

LAUMONIERA, A NEW GENUS OF SIMAROUBACEAE FROM SUMATRA

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SUMMARY

The monotypic genus *Laumoniera* (Simaroubaceae) and the species *L. bruceadelpha* are described on a collection from Jambi Province, Sumatra, Indonesia.

INTRODUCTION

While identifying collections from Sumatra, sent by Dr. Y. Laumonier who collected them during a vegetation study in order to prepare the vegetation map of that island, Dr. M.M.J. van Balgooy (L) brought a collection to my attention which obviously was a Simaroubacea, but which he could not place in a genus. I came to the conclusion that Laumonier's plant is closely related to *Brucea*. Some characters separating it from the latter genus warranted its description as a new genus.

LAUMONIERA Noot., *gen. nov.*

Genus novum Simaroubacearum, *Brucea* J.F. Mill. affine, differt foliis paripinnatis stigmatibusque connatis discoideis et fructibus multo magis grandibus.

This new genus differs from *Brucea* J.F. Mill. in the paripinnate leaves, in the stigmas being connate and discoid, and in the fruits being much larger. There is only one species:

Laumoniera bruceadelpha Noot., *spec. nov.* – Fig. 1.

Arbor 16 metralis foliis paripinnatis ad ca. 50 cm longis. Inflorescentia thyrsoida. Flores feminei (flores masculi non vidi) pedicello ca. 7 mm longo bracteis triangulatis bracteolis parvis basi instructo; calyx basi connatus sepalis 4 triangulatis ca. 1 mm longis; petala 4, 2 ad 2,25 mm longa et ca. 2 mm lata; stamina 4 reducta antheris abortivis parvis pilosis sub disco piloso inserta; carpella 4 libera stigmatibus connatis vix lobatis disciformibus. Fructus 1 ad 4 ellipsoidei 4,5 ad 6 cm longi et 3–3,5 cm lati. – Typus: *Y. Laumonier 5727* (L), Sumatra, Bukit Pening Pening.

Tree 16 m high by 15 cm diameter; bole whitish grey, shallowly cracked and fissured with horizontal ridges; inner bark thin, whitish, more yellow near dead bark, fibrous; twigs wrinkled, 1–1.5 cm thick, tapering towards the apex. *Leaves* paripinnate, to c. 50 cm long; petiole shrivelled at base; leaflets 4–14, slightly ovate, 9–18 by 6–7 cm, acuminate with nearly rounded base and entire margin; rachis puberulous at least when young; petiolules c. 5 mm. *Inflorescence* a sparsely pubescent

thyse; flowers dark purple red in vivo, only functionally female ones seen; pedicel c. 7 mm (only few seen), sparsely pubescent; bracts triangular, at base of pedicel 2 bracteoles which are smaller than the bract; sepals 4, appressedly pubescent, connate at base, triangular, toothed, c. 1 mm long; petals 4, less hairy than sepals, 2–2.25 by c. 2 mm; stamens 4, reduced, with hairy anthers, alternating with petals; disk slightly hairy; carpels 4, free, the 4 stigmas connate, together discoid, slightly 4-lobed and separated by a groove above the partition of the carpels. *Fruits* yellow in vivo, very bitter with nice smell of *Prunus* fruit, 1–4 from each flower, ellipsoid, 4.5–6 by 3–3.5 cm when dry with thin wrinkled mesocarp and hard, thin, smooth endocarp. *Seed* ellipsoid, from a fruit of 5 by 3 cm the seed 3 by 2 cm.

Distribution. In Malesia: Sumatra, Jambi Prov., Bukit Pening Pening, NW of Tigapuluh mountains and SW of Bukit Hulusipin.

Ecology. Primary dipterocarp forest on steep slopes, metamorphic rock. Altitude c. 20 m.

In the Key to the genera of Simaroubaceae in *Flora Malesiana* I, 6 (1962) 196 the following addition should be made:

Couplet 9 (second lead)

9. Stamens the same number as petals, without an adaxial scale. Thyse narrow.

10. Leaves imparipinnate. Stigmas free, bent outward over the top of the ovary . . . 5. *Brucea*

10. Leaves paripinnate. Stigmas connate, discoid, covering the top of the ovaries . *Laumoniera*

In addition a mistake in couplet 4 (second lead) of the key should be mentioned. Stamens with (and not without) an adaxial scale in *Quassia*.

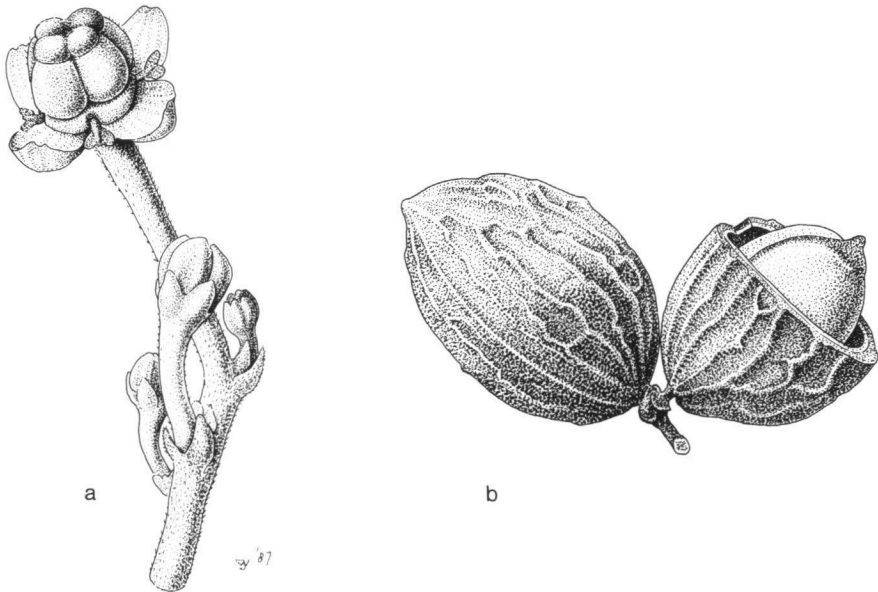


Fig. 1. *Laumoniera bruceadelpha* Noot. a. Flowers, $\times 5$; b. fruits, $\times 0.85$; both from the type.