A taxonomic revision of *Germainia* (*Andropogoneae: Poaceae*) in Thailand

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Key words

Andropogoneae  
Germainia  
Poaceae  
Thailand

Abstract  A taxonomic revision of the genus *Germainia* (*Andropogoneae: Poaceae*) in Thailand is presented based on herbarium and field studies, including evidence from morphology, habitats and geographical distribution. Six of the nine recognized *Germainia* species are found in Thailand. We include a key to the taxa that are currently known from Thailand or may be expected, lists of species synonymsies, species descriptions and lists of representative specimens.

Published on  17 January 2013

INTRODUCTION

*Germainia* Balansa & Poitr. is a small genus in the tribe *Andropogoneae* (*Poaceae*) comprising nine species and distributed in E India (Assam), S Myanmar (Tenasserim), Indo-China (Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, S Vietnam), S China (Guangdong (Canton), Yunnan), Indonesia (Aru Isl., Indonesian Papua), Papua New Guinea (Central, Sandaun (W Sepik), Western Prov.), and Australia (Northern Territory, N Queensland) (Chai-Anan 1972, Chen & Phillips 2006, Chen et al. 2007). *Germainia* was treated as a member of subtribe *Germainiinae* Clayton (represented by *Apocopis* Nees, *Germainia* and *Trachypogon* Nees) by Clayton (1972) based on morphological and anatomical data and specifically on the shared reduction in the sessile spikelet. Recognition of this subtribe was supported by Teerawatananon et al. (2011) using molecular DNA sequence data. However, the relationships of species within *Germainia* are still very much unknown.

Currently *Germainia* includes three genera: *Germainia* s.str., *Chumsriella* Bor and *Sclerandrium* Stapf & C.E.Hubb., which were reduced to *Germainia* by Chai-Anan (1972). She proposed a new circumscription of the genus based on the presence of basal pairs of homogamous involucral spikelets surrounding the central fertile awned spikelets and the presence of a tough rachis. She enumerated five species for Thailand.

During the preparation of a revision of *Germainiinae* for the Flora of Thailand Project, a number of new results were acquired. In addition, it was necessary to consider the typification of some names that had not been previously typified in order to fix their applications. Six taxa of *Germainia* are here revised.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

There were two main sources of specimens used in this study: specimens collected from fieldwork in Thailand and herbarium specimens, also from other areas, obtained from the following herbaria: AAU, ABD, BK, BKF, BM, C, E, GH, K, KKU, L, NY, SING, TCD, US and the Herbarium of Natural History Museum, National Science Museum, Technopolis, Pathum Thani, Thailand. Four field trips, totalling a period of five months were made in Thailand during 2005 and 2006.

Several species per specimen were examined and measured if available. Spikelets from herbarium specimens were softened in water containing a small amount of detergent (c. 1 % of washing-up liquid), and measured using a stereomicroscope (Leica MZ-12) with a micrometer. Information on their distribution, ecology and habitat was taken from herbarium specimen data and field observations. Typification and synonymizations are based on literature (Chai-Anan 1972) and herbarium studies.

SYSTEMATIC TREATMENT

*Germainia*


*Chumsriella* Bor (1968) 467. — Type: *Chumsriella thailandica* Bor (≡ *Germainia thailandica* (Bor) Chai-Anan).

Etymology. The genus *Germainia* was named by Balansa & Poitrasson (1873) in honour of the collector, Rodolphe Germain.

