

THE MEDINILLA MYRTIFORMIS ALLIANCE. II  
(MELASTOMATACEAE)

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**Medinilla gracilis** Veldk., *spec. nov.*

*Medinilla ramiflora* auct. non Merr.: Bakh. f., Thesis (1943) 194, pro *Atasrip* 236.

*Medinilla rubrifructus* auct. non Ohwi: Veldk., Blumea 24 (1978) 454, pro *Atasrip* 236.

*Medinilla rubrifructus* affine, in foliis longioribus, inflorescentiis praecipue ramifloris plurifloribus, pedicellis evolutionibus differt. — Typus: van Royen & Sleumer 5778 (L, holo; A, CANB, n.v.), Irian Jaya, Jayapura Dist., Cycloop Mts, path Ifar-Ormoe, Faika River bank, 990 m alt., 10 June 1961.

Innovations glabrous or with some red cilia. Branches terete. Leaves opposite; petioles subterete, 3–3.5 mm long, glabrous; blade ovate-lanceolate, 9–10.5 by 2.7–3.5 cm, base rounded, emarginate, lobes folded over the insertion of the petiole, margins entire; apex attenuately caudate, tip obtuse; glabrous, pergamantaceous when dry, 3-plinerved, lateral nerves branching off shortly above the base of the midrib, veins very inconspicuous. Flowers mainly ramiflorous, on small knobs, 2–6(–more) together; peduncle and axes absent; pedicels filiform, 1- or 2-noded, 12–17 mm long, glabrous; upper part 8–15 mm long. Bracts and bracteoles persistent, ovate-lanceolate, 1–1.5 mm long, acute, glabrous. Flowers absent. Fruit sub-globose, c. 4.5 mm diam., crowned by 4 filiform, 0.5–1 mm long, converging calyx teeth.

Distribution. Irian Jaya, Jayapura Dist., Cycloop Mts: G. Pisero (*Atasrip* 236), Faika River.

Ecology. Primary forest, 990 m altitude.

Collector's notes. Epiphytic shrublet, c. 1 m high. Leaves dark green above, light green below. Fruits orange-red.

Note. Although the flowers are absent, the two specimens cited differ in various aspects from the related *M. rubrifructus*, and clearly represent an undescribed species.