSB 2891 KEW 18833 BSB 2929	HE795048 HE795049 HE795050	HE795455 - -
Lourteig Balbisia peduncularis D. Don	M. Quezada & R. Ruiz 193	Μ	Chile	BSB 2742	HE795051	HE795456
Balbisia verticillata Cav. Balbisia verticillata Cav.	G. Beck <i>et al.</i> 22108 Weigend, M. <i>et al.</i> 7312 B	B	Chile? Peru	BSB 2746 KEW 18835	HE 795052 HE 795053	– HE795457
Bersama lucens Szyszył. Bersama abyssinica Fresen.	Knox 2569	K	Africa Africa	Genbank KEW 1450	DQ435401.1 HE795054	DQ435381 HE795458
Bersama swinnyi E.Phillips Combretum coccineum Lam	Weisend, s.n.	BSB	Africa	Genbank BSB 2940	DQ435402 HE795055	DQ435382 НБ795459
Erodium bottys (Cav.) Bertol.	M. Weigend 9303		Europe	BSB 3009	HE795056	HE795460
Erodium cıcutarıum (L.) L'Her. Erodium manescavi Coss.	M. Weigend		Europe	Genbank BSB 3011	EF 185393 HE 795057	AY651847 HE795461
Erodium pelargoniflorum Boiss. & Heldr. Francoa appendiculata Cav.	M. Weigend 9312 Chase 2502	K	w. Asia Chile	BSB 3012 BSB 2502	HE795058 HE795059	HE795462 HE795463
Francoa suchifolia Cav. Fuchei bolinicon Comixeo	M. Weigend 9353	В	Chile	BSB 3030	HE795060	HE795464
r ucusia polyviana Carriere Geranium pusillum L.			Europe	Genbank	UQ525070	AF167151
Geranium pyrenaicum Burm.f. Geranium robertianum L.	M. Weigend 9308		Europe Europe	BSB 3015 Genbank	HE795061 DQ525070	HE795465 AF167151
Geranium sibiricum L.			Europe	Genbank	DQ192634	DQ267175
Geranium tuberosum L. Geranium versicolor L.	n.v. M. & K. Weizend 9313		Europe Europe	BSB 3017 BSB 3016	HE795062 HE795063	HE795466 HE795467
Greyia flanaganii Bolus	M. Weigend 9298		RSA	BSB 3026	HE795064	HE795468
Greyia radlkoferi Szyszył.	BGBM – voucher fehlt!		RSA	BSB 3018	HE795065	HE795469
Greyia sutherlandii Hook. & Harv. Hypseocharis bilobata Killip	M. Weigend 9168 Chase 2785	К	RSA Bolivia	BSB 3019 BSB 2785	HE795066 HE795067	HE795470 HE795471
Hypseocharis pimpinellifolia Remy Lythrum hyssonifolia L.	A. Grau s.n.	LIL	Argentina	BSB 3005 Genbank	HE795068 AY905428.1	HE795472 -
Lythrum maritimum Cham. & Schltdl.				Genbank		AY905474.1
Melianthus comosus Vahl			RSA	Genbank	DQ435411	DQ435391
Menantuus cregeatuus 2011a. Melianthus elongatus Wijnands			RSA	Genbank	DQ435418 DQ435418	DQ435398

Table A1. Vouchers for the DNA-sequences

© 2012 The Linnean Society of London, Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 2012, 107, 67–85