Perennial, tufted, rarely stoloniferous. *Culms* slender, erect; nodes glabrous to pubescent or pilose. *Leaf-blades* lanceolate to linear-lanceolate or linear, hairy to glabrous. *Ligule* an eciliate- or ciliolate membrane. *Inflorescence* of 1–2(–6) racemes, racemes capitate or elongate or subdigitate, closely appressed to divergent, rachis internodes tough, short or almost reduced, racemes with 2–14 sessile and pedicelled spikelets; peduncles usually exerted, rarely enclosed in uppermost sheath,
Plate 1  a, b. Germainia capitata Balansa & Poitr. a. Habit; b. inflorescence. — c, d. Germainia khasyana Hack. c. Habit; d. inflorescence (a, b: Teerawatananon & Sungkaew 834; c, d: Teerawatananon & Sungkaew 906). — Photos: all A. Teerawatananon.
espatheate, glabrous to hirsute. Spikelets in pairs, heteromorphic, sometimes basal pairs reduced to the sessile spikelets forming an involucre, dorsally compressed, 2 florets, without rachilla extension. Sessile spikelets male, persistent; lower glumes membranous or chartaceous (G. pilosa, G. thailandica) or coriaceous, glabrous to hairy, obliquely bifid, muticous, truncate or obtuse, 7–9(–11)-nerved, nerves sometimes anastomosing; upper glumes membranous, almost reaching or exceeding apex of lower glumes in spikelets, acute or obtuse or dentate or emarginate, 3–5-nerved; lower florets sometimes absent if present male or neuter; lower lemmas membranous, acute to obtuse, 1(–3)-nerved; lower paleas membranous, acute or obtuse or bifid or dentate, 2-nerved; upper florets male or neuter; upper lemmas absent, if present linear or filiform, obtuse or acute to mucronate, 1-nerved; upper paleas as the lower one; lodicules absent; stamens 2. Pedicelled spikelets fertile, caducous; spikelet callus linear to obtuse, attached obliquely or transversely, hairy with yellowish to reddish brown hairs; glumes coriaceous, subequal, acute or obtuse or muticous, dentate or truncate, 3–7-nerved; lower florets usually suppressed, if present neuter, epaleate; upper florets female; upper lemmas reduced to the narrow stipitate base of awn base, awns geniculate with brown twisted columns, hirsutulous, caducous, 1-nerved; upper paleas membranous, almost glabrous; styles 2, stigmas plumose, exerted. Caryopsis with adherent pericarp, oblong, hilum punctiform.
Distribution — Nine species, distributed from India, Myanmar, China, Indo-China, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea to Australia.

Habitat & Ecology — Occurring in moist sandy soil, tropical grassland, tropical forest, and deciduous forest and also open and moist rocky plain areas. Found at elevations of 0–1300 m.

Note — Kuntze (1903) regarded the name as confusable with Germaina Lam. (1788, Lamiaceae), possibly named after J.J. de Saint Germain (c. 1784) (Backer 1936: 232). This has not been accepted and there are no combinations under the superfluous replacement name Balansochloa Kuntze.

KEY TO THAI GERMAINIA SPECIES

1. Basal sheaths densely covered with white to pale yellow lanate hairs ............................ 3. G. lanipes
2. Basal sheaths not covered with lanate hairs .......................... 2
3. Awn developed, at least 2 cm long .......................... 3
4. Awn reduced 3–4.7 mm long .......................... 7. G. pilosa
5. Plant up to 15 cm tall. Lower glumes of sessile spikelets apiculate; racemes elongate. Lower glumes of sessile spikelets truncate to muticous with lateral teeth .......................... 2. G. khayanya
6. Leaf-blade linear-lanceolate, 15–20 mm long, acute and ciliate, 7–9-nerved, sometimes outer two nerves anastomosing; upper glumes linear-lanceolate, 16–23 by 3–4 mm, upper part pubescent, acute, upper margin ciliate, 3-nerved; lower glumes linear-lanceolate, 15–20 mm long, acute and ciliate, 1–3-nerved; lower paleas ovate-lanceolate, 13–19 mm long, pubescent on nerves, bifid, upper margin ciliate; upper lemmas linear-lanceolate, 15–20 mm long, upper part pubescent, acute, upper margin ciliate; upper paleas lanceolate, 15–20 mm long, pubescent on nerves, acute, upper margin ciliate; lamens 2, anthers reddish purple, 9–12 mm long. Pedicelled spikelets lanceolate, 8–11 by 1.2–2.5 mm, caducus; pedicels 5–7 mm long, hirsute; spikelet callus linear, 3–3.5 mm long, attached obliquely, hairy, hairs 0.5–2 mm long; lower glumes lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, 8–11 by 1.5–2.5 mm, pubescent, obtuse to muticous, upper margin ciliate, 3-nerved; upper glumes ovate-lanceolate, 7–9 by 1–1.8 mm, pubescent, obtuse to truncate, upper margin ciliate, 3–(5)-nerved; lower florets neuter or suppressed, lower lemmas linear, 6–7 mm long, truncate, upper margin ciliate, nerves obscure; lower paleas absent; upper lemmas linear, 3–4 mm long, awns 6–9(–11.5) cm long, columns 4–6 cm long; upper paleas oblong, 5–7 mm long, truncate, upper margin ciliate; styles 2, stigmas reddish purple, c. 1.5 mm long. Caryopsis oblong, 3–4 mm long.

