

FOUQUIERIACEAE OCOTILLO FAMILY

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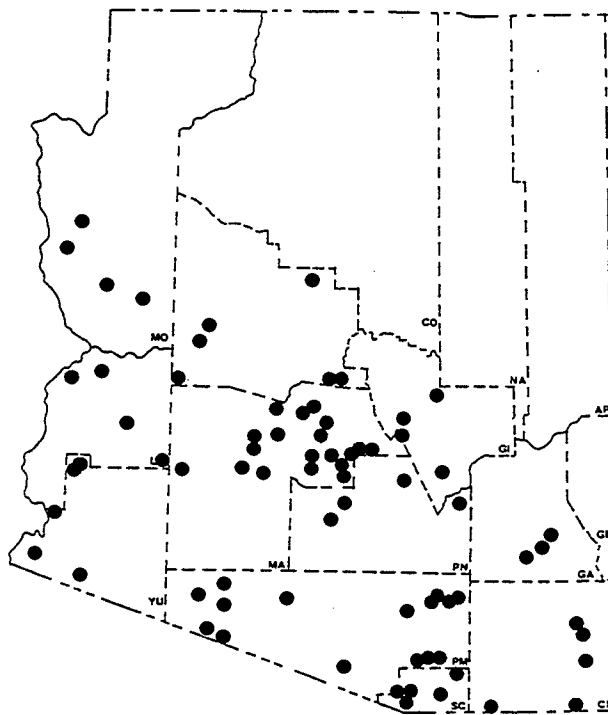
Spiny shrubs or trees. LEAVES on new long growth petioled soon deciduous in dry weather, the petioles in part remaining as a spine when the leaf falls; secondary leaves sessile or nearly so, borne in fascicles on short shoots in axils of spines. INFLORESCENCES terminal spikes, racemes, or panicles. FLOWERS red, yellow, white, or purple; sepals 5 free; petals 5 united into a cylindrical tube; stamens 10-15(-23), adnate to corolla tube; pistil 3-carpelled, the ovary superior, 3-loculed. FRUITS 3-valved capsules. $x = 12$. 1 genus; sw US; Mex. Henrickson, J. 1972. *Aliso* 7:439-537.

Fouquieria H.B.K. Ocotillo

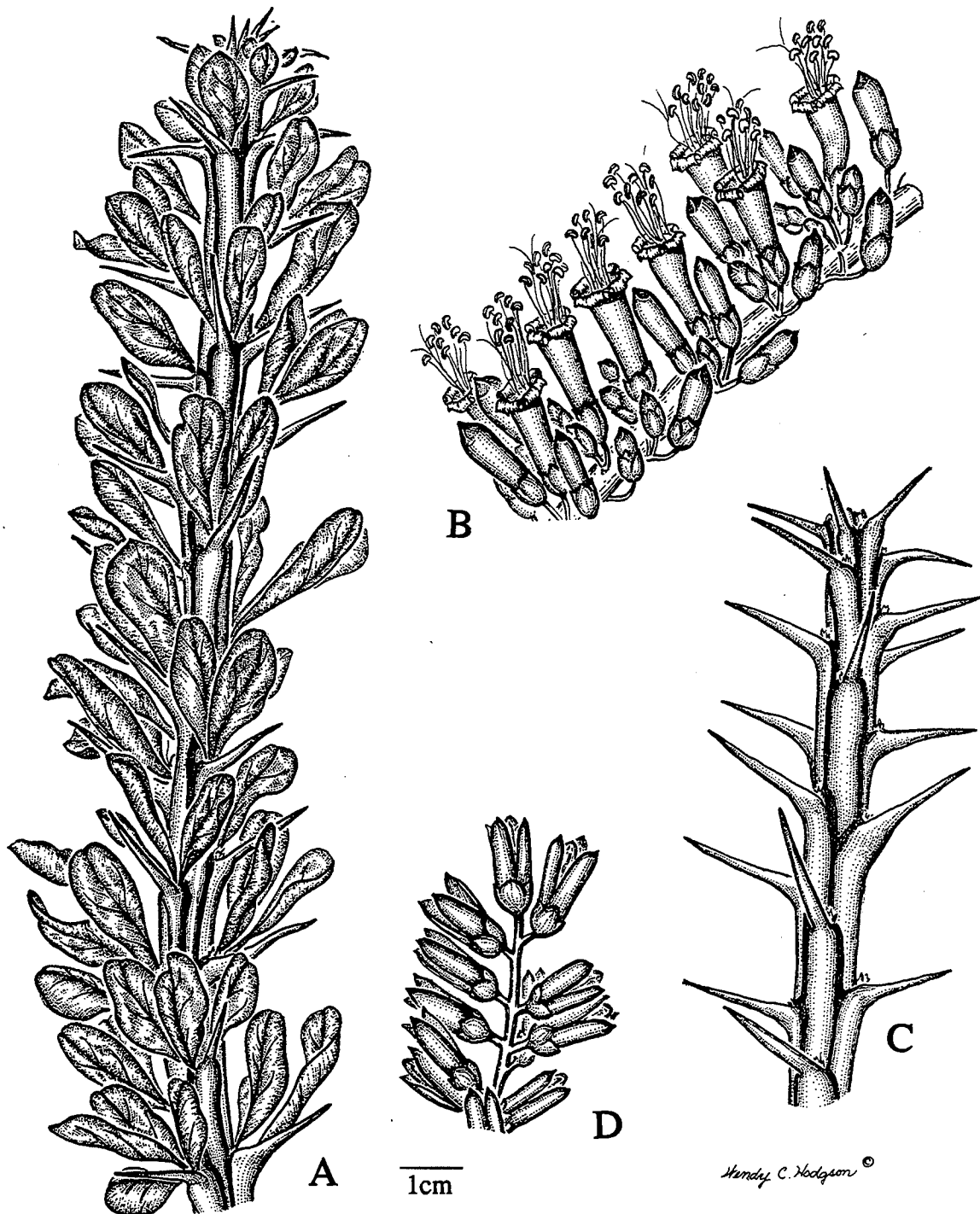
Characters of the family. (for P.E. Fouquier) [*Idria* Kellogg] --11 spp.; 1 sp. and 1 subsp. in AZ.

Fouquieria splendens Engelm. (splendid) --Shrub to small tree with a short trunk 10-20 cm tall bearing numerous usually simple, erect, spiny branches 2-6 m high. LEAVES 1-2 cm long, 2-8 mm wide, obovate, on terminal long growth or axillary short shoots, the tips rounded or notched. INFLORESCENCES narrow terminal panicles 5-20 cm long. FLOWERS red, reddish orange, yellow, or pinkish purple; corolla tube 6.5-22 mm long. $2n = 24$. Chihuahuan and Sonoran deserts and mesquite grasslands.

Subsp. *splendens*. Corolla red or orange red, the tube (6.5-)11-18(-22) mm long. Cochise, Gila, Graham, La Paz, Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yuma cos.; 0-2000 m (0-6500 ft); Feb-May; CA, NM, NV, TX; Baja C., Chih., Son. s to S.L.P., Mex. The leaves are soon deciduous with dryness but may be renewed several times a year with recurring rains.



Fouquieriaceae Fig. 1. Distribution map.



Fouquieriaceae Fig. 2. *Fouquieria splendens*. A, stem with leaves of short shoots. B, inflorescence. C, stem in leafless condition. D, capsules. Drawn by Wendy C. Hodgson.