subsp. *formosum* and these two subsp. can be readily distinguished in the following way.

Plants glabrous ; hypogynous scale linguiform, 2 mm long ; capsule ellipsoid, 36-40 seeded	... *C. formosum* subsp. *formosum*
Young twigs, pedicels and calyx rusty tomentose ; hypogynous scale short and truncate, 0.7-0.8 mm long ; capsule ovoid, 54-58 seeded	... *C. formosum* subsp. *pruniflorum*

Gogelein (*loc. cit.* 469. 1967) pointed out that the distribution of *Cratoxylum formosum* ssp. *formosum* in Andaman is "rather rare in South Andaman" Sec. Kurz, which seems to be contradictory because the author examined quite good number of specimens from different localities in South Andaman.

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S. N. BISWAS

Botanical Survey of India, Howrah

A NOTE ON THE GENUS *ALLOMORPHIA* BL. (MELASTOMATACEAE) AND A NEW SPECIES FROM MALAYA

In this note the generic concept of *Allomorphia* Bl. and *Oxyspora* DC. is explained and delimited. *Allomorphia perkensis* Nayar is a new species reported from Malaya.

Blume (1831) established the genus *Allomorphia* on the basis of *Melastoma exigum* Jack from Paulu Pinang, Malaya, characterised by its oblong-tubular calyx tube, eight subequal, linear, inappendiculate anthers and ovate-oblong capsules. Naudin (1851) accepted Blume's genus and with doubt added *A. pauciflora* Benth. which Guillaumin (1913) later appropriately transferred to the genus *Blastus*. Triana (1871), in addition to *A. exigua* and *A. pauciflora,* accepted J. D. Hooker's two species, *A. umbellulata* and *A. griffithii,* and transferred with doubt *Anplectrum ovalifolium* A. Gray to *Allomorphia*. From this it is seen, that by introducing some of the above mentioned species, the generic concept was further widened without any relation to Blume's type species. Cogniaux (1891) added to the confusion on the generic delimitation by describing pentamerous species from New Guinea, *i.e., A. macrophylla* Cogn., *A. cordifolia* Cogn. Cogniaux's (*l.c.*) list of fifteen species is an odd mixture of different taxa and some of the species described have no common generic relationships. Cogniaux (1891) proposed two sections in the genus *Allomorphia* : i. *Euallomorphia* characterised by tetramerous flowers and subulate anthers ; ii. *Hollrungiophyta* characterised by pentamerous flowers and oblong-linear anthers. Krasser (1893) accepted Cogniaux's two sections but Mansfeld (1925), following the suggestion of Ridley (1911), appropriately transferred Cogniaux's section *Hollrungiophyta* to the genus *Poikilogyne* Bak. f.

Stapf (1895) appropriately established a new genus *Pomatostoma* on the basis of *A. sertulifera* Cogn. characterised by its "peculiar mode of dehiscence". (*i.e.*, the top of the capsule is transferred into a thick umbonate lid which falls off when mature ex-

posing thereby the seeds). King (1800) transferred *A. griffithii* to *Phyllagathis* and Guillaumin (1913) transferred *A. multiflora* Cogn. to the genus *Blastus*.

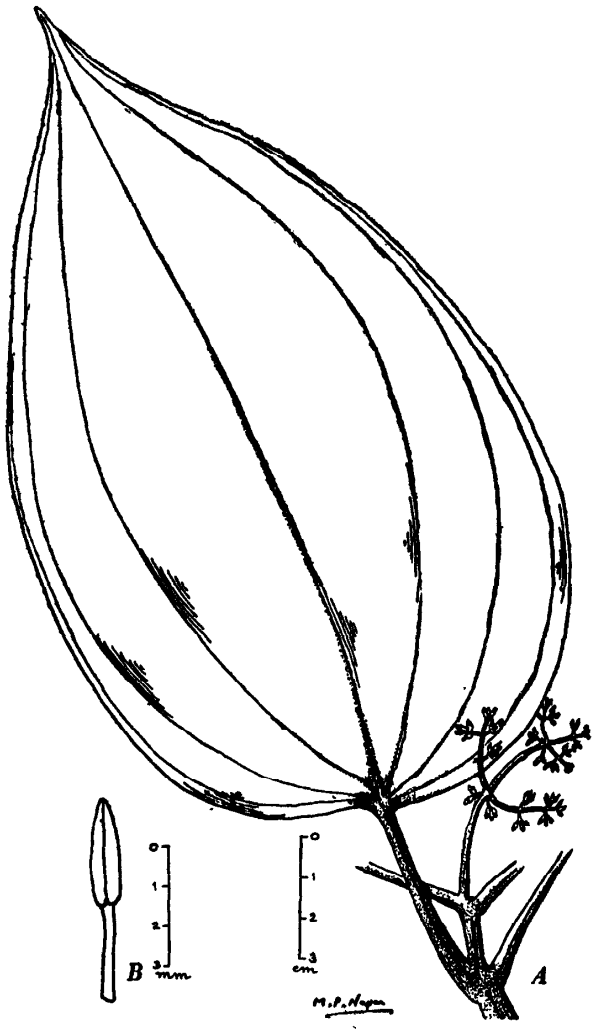
Ridley (1911) observed that *A. exigua* Bl. "is distinct in its terminal panicle of small flowers with eight stamens, a urn-shaped capsule dehiscing at the apex without large valves" and he suggested that sect. *Hollrungiophyta* Cogn. having pentamerous flowers could be safely excluded. Ridley (1911) erected a new genus *Campimia* on the basis of King's *A. wrayi* from Malaya.