Distribution — Thailand (NE: Loei; E: Chaiyaphum, Si Sa Ket; SE: Chanthaburi; PEN: Satun, Songkhla). This species also occurs in Vietnam to S China (Guangdong, Yunnan), Malesia: Aru Isl., New Guinea (Irian Jaya: Kebar, Baliem; Papua New Guinea: W Sepik, W Prov.), Australia (N Queensland).

Habitat & Ecology — Wet and open sandy and clayey soil areas in tropical grasslands, pine forests, 0–1300 m.

Vernacular name — Ya Kamong, from Bunphung 898 (BKF).

Specimens examined. Anonymous 32, 57; Brass 5727, 6555, 8637, 11722; Bunphung 898; Buwalda 5299; BW 12512 (Versteegh); Clarkson 7753; Heyligers 1615; Kurr 8831, 9583, 13687; Kostermans & Soeng 814; Lazairides 7468; Maxwell 76-548, 85-215; NGF 9370 (Womersley); 10429 (White & Gray); 10678; 40002 (Henty); 40027 (Henty); O’Connor & Nymahmadn 15769; Pullen 7210; Raynal 19693, Sampson 838a, 838b, 1162; 14302; Sharpe & Dowling 2264; Sharpe & Elsom 2660; Smitinand 367, 1794, 3596, 5586, 7154; Sørensen et al. 2369; Teerawatananon & Sangkew 834, 888, 889, 898; Tem & Ploenchit 367; Van Balgooy & Mamesh 6267, 6381; Van Beusekom et al. 4265 (NOT 9265); Van Leeuwen & Van der Ree 16–23 May 1958.

Notes — Chai-Anan (1972) divided this species into two groups of high (1000–2000 m) and low (5–50 m) altitudes. Of the specimens examined in this study, only the specimens collected from the summit of Phu Kradueng (1000–1300 m) are assignable to the high altitude plants, while the specimens collected from the other places (0–800 m) are assignable to the low altitude plants. We agree with Chai-Anan that the distinction between the two forms is insufficient for any taxonomic recognition as some characters are inconsistent, e.g. the shape of the apex of the lower glume of sessile spikelet is variable and ranges from obliquely bifid to muticous which can be found in both groups of plants, although most specimens from low altitude tend to have obliquely bifid apices, while the specimens from high altitude tend to have muticous ones. More material for further study is needed to clarify this situation.

This scenario also happens with other grasses. For example, the disjunct distribution crossing the Equator and the Wallace which occurs in Hemarthria. Hemarthria pretensis (Balansa) Clayton (Van den Heuvel & Veldkamp 2000: 462) ranging from Thailand to Vietnam was described as H. subulata Reeder from the Western Province of Papua New Guinea. Other instances even more intriguing are the temperate species Trisetum bifidum (Thunb.) Ohwi var. bifidum from China, Korea, Japan and then above 2660 m in Papua New Guinea: the Star Mt and Mt Victoria. Approximately 39 subalpine species of Poa L. in Trisetum bifidum (Thunb.) Ohwi var. bifidum from China, Korea, Japan and then above 2660 m in Papua New Guinea: the Star Mt and Mt Victoria. Approximately 39 subalpine species of Poa L. in
New Guinea belong to the Eurasian Homalopoa Dumort. and Stenopoa Dumort. (J.F. Veldkamp, pers. comm.).

