

petioles connected by a dense ring of hairs and in having red flowers.

This plant is distributed in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Burma, China, Cochin China, Formosa, Java, Malaya and Siam. In India it has not been reported so far in any of the floras. However, a collection by J. W. Helfer (217) made in 1836-38 from Bengal, around Calcutta is deposited in the Central National Herbarium, Calcutta. The present collection was made near the plantations in Peermade hills.

Herbarium specimens examined: Vandiperiyar, Peermade, 1000 m, 22-9-1964, *Vivekananthan* 20380; Pulluparai to Peruvanthanam, Peermade, 525 m, 22-5-1965, *Vivekananthan* 23970; Kutiyadi submergible area, Kozhikode, 190 m, 28-6-1965, *Naithani* 24684.

Trias stocksii Benth. ex Hook. f. *Fl. Brit. India* 5: 781, 1890; Gammie in *Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 17: 34, 1906; Cooke, *Fl. Pres. Bombay* 2: 687, 1907; Blatt & McCann in *Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 35: 267, 1931; Sant. & Kapadia *Ibid.* 59: 393, 1962.

Epiphytic herb on tree trunks. Rhizomes creeping. Pseudobulbs globose ovoid, dark olive green or brownish purple with faint grooves. Leaves solitary, coriaceous, erect or deflexed, elliptic, entire, acute or obtuse at tip, 1-nerved. Scape 1-flowered with two membranous sheaths. Flowers pedicellate, yellowish green with maroon spots inside, all floral parts thick and coriaceous. Sepals subequal, ovate, obtuse, mucronulate, entire, glabrous, 7-nerved.

Petals linear, oblong, acute, entire, gland-dotted, 1-nerved. Lip mobile, oblong, tuberculate on the upper surface, with two minute auricles on the sides. Capsules ovoid-orbicular.

This genus, which has not been reported by Fischer in Gamble's *Flora of the Presidency of Madras*, comes near to *Bulbophyllum* Thou., but differs in having short pseudobulbs and leaves; scape always 1-flowered; and anther with a long horn.

The distribution of this species as given in Hooker's *Flora of British India* is Deccan Peninsula in Canara and North and South Concan. In their 'Critical notes on the Orchidaceae of Bombay State' Santapau and Kapadia state it is "apparently endemic in N. Kanara and the Konkan parts of Bombay State." The occurrence of this plant at the Southern region of Western Ghats thus indicates a more southern distribution than what has hitherto been known.

Herbarium specimen examined: Kuttikanam, Peermade, 1000 m, 21-1-1965, *Vivekananthan* 22934.

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NOTES ON THE GENUS *SPOROXEIA* W. W. SMITH (FAMILY: MELASTOMATACEAE) AND A NEW RECORD FOR VIETNAM

Sporoxeia W. W. Smith in *Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edin.* 10: 69, 1917; Diels in *Engl. Bot. Jahrb.* 65: 100, 1932.

W. W. Smith (1917, *l.c.*) established the genus *Sporoxeia* on the basis of *S. sciadophila* W. W. Smith typified by *Kingdon Ward* 1775 from Upper Burma. The name *Sporoxeia* is derived from Greek, 'sporos' = seed and 'oxys' = sharp, in allusion to the pointed seeds.

The genus *Sporoxeia* has axillary subsessile or shortly pedunculate inflorescence, minutely glandulose punctate leaves and inflorescence, and dorsally

spurred and ventrally biauriculate or bituberculate eight stamens. In the original description of the genus, it is mentioned that the ovary is conrescent with the calyx tube by four septa. On careful scrutiny it is seen that there are eight extra-ovarial chambers. In *S. sciadophila* there is a great variation in the shape of the leaves which vary from orbicular to ovate and the apices range from acuminate to rounded. Diels (1932, *l.c.*) in his generic key to the Tribe Oxysporeae wrongly mentioned the number of stamens as four for the genus *Sporoxeia*.

Sporoxeia sciadophila W. W. Smith in Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edin. 10:70, 1917; Diels in Engl. Bot. Jahrb. 65:104, 1932 (Fig. 1).

