

A NEW SPECIES OF MAGNOLIA (MAGNOLIACEAE) FROM THAILAND

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SUMMARY

A new species of *Magnolia*, *M. thailandica* is described from Thailand.

Key words: *Magnolia*, Thailand.

INTRODUCTION

The second author, who is engaged in a survey of Magnoliaceae all over Thailand, has found several interesting trees including the species described here, of which he sent complete material to the first author for confirmation. *Magnolia thailandica* belongs to the formerly recognised genus *Kmeria*.

Magnolia thailandica Noot. & Chalermglin, *spec. nov.* — Fig. 1, Map 1

Arbor dioecia sempervirens foliorum chartaceorum 10 ad 13 cm longorum et 3.5 ad 5 cm latorum. Flores masculi albido-virides pedicello gracile 2.5 ad 3 m longo tepalis 5–7, obovoideis, albis, carnosis, 2 ad 2.8 cm longis et 0.8–1.2 cm latis, staminibus numerosis 10 ad 12 mm longis, antheris introrsis. Flores feminei albi pedicello simile, tepalis externis 4–5, obovoideis, 2.5 ad 3 cm longis et 1 ad 1.5 cm latis tepalis internis albis 4–8, teretibus, 10 ad 17 mm longis et 0.7–1 mm latis, gynoeccio elliptico 13 ad 15 mm longo, 10 ad 12 mm lato carpellis 7 ad 10 ovulis 2, stylis luteis 2.4 ad 4 mm longis. Fructus juveniles globosi 2.5 ad 3.5 cm diametris carpellis maturis ligneis 1.7 ad 2.7 cm longis secus suturam dorsalem dehiscentibus. — Typus: *Smitinand 559* = *Royal Forest Department 4848* (BKF; iso P, US), Nam Nao, Phetchabun Province, NE Thailand. From the same tree is *P. Chalermglin 410719*.

Dioecious evergreen tree, 20–30 m high, 30–70 cm diam., bark 3–5 mm thick, lenticelled, with specific strong smell, many branches only at the top. Twigs 2.5–3.5 mm thick, glabrous, lenticels sparsely scattered, internode 5–6 mm long. Stipules glabrescent, adnate to the petiole. *Leaves* evenly distributed, chartaceous, glaucescent beneath, elliptic, 10–13 by 3.5–5 cm, base attenuate-cuneate, margin entire, apex acute, midrib not prominent above; pairs of lateral nerves 12–14 not prominent above, meeting in an intramarginal vein 2–6 mm from the margin; reticulation distinct, densely netted. Petiole slender, 1–1.5 mm thick and 1.5–2 cm long, glabrous, stipular scars as long as petioles. *Flowers* unisexual, terminal, strongly fragrant. Male flowers: pedicel slender,