Bakhuizen f. (1943) suggested that Baillon's idea to regard *Allomorphia* as a section to *Oxyspora* deserved study and he indicated that "a combined genus *Allomorphia-Oxyspora* could more easily be delimited from other genera than each of these genera apart." However he provisionally accepted the existence of the two genera *Allomorphia* and *Oxyspora*.

As stated above, the types of the two genera *Oxyspora* and *Allomorphia* are easily distinguishable by a set or combination of characters and a combined genus *Allomorphia-Oxyspora* would result in the formation of an unweildy group of species having widely different characters, even though such a genus would be easily delimited from other genera. Hence the problem is essentially to give clear generic diagnoses for the genera *Allomorphia* and *Oxyspora* irrespective of the latter species assigned to either of them. In this note it is proposed to distinguish the two genera jointly from other genera by the possession of the tetramerous flowers and fusiform capsules and the genus *Oxyspora* is recognised from *Allomorphia* by its eight unequal heteromorphous stamens and larger capsules while *Allomorphia* is distinguished by its eight equal or subequal isomorphous stamens and shorter capsules. Those species which do not fit in with the above generic concepts have been excluded. In this connection, Nayar (1968) erected a new genus *Tayloriophyton* and transferred *A. longisetosa* Ridl. Likewise *A. auriculata* Ridl. was transferred to the genus *Campimia* Ridl. and *A. subsessilis* Craib to *Pseudodissochaeta* Nayar.

Allomorphia perakensis Nayar sp. nov. affinis *A. alatae* Scort. ex King, sed floribus calycisbusque minoribus, antheris apice obtusis, minoribus differt.

Frutex. Rami quadrangulares, valde alati, juveniles parce puberuli, adulti glaberi. Folia ovata, 20-27 cm longa, 12-15 cm lata, basi rotunda, apice acuto-acuminata, margine obscure serrulata, supra in sicco viridia, subtus in sicco pallide purpurea, supra glabrata, 7-nervia, supra et subtus venulis transversis



Allomorphia perakensis Nayar
A. plant. B. stamen.

distinctis, membranacea; petiolus 4-9 cm longus, glaber, obsolete alatus vel canaliculatus. Inflorescentia terminalis, paniculata, 6-7 cm longa, parce puberula; pedicellus 0.5-1 mm longus. Calycis tubus campanulatotubulosus, 2-2.2 mm longus, parce puberulus vel glaber, limbus 4-dentatus, dentibus 4, triangularibus 0.5 mm longis. Petala 4, ovata, 1.5 mm longa, 1.2 mm lata, supra puberula. Stamina 8, aequalia, filamentis 2.5 mm longis, antheris 2.5 mm longis, lanceolato-oblongis, apice obtusis, connectivo basi inappendiculato. Ovarium calycistubo septis 8 adnatum. Stylus filiformis, 5-6 mm longus, stigmate punctiformi.

Distribution: Endemic in Malaya.

Specimens examined: MALAYA: Perak, Larut hill, alt. 666 m-1000 m, *Curtis* 3719 (Holotype K); Thamping hills, *Ridley* 114335 (K); Kedah-Perak boundary, Cunong Bintang, sine numero (K).

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M. P. NAYAR

Botanical Survey of India, Howrah

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ARIOPSIS PELTATA NIMMO, FIRST REPORT OF A POORLY KNOWN AROID, FROM KAMENG DIST., ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

During a recent exploration in Kameng, a cluster of curious diminuitive conch like spathes, each enclosing a clavate spadix, growing in a moist shady patch below some rocks, naturally attracted attention. The bunch consisting of 18-20 corms, was collected, and transplanted in pots, at 'Woodlands' experimental garden, Shillong, where in due course, the spathes all shrivelled and dropped, as also the clavate spadix, leaving at the top of the scape a few small fruits. While the inflorescence was developing into the infrutescence, the corms were putting out stump-like short stolons, as also young buds which later spread out, each into a subcordate leaf. With both the vegetative and floral phase of the plant studied, it was possible to identify this peculiar little plant as *Ariopsis peltata* Nimmo. In the course of establishing this identity, it was found that like many other members of the Araceae, this also is poorly known. Further, it has a discontinuous distribution in Burma and in India, so far known from the western ghats in the south and from Sikkim in the north. Only one collection (that too incom-