2. Germainia khasyana Hack. — Plate 1


Perennial. Culms slender, 25–40(–75) cm tall, erect, branched; nodes pilose. Leaf-sheaths 1.5–3 cm long, pilose with tubercle-based hairs, margins scarious. Ligule an eciliate membrane, 1–1.5 mm long. Leaf-blades lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 2–4.5 by 0.3–0.4 cm, upper surface and margins pilose with tubercle-based hairs, margins thick. Racemes solitary, capititate, 1–1.7 cm long, composed of (2–3(–4) sessile and pedicelled spikelets; peduncles slender, 6–14 cm long, waxy. Sessile spikelets yellowish green, oblong, 10–17 by 3–4 mm; lower glumes coriaceous, oblong, 6.5–12 by 3–4 mm, glabrous, truncate to muticous, upper margin ciliate, 7–9(–11)-nerved, nerves not anastomosing; upper glumes lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 8–17 by 2–3 mm, pubescent on dorsal surface on the upper half, obtuse, upper margin ciliate, 3-nerved; lower lemmas linear-lanceolate, 6–14 mm long, obtuse, upper margin ciliate, 1-nerved; lower paleas linear-lanceolate, 6–14 mm long, smooth, upper margin ciliate; upper lemmas linear; upper paleas similar to the lower ones; stamens 2, anthers purple, 4–7 mm long. Pedicelled spikelets lanceolate, 6–6.5 by 0.8–1(–2) mm, caducous; pedicels 2.5–4 mm long, sparsely hispid; spikelet callus linear, c. 1.5 mm long, attached obliquely, hairy, hairs 1–2 mm long; lower glumes lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, 6–6.5 by 1–2 mm, pubescent, truncate or obtuse, upper margin ciliate, 5–7-nerved; upper glumes lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, 5–5.5 by 1–1.8 mm, pubescent, truncate or obtuse, upper margin ciliate, 3-nerved; lower florets suppressed; upper lemmas linear, 2.5–4 mm long, awns 3.5–5.5 cm long, columns 2–4 mm long; upper paleas oblong, 2.5–3 mm long, truncate and dentate, upper margin ciliate; styles 2, stigmas white, 5–7 mm long. Caryopsis oblong, 3–3.2 mm long.

Distribution — Thailand (N: Phitsanulok). This species is also found in India (Meghalaya) and Myanmar (Kachin).

Habitat & Ecology — Open swampy areas, tropical grasslands, 150–1200 m altitude.

Typification notes — Hackel (1891) typified G. khasyana by citing the specimens of Clarke 44830 and Clarke 42558. Roberty (1960: 102) selected the specimen of Clarke 14568 as the type of G. khasyana. However that collection was not cited by Hackel (1891) and was not found in his herbarium (W) (J.F. Veldkamp, pers. comm.). Later, Chai-Anan (1972: 41) designated Clarke 44830A (BM, K) as holotype, but this lectotypification is incomplete as two sheets were mentioned. We have found that there are five sheets of Clarke 44830: Clarke 44830A (K), Clarke 44830B (W, 2 sheets), Clarke 44830C (K) and Clarke 44830D (BM) and three sheets of Clarke 42558: Clarke 42558A (K), Clarke 42558B (BM) and Clarke 42558J (RGB). Therefore, there are at least eight specimens of Clarke which could be selected as the holotype. We hereby designate Clarke 44830B as the lectotype. This lectotype is the one housed in his herbarium W (W-Hackel-1916-00027613) and that bears a label with Hackel’s handwriting (J.F. Veldkamp, pers. comm.).