Undershrub. *Branches* subquadrangular, glabrous or sparsely furfuraceous and puberulous. *Leaves* ovate or ovate-lanceolate, 10-18 cm long, 4.5-8.5 cm

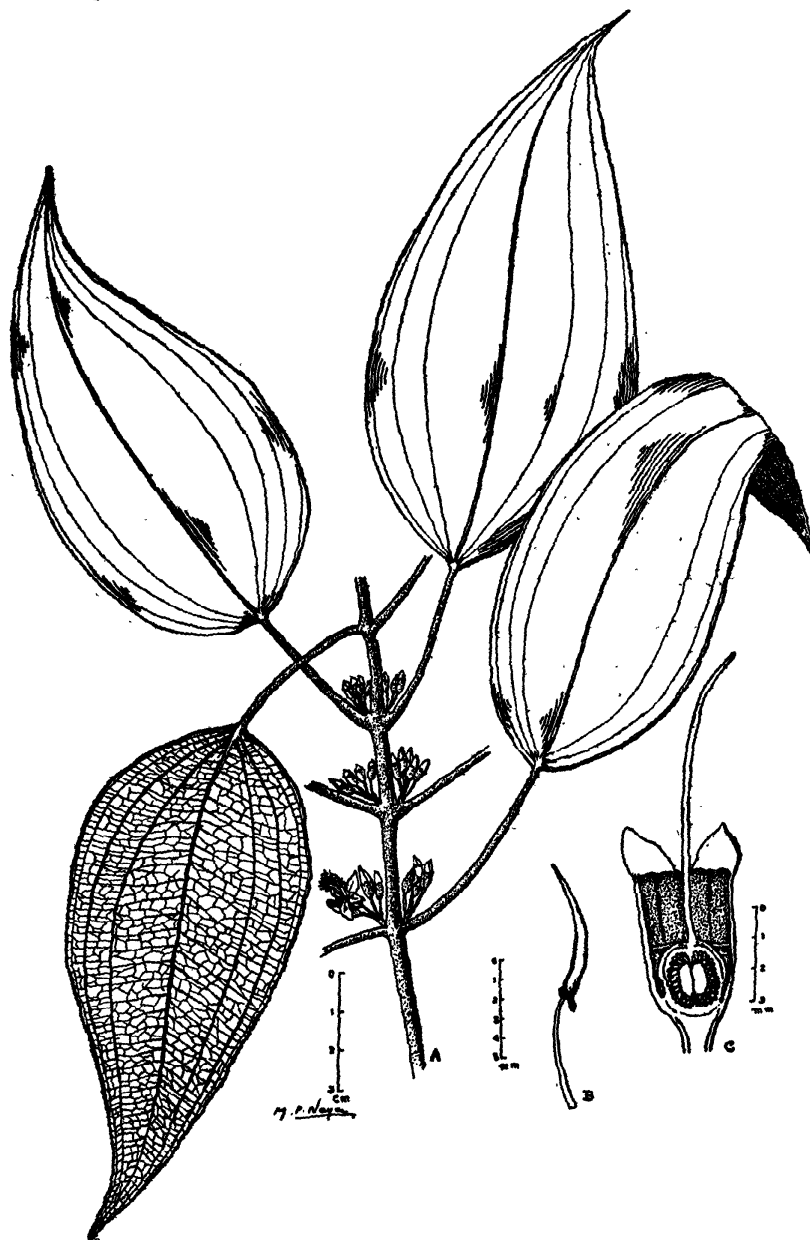


Fig. 1: *Sporoxeia sciadophila* W. W. Smith
A. Habit. B. Stamen—side view. C. L. S. of calyx tube.