Melianthus gariepinus Merxm. & Roessler Melianthus insignis Kuntze Melianthus major L. Melianthus medinathus Harv			RSA RSA RSA RSA	Genbank Genbank Genbank Genbank	DQ435417 DQ435413 DQ435405 DQ435414	DQ435397 DQ435393 -
Melianthus villosus Bolus			RSA	Genbank	DQ435406	DQ435386
Monsonia emarginata L'Hér. Monsonia marlothii (Enol) F Alhers	Gartenherbarbeleg 44182 Gartenherbarbeleg 28138	ел ст	RSA RSA	BSB 2992 BSB 3029	НЕ795069 НЕ795070	HE795473 HE795474
Pelargonium grossulariifolium Salisb.		1	RSA	Genbank	Z95265	Z95289
Pelargonium myrrhifolium (L.) L'Hér. var.			RSA	Genbank	AY 352889	AY352862
myrrhifolium Pelargonium althaeoides L'Hér.			\mathbf{RSA}	Genbank	Z95278	Z95299
Pelargonium australe J. Jacq.			Australia	Genbank	Z95256	Z95280
Pelargonium graveolens L'Hér.	n.v.		\mathbf{RSA}	BSB 3023	HE795071	HE795475
Pelargonium odoratissimum (L.) L'Hér.	M. Weigend 9299		RSA	BSB 3024	HE795072	HE795476
Pelargonium peltatum (L.) L'Hér.			RSA	Genbank	AF256575	AF167143?
Pelargonium zonale (L.) L'Hér.			RSA	Genbank	DQ345326	AF036088 ??
Rhynchotheca spinosa Ruiz & Pav.	M. Weigend 9107	BSB, M	Ecuador	BSB 2678	HE795073	HE795477
Rhynchotheca spinosa Ruiz & Pav.	M. Weigend et al. 5413	В	Peru	KEW 18836	HE795074	HE795478
Tetilla hydrocotylaefolia DC.	T. Kern & M. Belov 21	CONC	Chile	BSB 2956	HE795077	HE795481
Viviania albiflora (Cambess.) Reiche	Krapovickas & Cristóbal 41977	Ĩ.	Brazil	2927-PEG	HE795078	
Viviania albiflora (Cambess.) Reiche	R. Wasum 100	В	Brazil	KEW 18831	HE795079	
Viviania crenata (Hook.) G. Don	C. Jiles 5556	Μ	Chile	BSB 2743	HE795080	
Viviania elegans (Kunze ex Poepp.) F. Meigen	K. H. & W. Rechinger 63128	Μ	Chile	BSB 2744	HE795081	HE795482
Viviania elegans Kuntze ex Poepp.	M. Mihoc <i>et al.</i> 7273	CONC	Chile	BSB 2957	HE795082	HE795483
Viviania marifolia Cav.	M. Weigend 9352	BSB	Chile	BSB 3042	HE795083	HE795484
Viviania marifolia Cav.	M. Weigend 9353	BSB	Chile	BSB 3073	HE795084	
Viviania ovata Phil.	M. Rosas 2159	CONC (169872)	Chile	BSB 2969	HE795085	HE795485
Crossosoma bigelovii S. Watson	Ickert-Bond 1833	Ъ	USA		DQ307116	DQ307148
Ribes densifiorum Phil.	P. Brownless et al. 945	E	Chile	B2601	HE795075	HE795479
Ribes griffithii Hook.f. & Thomson	ACE324	ы	India	B2602	HE795076	HE795480
Lopezia langmaniae Miranda	Breedlove 32300	CAS	Mexico		AY264500	AY271523
Koehneria madagascariensis (Baker)	D'Arcy & Rakotozfy 15317	MO	n. ind.		AY905465	AY905424
S. A. Graham, H. Tobe & Baas						
Galpinia transvaalica N.E.Br.	Balsinhas 3263	MO	n. ind.		AY905461	AY905423
Decodon verticillatus Elliott	Graham 917	MO	n. ind.		AY905457	AY905421
Nesaea aspera Koehne	Drummond 11446	MO	n. ind.		AY 905475	AY905429
Lawsonia inermis L.	Correll 45915	TEX	n. ind.		AY905470	AY905426
Betula davurica Pall.	Tibet 218	n. ind.	n. ind.		FJ012055	FJ011773
Ostrya rehderiana Chun	Wen 5085	n. ind.	n. ind.		FJ012041	FJ011756
Staphylea holocarpa Hemsl.	Wen 5740	۲. ۲	n. ind.		DQ307146	DQ307118
Stachyurus oblongifolius F. T. Wang & Tang	Zhu J-11	PE	n. ind.		DQ307141	DQ307110

© 2012 The Linnean Society of London, Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 2012, 107, 67-85