Specimens examined. Clarke 6447, 42558A, 42558B, 42558J, 44830A, 44830C, 44830D; Hansen et al. 11231; Lace 6054; Teerawatananon & Sungkaew 906, 907.

3. Germainia lanipes Hook.f. — Plate 2

Germainia lanipes Hook.f. (1897) 163. — Type: Helfer s.n. (holo K), Myanmar, Tenasserim.

Perennial. Culms 20–45(–60) cm tall, erect, branched; nodes pubescent, sometimes pilose. Leaf-sheaths clasping, 4–10 cm long, basal sheaths densely covered with white to pale yellow lanate hairs, upper sheath shorter than internodes and sparsely pubescent at base and at throat, to glabrous. Ligule an eciliate membrane, 0.2–0.5 mm long, basal leaves with a dense row of hairs behind the ligule. Leaf-blades linear, 20–45 by 0.2–0.3 (0.5) cm, lower surface covered with white wax, margins thick, pilose at base, margins spinulose-scabrous. Racemes 1–2, 1.5–2(–3) cm long, elongate, closely appressed, composed of 4–11 sessile and pedicilled spikelets, basal homogamous 2(–3); peduncle 8–15(–20) cm long. Sessile spikelets green, oblong, 10–12(–15) by 3–4 mm; lower glumes coriaceous, oblong, 9–10(–12) by 1.8–3.5 mm, pubescent to hirsute at base, muticous, upper margin ciliate, 7–9-nerved, nerves not anastomosing; upper glumes linear-lanceolate, 10–15 by 1–1.5 mm, 3–4-dentate, 3-nerved, pubescent on nerves; lower florets male; lower lemmas linear-lanceolate, 9–12 mm long, acute, upper margin ciliate, 1-nerved; lower paleas linear-lanceolate, 8–10 mm long, pubescent on nerves, acute to 3-dentate; upper lemmas linear, 8–12 mm long, upper part pubescent, aristate; upper paleas similar to the lower one; stamens 2, anthers yellow to reddish purple, 6–7 mm long. Pedicelled spikelets lanceolate, 5–7 by 1–1.5 mm, caducous; pedicels 3–4 mm long, hispid; spikelet callus linear, 1–1.5 mm long, attached obliquely, hairy, hairs 0.5–1.5 mm long; lower glumes lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, 6–7 by 1–1.5 mm, pubescent, obtuse to acute, 3-nerved; upper glumes ovate-lanceolate, 5–6 by 1–1.5 mm, pubescent, obtuse to acute, 3-nerved; lower florets suppressed; upper lemmas linear, 2–3 mm long, awns 3–5 cm long, columns 2–2.5 cm long; upper paleas oblong, 2.8–3.2 mm long, truncate and dentate; styles 2, stigmas white or rufous-red, 6–10 mm long. Caryopsis oblong, c. 3.5 mm long.

Distribution — Thailand (N: Tak; SW: Kanchanaburi, Ratchaburi) and Myanmar (Taninthayi = Tenasserim).

Habitat & Ecology — Open grassy Shorea-Phoenix humilis vegetation areas, dry hillsides in deciduous dipterocarp forests, open sandy soil areas on limestone hills, 150–900 m altitude. This species is confined to limestone or rocky areas.

Vernacular name — Ya Da Ru Nee from Phengklai et al. 12559 (BKF).

Specimens examined. Helfer s.n.; Larsen 9134; Phengklai 352; Phengklai et al. 12559; Sinnongkol 148; Teerawatananon & Kritsanachandee 978; Teerawatananon & Sungkaew 677.

4. Germainia pilosa Chai-Anan — Plate 3

Germainia pilosa Chai-Anan (1972) 39, f. 3. — Type: Chanthanamuck 224 (holo BKF; iso BK, K, L), Thailand, Sakon Nakhon.