wide, base obtuse or subrotund, apex acuminate, margin serrate, upper surface sparsely setose and minutely glandulose punctate, undersurface densely

glandulose punctate, 7-nerved, transverse venules distinct, membranaceous; petiole 2-6 cm long, minutely glandulose and furfuraceous. *Inflorescence*

axillary, 3-6 flowers on 1-4 mm long peduncle; pedicel 6-9 mm long, minutely glandulose punctate. *Calyx-tube* campanulate, 4-4.5 mm long, 3 mm wide, minutely glandulose punctate, 4-lobed, lobes 2-2.5 mm long, ovate-triangular. *Petals* 4, ovate, 6-7 mm long. *Stamens* 8, subequal, filament 5-6 mm long, anther linear-lanceolate, 6-7 mm long, briefly curved, 1-porose, connective not produced, dorsally ending in 0.5-0.8 mm long fleshy spur and ventrally ending in two tubercles. *Ovary* adnate to the calyx tube by 8 septa, extra-ovarial chambers 8, all descending to the base of the ovary. *Style* filiform, 10-12 mm long, glabrous, stigma punctiform.

Distribution: BURMA: Upper Burma, Hpimaw, gullies of Naungp Chaung valley, alt. 1333-2000 m, Aug. 1914, *Kingdon Ward* 1775 (Holotype E); Valley of Nan Tamai, alt. 1666-2000 m, 7 Aug. 1937, *Kingdon Ward* 12898 (BM); North of Hkinbum, alt. 1333 m, 13 June 1953, *Kingdon Ward* 20979 (BM); E. Upper Burma, alt. 2000 m, June 1924, *Forrest* 24536 (K. E). VIETNAM: Near Chapa, alt. 1900 m, July 1927, *A. Petelot* 3096 (K, BM).

Hitherto *Sporoxeia sciadophila* has been known from Burma and the specimen *A. Petelot* 3096 from Vietnam represents easterly extension of its range and a new record for Vietnam. Though this species is not recorded in the adjoining province of Yunnan in S. China, which is a contiguous area, further exploration might bring about its discovery.

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BURKILLIODENDRON—A NEW GENERIC NAME IN FABACEAE

Burkillia a new genus in Fabaceae was described in honour of I. H. Burkill, by Ridley (Flora of Malay Peninsula 5: 304, 1925). But this name is preoccupied and is a later homonym of *Burkillia* West & West (Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 6: 228, 1907), an algal genus. According to Article 64 of the Code (1966), *Burkillia* Ridley is illegitimate and has to be rejected. Accordingly, a new name, *Burkilliodendron* is now provided.

Burkilliodendron Sastry, gen. nom. nov. *Burkillia* Ridley, Fl. Mal. Penins. 5: 304, 1925. (non West & West 1907); Hutchinson, Gen. Fl. Plants 1: 379, 1964.

Burkilliodendron album (Ridley) Sastry, comb. nov. *Burkillia alba* Ridley, Fl. Mal. Penins. 5: 305, 1925.

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NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *INDIGOFERA HOCHSTETTERI* BAKER AND *ACALYPHA MALABARICA* MUELL.-ARG. IN MADRAS STATE

During the course of the author's studies on the Flora of Coimbatore, Madras State, *Indigofera hochstetteri* Baker and *Acalypha malabarica* Muell.-Arg. were collected. This is the first record in Madras State. Detailed descriptions of these species are given below for a better understanding and easy identification of the species.

Indigofera hochstetteri Baker in Oliver, Fl. Trop. Africa 2: 101. 1871; Nair & Koshy in Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 60: 330. 1963; Maheshwari, Fl. Delhi 118. 1963; Santapau & Janar-

dhanan in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 8, Suppl. 1: 18. 1967. *I. anabaptista* Steud. ex Baker in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 2: 102. 1876; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 221. (Repr. ed.) 1957; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bombay 1: 334. (Repr. ed.) 1958; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Pl. 1: 231. (Repr. ed.) 1960. *I. arenaria* A. Rich. Tent. Fl. Abyss. 1: 183. 1847 (non E. May, 1835-1837). *I. ornithopodoides* Hochst. ex Jaub. & Spach. Illust. Pl. Or. t. 480. 1856 (non Cham. & Schlecht. 1830). *I. jaubertiana* Schweinf. in Bull. Herb. Boissier, App. 2: 1876.

A diffuse herb; stems 5-35 cm long, grooved,