

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES ON NEW GUINEA PLANTS IX

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31. TRIFOLIUM REPENS L. IN NEW GUINEA (LEGUM.-PAPILIONATAE)

Trifolium repens has been introduced purposely or casually in the mountains of Luzon and East Java; it has now also turned up in New Guinea.

EAST NEW GUINEA. Morobe Dist., Wau Subdist., Edie Creek, bank over gold workings, growing in profusion, NGF 12152 A. N. Millar, 14 Aug. 1968.

32. SPERGULA ARVENSIS L. IN NEW GUINEA (CARYOPHYLLACEAE)

Spergula arvensis was known for a long time as an introduced plant in Java, escaped from cultivation. It came obviously much later in the Philippines, as Merrill (En. Philip. 2, 1923, 139) remarked that it was 'recently introduced and thoroughly naturalized in Luzon at Pauai', at c. 2400 m (already in 1907, BS 4294).

Its introduction in New Guinea is still more recent, the source of this may be Australia.

EAST NEW GUINEA. Morobe Dist., Kaindi, on open roadside, 2060 m, L. J. Brass 29662, 19 May 1959; ditto, Wau Subdist., on wet flats and grassland in clearings, 2250 m, NGF 35852 H. Streimann & A. Kairo, 24 Aug. 1967.

33. POLYCARPAEA IN NEW GUINEA (CARYOPHYLLACEAE)

Polycarpea corymbosa (L.) Lamk, Tab. Encycl. 2 (1797) 129; K. Bakker, Acta Bot. Neerl. 6 (1957) 51, with full references.

EAST NEW GUINEA. Central District: Tovobada Hills at c. 8 miles NNW. of Port Moresby, in Eucalypt savannah, on steep stony hillside, R. Pullen 6952, fr. 11-5-1967.

This is the first record of the genus in New Guinea.

34. A THIRD LOCALITY OF LAMIODENDRON MAGNIFICUM STEEN. (BIGNONIACEAE)

Of *Lamiodendron magnificum* Steen. (Nova Guinea, n.s., 8², 1957, 381, fig. 1) Mr. J. S. Womersley sent me two kodachrome slides, taken at the head of Milné Bay, Eastern Papua, Oct. 1969. The single flowering specimen is deposited in the Lae Herbarium. As this remarkable tree species has now become more accessible on the mainland of New Guinea, I hope that mature fruit will become available. It was formerly only known from Normanby I. in the d'Entrecasteaux group and Rossel I. in the Louisiades.

35. POLYGALA TATARINOWII REGEL IN PAPUA (POLYGALACEAE)¹⁾

This East and Southeast Asian species was hitherto in Malesia only known from the montane level from the Philippines, with one record from each North Luzon and Mindanao. The new record from Papua is thus of distinct interest.

¹⁾ By F. Adema.

Polygala tatarinowii Regel: Adema, Blumea 14 (1966) 256, fig. 1, 2 (map).

EAST NEW GUINEA. West Sepik District, Telefomin Subdist., Oksapmin, 5°20' S, 142°15' E, 1500 m, NGF 41503 Henty, Isgar & Galore, in *Themeda* grassland on steep rocky hillside, with *Pteridium*, vern. *umbagas*.

36. A NOTE ON RHAMPHICARPA IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW GUINEA
(SCROPHULARIACEAE)

The genus *Rhamphicarpa*, belonging to the tribe *Buchnereae*, consisting of branched, herbaceous plants with a long, very slender corolla and an obliquely beaked capsule, is chiefly distributed in Africa and Madagascar and is represented outside that continent by one species in India, *R. longiflora* Bth., and in North Australia by at least one taxon.

Bentham (Fl. Austral. 4: 518) had a broad species concept and referred not only the Australian specimens to the Indian species but extended its distribution even to Africa by combining with it also African specimens which he had earlier described under the name *R. fistulosa* Bth.

Hooker f. (Fl. Br. Ind. 4: 300) had objections against this wide concept and suggested that the three entities, *R. fistulosa* from Africa, *R. longiflora* from India, and the Australian taxon 'are distinct though very near'.

The receipt of a specimen collected recently in Papua by Mr. Pullen, the first record for the Malesian flora, induced me to see more closely into this matter. Though having not many specimens at hand, I have come to the conclusion that the Australian specimens should indeed not be referred to the Asian species. This makes it necessary to name the former and distinguish it as a new species. This description can be short as it is fully described by Bentham under the name *R. longiflora*.

***Rhamphicarpa australiensis* Steen., sp. nov.**

R. longiflora (non Bth.) Bth., Fl. Austral. 4 (1869) 518; F. v. M., Second Syst. Cens. Austral. Pl. (1889) 165; F. M. Bailey, Queensl. Flora (1901) 1121; Compr. Cat. (1913) 363; Ewart & Davies, Fl. North. Terr. (1917) 248.

R. longiflorae Benth. affinis, sed differt calycis tubo campanulato, segmentorum basi late deltoideo- usque semihemispherico-dilatata, apice sat abrupte in lobum elongatum linearem attenuato. Pedicelli sub anthesi 1—2½, sub fructu 1—4 cm longi. Fructus rostro incluso c. 1½ cm longus. — Typus: *H. S. McKee 9384* (CANB, L), Queensland, Davies Creek, Mareeba, 400 m alt.

AUSTRALIA. North Australia (Bentham, l.c.) and Queensland: Mareeba, Davies Creek, *H. S. McKee 9384*, locally common at 400 m, in wet ground, in one small area, leaves pale green, flowers pale yellow, fruits green turning black.

NEW GUINEA. Papua: Central District, Rubulogo Creek, c. 18 miles N. of Port Moresby, *R. Pullen 6632*, April 8, 1967, along tracks through Eucalypt savannahs, very common, flowers white, fruit green turning black.

Specifically distinct from the Indian plant of which the pedicels are only 3—5 mm, the capsule c. ¾ cm, and the calyx of which has hardly a cupular tube from which the segments emerge without having a broad base. In leaf and corolla length they are similar.

From New South Wales a very different second Australian species of *Rhamphicarpa* was described by F. von Mueller (Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. II, 6, 1892, 473), viz. *R. macrosiphonia* F. v. M. This seems quite different, not only by the very long filiform corolla tube said to be c. 7½ cm long (in the species mentioned above c. 2½—3 cm), but also by the imperfectly glandular-puberulous stem, the crowded basal leaves (absent in

both species mentioned), and the simple stem leaves which are grossly and distantly indented (in our species thread-like pinnatifid). Von Mueller hesitatingly referred this to *Rhamphicarpa*, writing: 'from which the presence of only 2 fertile stamens removes it, so that it would be best considered a distinct genus'. The status of this obviously needs further checking.