

A NEW SPECIES OF SCHIZOMERIA (CUNONIACEAE) FROM NEW GUINEA

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SUMMARY

Schizomeria carrii H.C. Hopkins, a new species from the Owen Stanley Mountains of Papua New Guinea, is described and illustrated.

Key words: Cunoniaceae, *Schizomeria*, New Guinea.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Schizomeria* D. Don occurs from the Moluccas to the Solomon Islands and in eastern Australia. A revision for Flora Malesiana has led to the recognition of a new species whose name is published here.

***Schizomeria carrii* H.C. Hopkins, *spec. nov.* — Fig. 1**

A *Schizomeria novoguineensi*, ramificationis ordinatione cum lateralibus axibus fere fortioribus quam medio, inflorescentia apicalem gemmam vere terminante, nunquam laterali nec pseudoterminali, aliquantum majoribus floribus, 5–8 mm diam. (nec 4–5 mm), praecipue differt. — Typus: *C. E. Carr 14175* (holo L; iso BM, K), [Papua New Guinea, Northern Prov.] Alola, 6200 ft, 4 Jan. 1936.

Tree up to 30 m high, flowering at 10 m, buttresses not reported. Lateral stems almost as dominant as median axis of stem, resulting in \pm regular trichotomous branching. Young twigs floccose, the hairs red-brown, later more sparsely hairy; nodes sometimes varnished. *Stipules* interpetiolar, one pair per node, narrowly triangular to ovate, 5–8 mm long, hirsute on abaxial surface, rarely seen. *Leaves* simple, opposite and decussate; petiole 0.3–0.7 cm long, rounded, glabrescent; leaf blade subcoriaceous to coriaceous, elliptic, ovate or oblong-elliptic, (3–)3.5–6(–9.3) by (1.7–)2–4(–5.3) cm, base obtuse or broadly acute, apex obtuse or rounded, indumentum in mature leaves often floccose near midrib, irregularly persistent on both adaxial and abaxial surfaces, minute glands rare, indumentum on petiole and blades in young leaves dense and floccose, red-brown; margin crenulate, secondary veins in 11–15 pairs, flat above and prominent below, generally evenly spaced, 4–5 mm apart in middle of blade, the lower ones rather closer together and \pm perpendicular to midrib, distal ones ascending, branching towards margin, the ascending branches usually more strongly developed, anastomosing, tertiary veins \pm scalariform but not strongly visible, or somewhat irregular,

