

Polygal.

FLORA OF BRAZIL  
State of Mato Grosso do Sul

No. R7690

*Bredemeyera* cf. *floribunda* Willd.  
Vernacular name: Cerveja de pobre.

Road between Cassilândia and Arvore Grande, c. 19°  
11'S 51° 45'W

Roadside vegetation in a cultivated area previously  
occupied by mesophilous forest.

Spindly, straggling shrub, 1.8m tall, arching under its  
own weight. The long thick roots are pulled up and  
beaten in water to give a beer-flavoured drink -- hence  
the vernacular name, meaning poor man's beer. One of  
our party had often drunk it in his youth and said that it  
was very refreshing after working in the hot sun.

14 xi 1996

J.A. Ratter, S. Bridgewater, J. Fonsêca Filho, Alicia  
Íbañez García & Gilmar B. dos Santos. (E, URS)