Annual, tufted. Culms slender, up to 15 cm tall, erect, branched; nodes glabrous. Leaf-sheaths 0.5–1 cm long, pilose with tubercle-based hairs, margins scarious and glabrous. Ligule an eciliate membrane, 0.5–0.8 mm long. Leaf-blades lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 1–2 by 0.2–0.25 cm, pilose with tubercle-based hairs on both surfaces, margins scabrous. Racemes 1, 6–7 mm long, capititate, composed of 2–3(–4) pairs of spikelets; peduncles slender, 3–6 cm long, waxy. Sessile spikelets yellowish green to purplish, oblong, 4–4.5 by 2 cm; lower glumes chartaceous, oblong, 3.8–4 by 2–2.2 mm, glabrous, muticous or truncate or slightly denticulate, 7–9-nerved, nerves Anastomosing below apex; upper glumes lanceolate, 4–4.5 by 0.8–1.5 mm, pubescent on the upper half, obtuse, 3-nerved;
Plate 3  Germainia pilosa Chai-Anan. a. Habit; b, d. habitats on moist sandy soil areas; c. inflorescence (b, c: Teerawatananon & Kritsanachandee 949; d: Teerawatananon & Sungkaew 896). — Photos: a–c. N. Kritsanachandee; d. A. Teerawatananon.
lower lemmas lanceolate, 3.5–3.8 mm long, pubescent on the upper half, obtuse, 1-nerved; lower paleas lanceolate, 3.5–3.8 mm long, pubescent on dorsal surface on the upper half, obtuse; upper lemmas absent; upper paleas similar to the lower palea; stamens 2, anthers yellow to purple, 2–3 mm long. Pedicelled spikelets lanceolate, 3.5–4 by 0.2–0.8 mm, caducous; pedicels 1–2 mm long, glabrous; spikelet callus linear, 0.5–1 mm long, attached obliquely, hairy, hairs 0.5–0.8 mm long; lower glumes chartaceous, lanceolate, 3.5–4(–5.5) by 0.3–0.6 mm, pubescent, apex hispid, acute to obtuse, 3-nerved; upper glumes lanceolate, 3–4(–5) by 0.2–0.5 mm, pubescent, acute to obtuse, 3-nerved; lower florets suppressed; upper lemmas linear, 2–2.5 mm long, awns 3–4.5 cm long, columns 1–2.5 cm long; upper paleas lanceolate, 2.8–3 mm long, dentate; styles 2, stigmas pale brown, 1.4–1.5 mm long. Caryopsis oblong, 1.3–1.5 mm long.

Distribution — Endemic to Thailand (NE: Sakon Nakhon, Mukdahan).

Habitat & Ecology — On moist sandy soil in open areas, along stream banks, deciduous dipterocarp and mixed deciduous forests, and also on open and moist rocky plain areas, 500–800 m altitude.

Specimens examined. Chanthanamuck 224; Esser 98-207; Murata et al. 50818, 50864; Norsangsri 568; Sunarnakoses 2016; Teerawatananon & Kritsanachandee 949; Teerawatananon & Sungkaew 886.

Note — Chai-Anan (1972) mentioned that the width of the lower glume of the pedicelled spikelet was 1–1.4 mm. However, we examined the holotype and isotype from BKF, L., as well as fresh specimens in the field and found that their lower glumes are not wider than 0.6 mm.

