

A NEW SPECIES OF ROUREOPSIS (CONNARACEAE)
FROM THAILAND

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SUMMARY

The new species *Roureopsis confudens* Leenh. is described from Thailand.

***Roureopsis confudens* Leenh., nov. sp.**
Rourea sp. Vidal, Fl. Thailand 2, 2 (1972) 125.

Frutex erectus vel scandens. *Ramuli* flavicanti- usque ad albicanti-pilosi, denique glabrescentes. *Folia* c. 15—20 cm longa, 11—16-jugata; petiolus rhachisque pilosa. *Foliola* lateralia plerumque opposita, subsessilia, oblonga (interdum oblongo-ovata, basalia interdum suborbiculata), basalia basi aequilateralia, apicalia basi subobliqua, 10—12.5 × 6.5—7.5 mm (basalia) usque ad 25 × 9—12.5 mm (apicalia), basi subcordata, ceterum plerumque aequilateralia, apice rotundato subemarginato usque apiculato; foliolium terminale ellipticum usque obovatum, 25—30 × 12.5—15 mm, basi apiceque acuto; foliola omnia herbacea, praesertim costa nervisque sparse pilosella, supra glabrescentia, subtus glauca, margine ciliolata; nervi c. 7-pares, connati vel liberi. *Inflorescentiae* probabiliter umbelliformes floribus c. 4. *Infructescentiae* fructu unico instructae; pedicellus gracilis usque ad 1 cm longus. Flores ignoti. *Sepala* 5, oblique patentia, late elliptica usque ovata, c. 5.5 × 4.5 mm, distincte costata, ciliolata, extus sparse pilosa, intus glabra. *Stamina* basi subconfluentia. *Pistilla* 5, unum in fructum evoluens. *Fructus* c. 1.5 cm longus, glaber, in vivo aurantiacus vel ruber. *Arilloidium seminis* partem quintam infimam obtegens.

T y p e: K. & S. S. Larsen, I. Nielsen & T. Santisuk 32221, SE. Thailand, Ban Thakien Thong, 13.28 N 100.52 E, 29-8-1972, fr., climber in open savanna forest at 50—75 m alt. (P; iso in AAU, n.v.).

Shrub or climber. *Branchlets* yellowish to dirty white pilose, finally glabrescent. *Leaves* c. 15—20 cm long, 11—16-jugate; petiole and rachis pilose like the twigs. *Leaflets:* the laterals mostly opposite, subsessile, oblong (sometimes oblong-ovate, lowermost ones to suborbicular), from equalsided (lower pairs) to slightly oblique at base (upper ones), from 10—12.5 × 6.5—7.5 mm (lower ones) to 25 × 9—12.5 mm (upper ones), with the base subcordate, the margins mostly straight and parallel, and the apex rounded and slightly emarginate to apiculate; the terminal leaflet elliptic to obovate, 25—30 × 12.5—15 mm, acute at base and apex; all herbaceous, thinly short-hairy especially on midrib and nerves, ciliolate, above glabrescent, beneath glaucous, nerves c. 7 pairs, joined or not, with well-developed intercalated veins. *Inflorescences* probably umbelliform with c. 4 flowers. *Infructescences* with one fruit; pedicel slender, up to 1 cm long. Flowers unknown. *Calyx* in fruit 5-merous, the sepals slightly spreading, broad-elliptic to ovate, c. 5.5 × 4.5 mm, strongly ribbed, outside sparsely hairy, ciliolate, inside glabrous. *Stamens* slightly confluent at base. *Pistils* 5, of which 4 not developing.

Fruit c. 1.5 cm long, orange to bright red when fresh. *Seed* at base for c. 20% covered by the arilloid.

Distribution: SE. Thailand (Chon Buri, Rayong, Chanthaburi).

THAILAND. Southeast: *Geesink & Hiepko 7841*, Rayong, Khao yod lem near Ban yai da, 12.40 N 101.25 E. (L); *K. Larsen 9778*, Chanthaburi, Makam plain (C); *K. & S. S. Larsen, I. Nielsen & T. Santisuk 32221*, type; *T. Smitinand 4540*, Chon Buri, Khao Kluea (P).

Ecology: in evergreen forest or open savanna forest, on granite; alt. 20—150 m. Fr. April to Aug.

Note. I have named this species *confundens* as it shows a confusing combination of characters. The fruit and fruiting calyx, on the one hand, are well in accordance with *Roureopsis*, especially with the sect. *Roureopsis*. On the other hand, the leaflets, being symmetrical and hardly or not emarginate at the apex, are very different from the mostly strongly asymmetrical and distinctly emarginate leaflets common in that section and agree very well with those of *Rourea mimosoides*. This makes it understandable that Dr. J. Vidal from Paris finally (on his labels he mentioned also *Roureopsis* as a possibility) placed this material under *Rourea*. I am of the opinion that the fruit and calyx characters are more important than the leaf characters, however. The present species seems nearest allied to *R. stenopetala* Schellenb., also from continental SE. Asia.