

Coelogyne carnea Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 5: 838, 1890. (Fig. 2).

Epiphytic; pseudobulbs fusiform, about 6-9 cm long, distantly placed on the stout rhizome; two leaves per pseudobulb; leaves petioled, petiole about 3.5-5 cm long, lamina oblanceolate, acute, about 15-30 × 4-6 cm; scape arising from the top of mature pseudobulbs, not sheathed either at the base or below the raceme, raceme about 6-15 flowered, about 6-12 cm long, rachis zigzag; pedicel about 10-15 mm long; fruits elliptic, about 3-4 cm long.

Fruiting: June-December.

Occurrence in Eastern India: Assam: K. & J. Hills: Nongkhlaw, Panigrahi 16262A; Mawsmat, Deka without no. Umling, Deka without no. Nongpoh, Deka 19235.

Distribution: Perak.

Sarcochilus hystrix Reichb. f. in Walp. Ann. vi. 500; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 38, 1890.

Epiphytes; pseudobulbs absent, stem 3-10 cm long, slender; leaves loriform, sessile, obtusely 2-lobed, about 3-7 × 0.9-1.2 cm; sheaths ribbed; peduncle slender, about 4-6 cm long, 2-3 sheathed; capsule linear, straight, about 6 cm long, ribbed.

Fruiting: February-May.

Occurrence in Eastern India: Assam: K. & J. Hills: Sairang, Deka without no.; Cachar, through D.F.O. without no.; Lakhimpur, Deka without no.

Distribution: Tenasserim, Java.

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A NOTE ON THE NOMENCLATURE OF *AMARANTHUS POLYGAMUS* OF HOOKER'S FLORA OF BRITISH INDIA

Hooker f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 4: 721, 1885, described a species of *Amaranthus* under the name *A. polygamus* Linn. Amoen. Acad. 4: 294, 1759. This name has been accepted in almost all the Indian floras. The reference to Amoenitates Academicæ as the valid publication of the name is incorrect since Linnaeus published this name earlier in *Centuria Plantarum* 1: 32, 1755. The names in these two publications refer to the same taxon as the descriptions are exactly the same and based on the same type.

In *Flora Malaysiana* 4: 77, 1949, Baker gives the name *A. polygamus* Linn. as a synonym of *A. tricolor* Linn. Sp. Pl. 989, 1753. The taxon which goes under the name of *A. polygamus* in the Indian floras can be distinguished from *A. tricolor* Linn. by the following key:

Prostrate herbs; clusters of flowers all axillary; tepals suddenly acute and shorter than the utricle, awned, awns shorter than the leafy part of the tepal; bracteoles shorter than the tepals and utricle.

A. polygamus auct. plur. non Linn. et. Roxb.

Erect herb up to 1.5 m high; flowers clustered in axils and forming a terminal interrupted spike; tepals overtopping the utricle, awned, awns as long as or longer than the tepals; bracteoles longer than the tepals and utricle.....*A. tricolor* Linn.

The question arises as to what should be the

correct name of the taxon under consideration? Hook. f. loc. cit. refers, under synonymy, to a "*A. polygonoides* Roxb. Fl. Ind. 3: 602". There is no such validly published name as Roxburgh himself cites as the authority "Willd.", that is, Willdenow's edition of *Species Plantarum*; hence, by inference the same as the original name of Linnaeus, namely *A. polygonoides* Linn. Fl. Jam. Pugill. 2: 27, 1759. Therefore, the nomenclature of the plant shall be:

Amaranthus polygonoides Linn. Fl. Jam. Pugill. 2: 27, 1759; Amoen. 5: 389, 1760; Persoon, Syn. 2: 560, 1807; Willd. Sp. Pl. 4: 389, 1805; Roxb. Fl. Ind. 3: 602, 1832; Wight Icon. t. 512 & 517, 1842. *A. polygamus* auct. plur. non Linn., et Roxb. *A. blitum* var. *polygonoides* Moq. in DC. Prodr. 13 (2): 263, 1849. *A. tenuifolius* Wall. Cat. 6893E, 1832 nom. nud. *Amblogyna polygonoides* Dalz. & Gibs. Bomb. Fl. 219, 1861. *Albersia polygama* Boiss. Fl. Orient. 4: 991, 1875. *Euxolus polygamus* Moq. in DC. Prodr. 13 (2): 272, 1849; Thwaites Enum. 248, 1861 excl. syn. *Amblogyne*.

Hooker f. loc. cit. described a variety under this taxon. A new combination becomes necessary for the variety.

Amaranthus polygonoides Linn. var. **angustifolia** (Hook. f.) N. C. Nair, com. nov. *A. polygamus* var. *angustifolia* Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 4:721, 1885.

