

NOTES ON MALESIAN FABACEAE
(LEGUMINOSAE–PAPILIONOIDEAE)
5. The genus *Sarcodum*

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SUMMARY

A new species of *Sarcodum*, *S. bicolor* Adema, from Sumba is described. A key to the two species of the genus is given.

Key words: *Sarcodum*, Millettieae, SE Asia, new species.

INTRODUCTION

Sarcodum is a very small genus of SE Asian Leguminoseous plants. Loureiro (1790) described the genus to accommodate a species, *S. scandens* Lour., with fleshy pods (fleshy exocarp, Geesink, 1984). The genus was erroneously placed in the synonymy of the Australian genus *Clianthus* Sol. ex Lindl. by Merrill (1928). *Clianthus* is a genus of herbaceous climbers with dry pods and, moreover, differing in flower structure (Geesink, 1984). *Sarcodum* belongs to the tribe Millettieae, *Clianthus* to the tribe Galegeae.

Up to now only one species of *Sarcodum*, *S. scandens*, was known. This species is rather widespread, but obviously quite rare. Two specimens from Sumba, which differ especially in leaves and leaflets are here described as a new species. A key to the species of *Sarcodum* is given.

***Sarcodum bicolor* Adema, spec. nov.** — Fig. 1a

Folia 9–15-foliolata. Foliola insigniter bicoloria in sicco, supra brunnea, infra cinereo-
viridia, apex rotundatus retusus, supra glabra vel pilis paucis, infra glabra ad sparse
strigosa. Florens et frutificans *S. scandentis* similis plerumque in haec species nova
plurimum partium minor. Carinae petala alis longiora. — Typus: *Iboet 385* (holo L; iso
A, K), Lesser Sunda Islands: Sumba.

Twigs 4–5 mm diam., terete, thinly strigose, glabrescent. *Leaves* 9–15-foliolate. *Stipules*
narrowly triangular, 7–8 by 1 mm, both sides sericeous. *Petioles* 4–4.5 cm long, with
some hairs at upper side or glabrous; rachis 7.5–14.5 cm long, with some hairs at the
upper side or glabrous; pulvinus c. 5 mm long. *Leaflets* strikingly bicoloured when
dry, brown above, greyish green below; terminal obovate, 3.5–4.5 by 1.5–2.5 cm,
index 1.8–2.2, base cuneate, apex rounded, retuse, above glabrous or with very few
hairs, below thinly strigose to almost glabrous, midrib and nerves slightly raised,

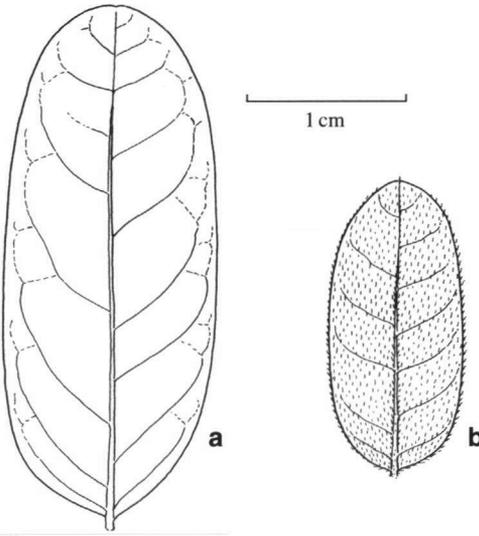


Fig. 1. *Sarcodum* Lour. Leaflets. a. *S. bicolor* Adema; b. *S. scandens* Lour. (a: Iboet 385; b. Elmer 13307).

nerves 6–8 per side, 3–11 mm apart; lateral mostly as the terminal, elliptic, 2–4.5 by 1–2 cm, index 2.2–3, base obliquely cuneate; pulvinus 3–4 mm long. *Inflorescences* axillary racemes, 3–10.5 cm long, peduncle 1.5–3.5 mm long, hirsute (rarely panicles with c. 5.5 cm long branches). *Bracts* narrowly obovate, c. 10 by 4 mm, both sides hirsute. *Pedicels* c. 4 mm long. *Bracteoles* at the base of the calyx, narrowly obovate, c. 7.5 by 1.5 mm, both sides sericeous. *Calyx* c. 5 mm long, tube c. 4 mm long; upper lip highly connate; lower lip with three teeth, teeth triangular, c. 2 by 1 mm; outside sericeous, inside glabrous. *Standard*: claw c. 2 mm long; blade elliptic, c. 13 by 8 mm, rounded, glabrous. *Wings*: claw 4 mm long; blade ± elliptic, c. 10 by 3.5 mm, rounded, auricle c. 1 mm long, glabrous. *Keel petals*: claw c. 3 mm; blade boat-shaped, c. 13 by 5 mm, rounded, auricle c. 1 mm long, glabrous. *Stamens* diadelphous, 9 + 1; filaments c. 13 mm long, glabrous; free stamen c. 11 mm long; anthers c. 1 by 0.7 mm, glabrous. *Disc* c. 2 mm high. *Ovary* c. 8 mm long, glabrous; stipe c. 3 mm long, glabrous; ovules 6; style c. 4 mm long, glabrous. *Pods* c. 5 by 1 cm, glabrous. *Seeds* c. 7 by 4 by 2 mm, hilum c. 2 mm long.

Distribution — Malesia: Lesser Sunda Islands: Sumba.

Note — Only known from two specimens (the type and Iboet 253) both collected by Iboet, probably in the same area on the same day.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF SARCODUM

- 1a. Leaves with 9–15 leaflets. Leaflets strikingly bicoloured when dry, above brown, below greyish green, apex rounded, retuse, above glabrous or with few hairs, below glabrous to thinly strigose (Fig. 1a). Keel petals longer than the wings ***S. bicolor***
- b. Leaves with 17–45 leaflets. Leaflets concoloured or both sides slightly different in colour when dry, apex rounded, apiculate or cuspidate, both sides (thinly) sericeous (Fig. 1b). Keel petals as long as the wings ***S. scandens***

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The loan of material used in this study from A, K, L, SING is gratefully acknowledged. The English diagnosis was kindly translated into Latin by J.F. Veldkamp.

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