

**Supplementary material S5**

No obvious differences were found in the leaf surface as well as the anatomical structure of leaf blades between studied species (Figure 5). In general, the leaves were unifacial and glabrous. Epidermal cells were rectangular in shape with straight walls; in the transverse section, the epidermal cells were isodiametric or slightly wider than high or slightly higher than wide. A thick layer of the cuticle covering the epidermal cells was interrupted only by the front stomatal cavities. On the ribs, some epidermal cells were apparently larger and the cuticle was much thicker compared to other parts of the leaf, but this pattern was observed in all taxa compared. The cuticle bore a longitudinal striation over the cells and a row of micropapillae. The micropapillae were usually arranged in rows, or forming teeth formations on the leaf margins or the midvein. The stomatal apparatus was sunken into the cuticle layer, with guard cells smaller than the epidermal cells (approximately half to two-thirds of the height of epidermal cells) and conspicuous outer cuticular lips. The palisade tissue formed a compact ring of 1–3 layers of elongated cells; the number of layers varied between specimens, but it was not taxon-specific. Spongy mesophyll cells were circular to elliptical, in several layers, enlarging inward but breaking up to form a large central cavity. Laticifer cells were intraparenchymatous, thin-walled, and isodiametric in outline and present in high numbers in the leaves. Vascular bundles were arranged in one ring in the spongy mesophyll, with the xylem facing inward, and the phloem facing outward of the leaf. Vascular bundles were oval to elongated, varying in size, with large bundles situated in the ribs and small ones scattered between the ribs. The largest vascular bundle was always located in the centre of the abaxial side of the leaf, stretching along the midvein. The number of bundles was similar in all taxa, ranging between ca 18-20.