A NEW POA (GRAMINEAE) FROM NEW GUINEA

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Poa dozyi Veldk., spec. nov.

Monostachya oreoboloides auct. non Hitchc.: Steen. in Colijn, Naar de eeuwige sneeuw van tropisch Nederland (1937) 275; Veldk. in Hope et al., Eq. Glac. N. G. (1976) 158, pro Wissel 63.

P. callosa auct. non Stapf: Veldk. in Hope et al., Eq. Glac. N. G. (1976) 158, pro ANU 10967, Raynal 17519.

P. callosae affinis, laminis foliorum non callosis brevieribus (ad 3.5 cm longis), spiculis bifloris, glumis lematibus inconspicue nervatis non sulcatis, antheiis longioribus (0.8-1 mm longis) differt. - Typus: ANU 10967 (L, holo, CANB; BO, n.v.), New Guinea, Snow Mountains, Mt Carstensz, northern side of New Zealand Pan, near the middle tarn, 4360 m alt.

Densely tufted, cushion-forming perennial, up to 8 cm high, branching intravaginally at base, glabrous, smooth. Sheaths persistent, not articulating with the blades, throat not callose; basal ligules quadrangular, truncate to triangular, acute, the upper ones usually longer, up to 2.5 mm long, triangular, acute; blades ± erect, stiff, infolded, 1-3.5 cm by 0.7-1 mm Ø, smooth. Inflorescences not or slightly exserted beyond the leaves, 7-14-spiked, contracted, 15-25 by 2.5-4 mm Ø, lowest branches (1 or) 2 together, longest 9-12 mm long, naked in the lower 0.5-0.64th, usually 2-, rarely 1- or 3-spiked, scabrously ciliate. Spikelets compact, 2-flowered, 3-5 mm long, chasmogamous. Glumes oblong, acute, smooth but for the upper part of the midrib; lower glume 1.8-3 mm long, reaching up to 0.7-0.8th of the first lemma, faintly 1- or 3-nerved; upper glume 2-3.2 mm long, faintly 3-nerved. First lemma oblong, 2.25-3.6 mm long, faintly 3- (or 5-)nerved, smooth but for the upper part of the midrib, web absent, apex acute. First palea slightly shorter than the lemma, keels ciliate in the upper half. Rachilla-nodes 0.4-1 mm long, smooth; process 1.25-2 mm long. Anthers 0.8-1 mm long, yellowish (i.s.). Caryopsis ellipsoid, ca. 1.65 mm long. Stylar caruncle small.


Ecology. On moraines in sheltered, poorly drained hollows in alpine tundra, 4000-4700 m altitude.

Fig. 1. - Poa dozyi Veldk. Spikelet, ×10 (ANU 10967).
Note. Named after Prof. Dr. J.J. Dozy, The Hague, member of the first expedition to ascend Mt Carstensz (1936) during which the copper mountain Ertsberg was discovered by him, and numerous unknown species were collected by his companion, F.J. Wissel, of which this is one.

Specimens. ANU 10967 (Hope), Raynal 17519, Wissel 18, 63, 113, 114 p.p.