6. Germainia thorelii A.Camus


Annual. Culms slender, 25–50 cm tall, erect, branched; nodes glabrous. Leaf-sheaths 1–2.5 cm long, glabrous to appressed pubescent, margins scabrous. Ligule an eciliate membrane, 0.4–1.2 mm long. Leaf-blades lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 1–2.5 by 0.2–0.3 cm, densely patently pilose with tubercle-based hairs on both surfaces, margins scabrous. Racemes 2, 0.8–1.5 cm long, elongate, more or less divergent, composed of 3–4 pairs of spikelets on each, basal homogamous solitary or absent; peduncle slender, 1–2 cm long, enclosed in the uppermost sheath with well-developed blade. Sessile spikelets oblong, 4–5 by 1–2 mm; lower glumes membranous to chartaceous, oblong, 3.5–4.5 by 1–2 mm, glabrous, apex 3–4-dentate, the mid-lobe shorter than the laterals, upper margin ciliate, 7–9-nerved, nerves anastomosing below apex; upper glumes lanceolate, 4–5 by 1–1.2 mm, glabrous, truncate to emarginate, upper margin ciliate, 1-nerved; lower florets absent, if present neuter; lower lemmas lanceolate, 2.7–3.7 mm long, obtuse, upper margin ciliate, nerves obscure; lower paleas absent; upper lemmas filiform, 4–4.5 mm long; upper paleas lanceolate, 4–4.2 mm long, glabrous, obtuse, upper margin ciliate; stamens not seen. Pedicelled spikelets lanceolate, 3.5–4 by 0.5–1.2 mm, caducous; pedicels 1–1.5 mm long, sparsely pubescent; spikelet callus obtuse, attached transversely, hairy, hairs 0.3–0.5 mm long; lower glumes lanceolate, 3.5–4.2 by 0.8–1.2 mm, densely hisrute, 2–3-dentate, upper margin ciliate, 3-nerved, anastomosing; upper glumes lanceolate, 2.8–3.2 by 0.8–1 mm, densely hisrute, obtuse with 2–3-dentate, 3-nerved; lower florets suppressed; upper lemmas linear, 1.5–2 mm long, awns 2.5–4.5 cm long, columns 1–1.2 cm long; upper paleas oblong, 1–1.7 mm long, acute, glabrous. Caryopsis oblong, 1.3–1.5 mm long.

Distribution — Endemic to Thailand, only known from Doi Inthanon (N: Chiang Mai).

Habitat & Ecology — Evergreen forests.

Typification notes — Bor (1968) stated that the specimen of K. Boongthong 1436 housed in K was the holotype of Chumsiella thailandica Bor and regarded the duplicates in BKF, BM and AAU as isotypes. However, the label on the holotype sheet indicated that ‘Booncheuy 1436’ was the collector. The isotype in BM was labelled as ‘Boocheng 1436’, while the isotype in BKF was labelled using the signature of a collector 1436 written in Thai but can be spelled either ‘Booncheuy’ or ‘Boonchauy’. As this species was transferred to Germainia by Chai-Anan (1972), a Thai grass-taxonomist, she stated the collector name of the holotype was ‘Boonchauy’. The collector’s name can be spelled in English in different ways. Thus, the correct name should be ‘Boonchauy’ as Chai-Anan (1972) indicated.

Vernacular name — Ya Hang Ma, from Boonchauy 1436 (BKF).

Specimen examined. Boonchauy 1436.
CONCLUSION

Almost all members of this genus prefer moist and open sandy soil especially sandstone areas with seeping water. Only G. lanipes is restricted to limestone hills and can be found in the western part of Thailand.

There are six species of Germainia, viz. G. capitata, G. khasyana, G. lanipes, G. pilosa, G. thailandica and G. thorelii, known from Thailand, of which two are endemic (G. pilosa, G. thailandica). Previously, G. tenax (Balansa) Chai-Anan was reported as probably occurring in Thailand (Chai-An 1972, Lazarides 1980, Nanakorn & Norsangsri 2001). However, we have examined the type specimen of G. tenax (Laos, Harmand s.n. (L)) and found that none of the specimens collected from Thailand corresponded to authentic G. tenax.

Acknowledgements The authors are grateful to the curators and the staff of the following herbaria: AAU, ABD, BK, BKF, BM, C, E, GH, K, KGU, L, NY, SING, TCD, US and the Herbarium of Natural History Museum, National Science Museum, Technopolis, Pathum Thani, Thailand, for the use or loan of specimens. Thanks to Prof. John A.N. Parnell for his kind comments and useful suggestions. Dr. J.F. Veldkamp (L) critically read the manuscript and provided a number of additional data. This work was dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Chumsri (Hambananda) Chai-Anan (1930–2009). As an excellent teacher she introduced us to the world of Thai grasses.

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