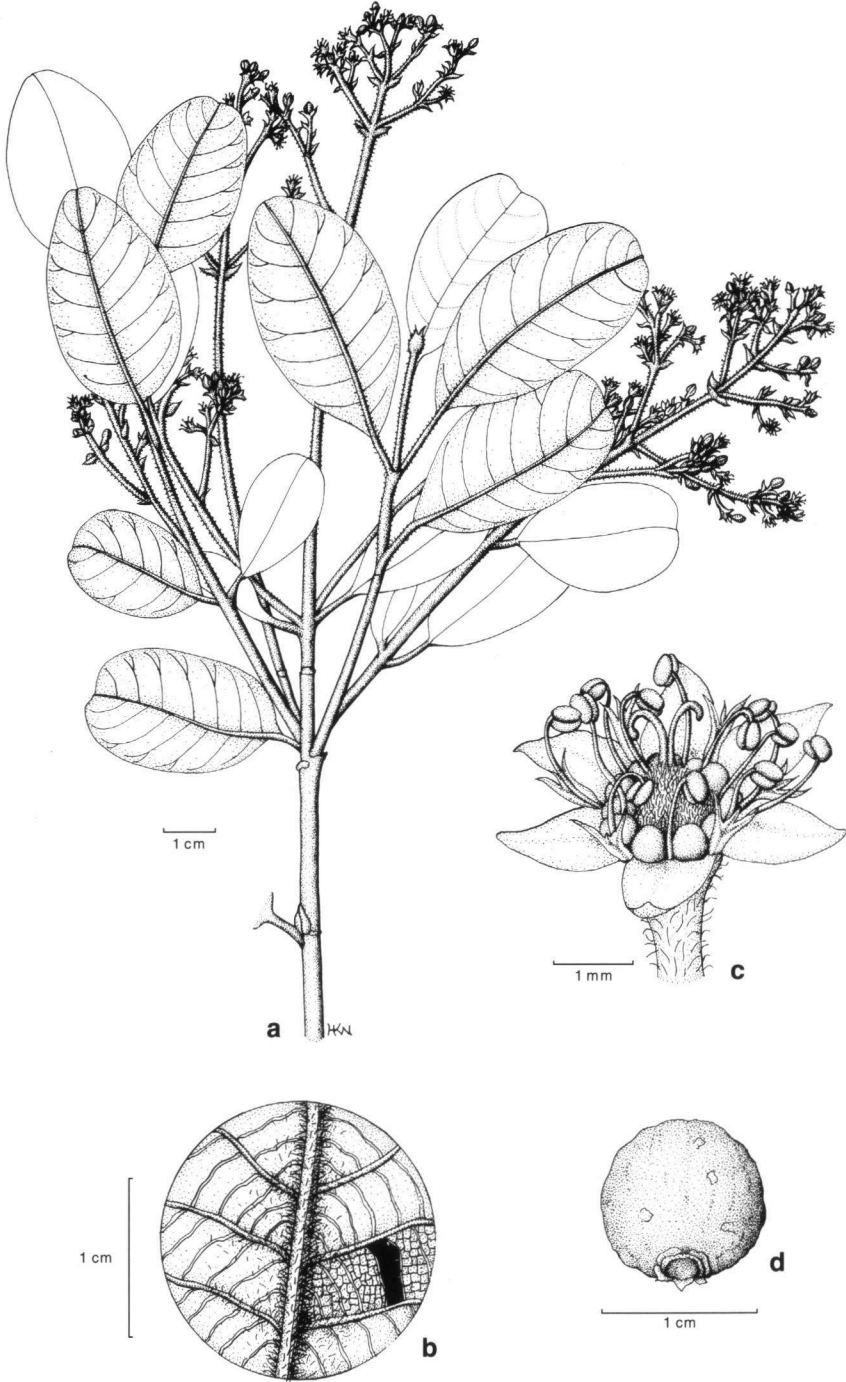


Fig. 1. *Schizomeria carrii* H.C. Hopkins. a. Flowering shoot; b. detail of venation, abaxial surface; c. flower; d. fruit (a–c: Carr 14175; d: Croft NGF 34837).

tertiary and quaternary veins \pm equal in size, venation on adaxial surface densely reticulate, the intervenium appearing as small dark spots. *Inflorescence* a terminal thyrse; median axes up to 9.5 cm long by 2–4 mm diam., usually bearing 3 or 4 pairs of opposite lateral branches, the lower ones sometimes subtended by reduced leaves; indumentum on axes red-brown, tomentose; bracts at nodes ovate, triangular or oblong, glabrous or almost so on outer surface. *Flowers* bisexual, 5–8 mm diam., almost sessile to pedicellate, pedicel 0.5–2 mm long; hypanthium tomentose, up to c. 0.5 mm high; calyx lobes 5, triangular to ovate, 2–2.6 by 1–2 mm, outer surface almost glabrous; petals 5, lacinate in distal part with the outer lobes longest, basal part c. 1 mm long, lobes up to 0.6–0.8 mm long; filaments 10, subulate, 1.7–2.5 mm long; anthers 0.6–0.8 mm long, apiculate; disc lobes c. 0.6 mm diam.; ovary 2-carpellate, superior, \pm spherical, 1–2 by 1–2.5 mm, tomentose; styles 2, free, 0.8–1.1 mm long. *Fruit* a \pm spherical drupe, somewhat irregular, up to c. 1.6 by 1.6 cm but perhaps not yet fully mature; epicarp smooth to somewhat warty.

Distribution — Owen Stanley Mountains of Papua New Guinea, from Myola and Alola in the central part of the range and Mts Dayman and Suckling in the SE.

Habitat & Ecology — A canopy tree in montane forest, described as mossy forest, submontane rain forest (*Lithocarpus/Podocarpus* association) with thick leaf litter, and ridge forest with *Araucaria*. Altitude 1800–2425 m.

Notes — This species is named for C.E. Carr who made a number of significant collections of *Schizomeria* in rather inaccessible parts of the Owen Stanley Mountains. It appears to be allied to *S. novoguineensis* L.M. Perry, but its occurrence over quite a long distance of the Owen Stanley Mountains, from Myola to Mts Suckling and Dayman, demonstrating uniformity of characters, suggests that it is worthy of specific status. It differs from *S. novoguineensis* in having larger flowers, a terminal inflorescence, and more persistent indumentum on the underside of the leaves. An apparently distinctive feature of *S. carrii* is the branching pattern, and at many nodes the lateral shoots develop with almost the same vigour as the median one.

Additional material examined:

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Central: *Croft & Lelean NGF 34837* (K, L), SE slope to Lake Myola No. 2, 9° 09' S, 147° 43' E, 1800 m, fr., 20 Sept. 1973; Milne Bay: *Brass 22715* (K, L), N slopes Mt Dayman, Maneau Range, 2250 m, fl. & fr., 2 June 1953; *Brass 22840* (K, L), *ibid.*, 2230 m, fl., 7 June 1953; *Stevens & Veldkamp LAE 55578* (K, L), Mt Suckling complex, S side of Guara ridge nr Mayu 2, 9° 45' S, 149° 04' E, 2425 m, yfr., 15 July 1972; *Veldkamp & Stevens 5896* (L), Mt Suckling, Goropu Mt, slope N of Goëpon grass plain, 9° 34' S, 148° 56' E, 2500 m, fl., 13 July 1972; Northern: *Carr 13739* (BM, K, L), Alola, 6500 ft, buds, 11 Dec. 1935; *Carr 14176* (BM, K, L), *ibid.*, fr., 4 Jan. 1936.

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