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NEW RECORDS OF PLANTS FOR INDIA: III

During the course of our investigation in the monocotyledonous flora of Assam and NEFA, the following species have turned up as new records of plants for India. A detailed description of the species together with critical notes to distinguish them from their nearest allied species are given below.

Dioscorea pyrifolia Kunth var. **ferruginea** Pr. et Burk. Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 34: 384-388. Pl. 137, 1938.

Tubers not seen. Stem prickly below, smooth above, climbing upto 15 m long, twines to the right; densely covered with brown stellate hairs (Fig. 1) becoming glabrous and grooved. Bulbils absent. Leaves opposite, drying brown, ("Lower surface of the leaf bright rust red" Prain & Burk. l.c.) ovate-cordate or cordate, 8-10 × 5-6 cm, acuminate, acumens 5-7 mm, long with glands on it; glabrous above, rather pubescent near the base below; prominently reticulate beneath, 5-nerved. Petiole 2.5-4 cm, densely pubescent, dilated below the lamina. Male spikes axillary and on terminal leafless branches, 4-6 at each node, spreading to 3 cm, whole inflorescence brown pubescent. Flowers spaced about 2 mm apart, reddish purple. Sepals dome-shaped 3 × 2 mm, dark in the centre (Fig. 2). Petals much smaller than sepals, concave. Stamens 6, filaments as long as anthers (Fig. 3). Pistillode absent. Female flowers and fruits not seen. Flowering season—June.

Scarce. Lakhimpur: Jeypore, Deka 16932.

This species is closely allied to *Dioscorea oppositifolia* Linn., from which it differs as follows:

D. oppositifolia

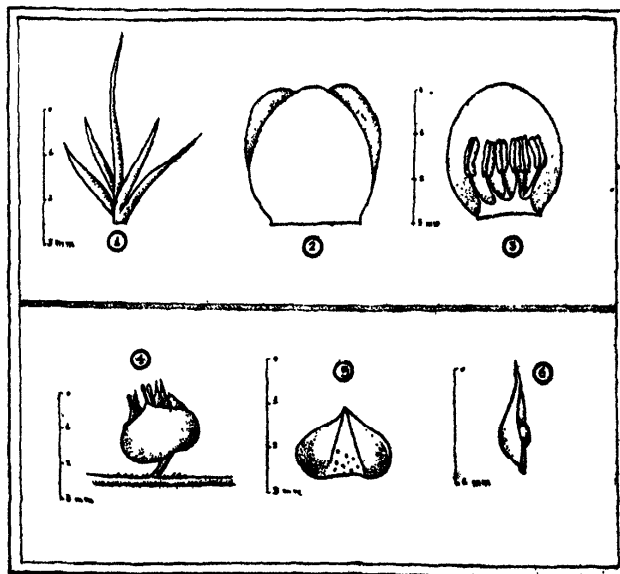
D. pyrifolia var. *ferruginea*

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|--|--|
| 1. Pubescence long, dull white | 1. Pubescence short, dark brown |
| 2. Leaves thin, green, even after drying | 2. Leaves firm, red brown when dry |
| 3. Male flowers densely arranged on spikes | 3. Male flowers rather laxly arranged on spikes. |

Distribution: Tenasserim, Singapore, Western Malaya, Cambodia to Java.

D. cumingii Pr. et Burk. var. **inaequifolia** (Elmer ex Pr. et Burk.) Burk. in Fl. Males. Ser. 1, 4: 317, 1952. *D. inaequefolia* Elmer ex Pr. et Burk. in Elmer's Leaflets of Philippine Botany 5: 1595, 1913.

Underground parts unknown. Stem prickly, upto 6 m long; twining to the left; prickles very small, scattered; profusely branched. Leaves digitate, petiole 8-10 cm, sparsely prickly, base broad. Leaflets petiolulate, 5 or more; petiolules upto 1 cm; lamina elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, 10-15 by 2.5-4 cm thick sparingly clad on the lower surface with white hair. Male inflorescence upto 45 cm bearing short spikes at intervals. Each spike small, upto 3 cm, rachis rusty red pubescent. Bracts two, ovate, acute (Fig. 4), the outer one larger, cordate 1.5 mm × 2 mm, with brown spots, glandular-pubescent (Fig. 5), the inner one smaller, pubescent. These bracts covering the basal half portion of the flower.



Figs. 1-3 : *Dioscorea pyrifolia* Kunth. var. *ferruginea* Pr. et Burk.
Figs. 4-6 : *Dioscorea cumingii* Pr. et Burk. var. *inaequifolia* (Elmer ex Pr. et Burk.) Burk.