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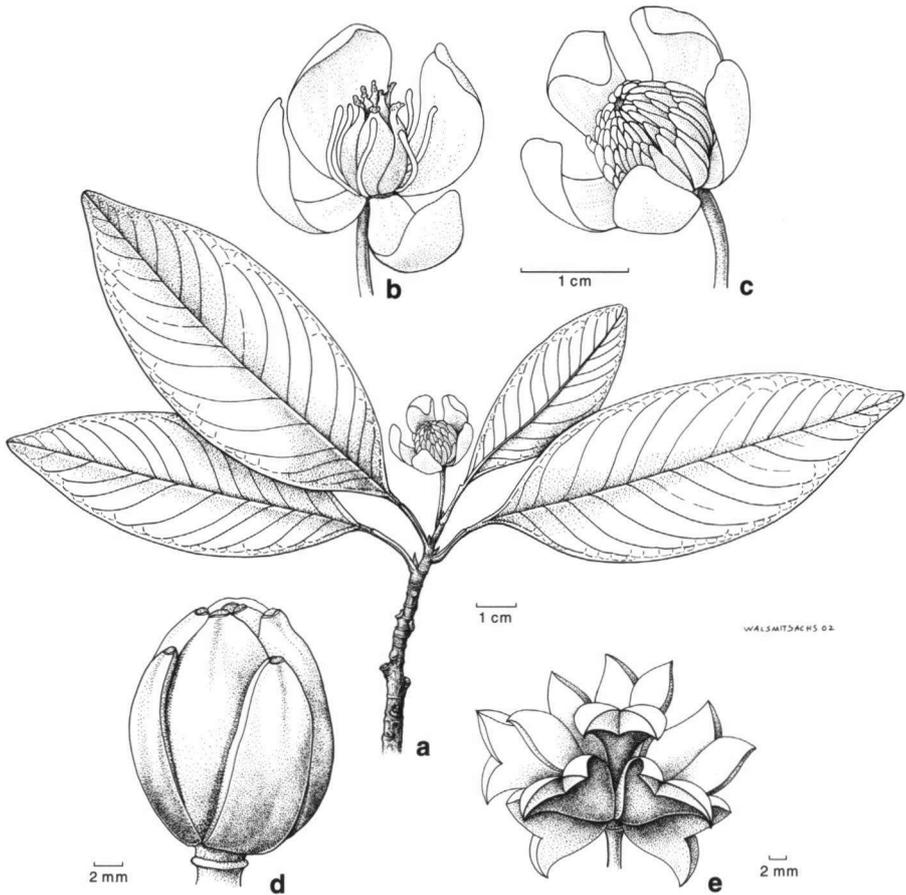
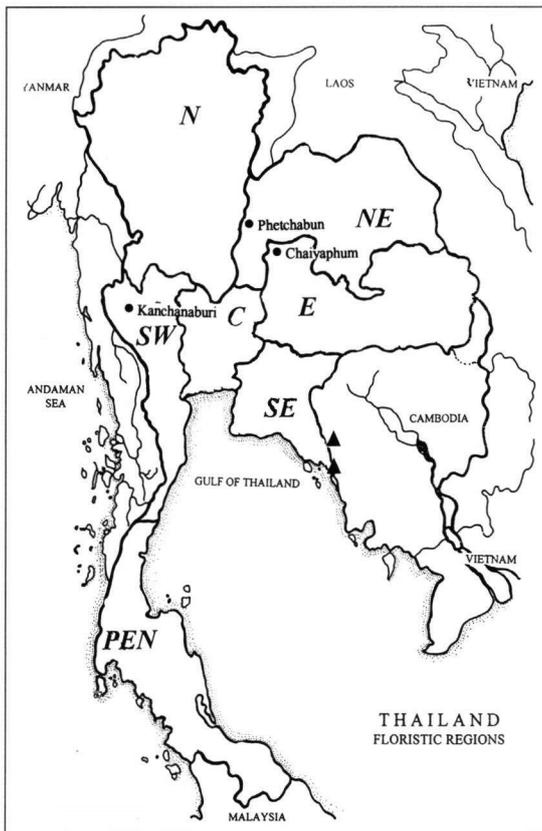


Fig. 1. *Magnolia thailandica* Noot. & Chalermglin. a. Habit (*P. Chalermglin* 410530); b. female flower (*P. Chalermglin* 450417-2); c. male flower (*P. Chalermglin* 450417-2); d. young fruit (*P. Chalermglin* 410719); e. ripe fruit (*P. Chalermglin* 411203).

glabrous, 2–3 cm long, 1.5–2.5 mm thick; bract 1, thick, greenish white, glaucous, ovoid, 2.2–2.5 by 1.8–2.2 cm; tepals 5–7, whitish, thick fleshy, obovoid, 2.5–3.5 by 0.5–1.2 cm; stamens numerous, 15–18 mm long, anthers dehiscing introrsely. Female flowers: pedicel slender, glabrous, 2.5–3.2 cm long, 1.5–2.5 mm thick; bract similar to male flower; outer tepals 4 or 5, obovoid, 2.5–3 by 1–1.5 cm, whitish, thick fleshy; inner tepals 4–8-terete, 10–17 mm long, 0.7–1 mm broad, whitish, thick fleshy, between outer tepals; gynaecium elliptic 13–15 mm long, 10–12 mm broad; carpels 7–10, number of ovules per carpel 2, styles yellow, 2.5–4 mm long. *Young fruits* globose, 2.5–3.5 cm in diam., consisting of carpels which dehisce along the dorsal suture, fruiting carpels thick, woody 1.7–2.7 cm long, with very short beak, seeds 2 per carpel, red, 1.5–1.7 cm long.

Distribution — Thailand, north-eastern (Phetchabun and Loei Province), eastern (Chaiyaphum Province) and south-western (Kanchanaburi Province).



Map 1. Distribution of *Magnolia thailandica* Noot. & Chalermglin (●) and *Magnolia duperreana* Pierre (▲).

Habitat & Ecology — Hill evergreen forest (tropical rain forest). Altitude 600–1150 m. Flowering season: April to May. Fruit ripening: October.

Notes — Local name: Champi Si Muang Thai.

From the former genus *Kmeria* only two species were known, one of them *Magnolia duperreana*.

Three collections were recently made, the only ones beside the type: 1) *P. Chalermglin* 441107 from North-Eastern Thailand, Phu Kradung National Park, Amphoe Phu Kradung, Loei Province, altitude 1150 m, 7 October 2001. A tree 30 m tall and without branches at the lower part of the stem; 2) *P. Chalermglin* 440520 from Eastern Thailand, Chaiyaphum Province, Phu Khieo wildlife sanctuary, Amphoe Phu Khieo, altitude 750 m, 20 May 2001; 3) *P. Chalermglin* 420719 from Nam Nao, Petchabun Province, NE Thailand.

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