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Source: *Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)*, Vol. 1912, No. 8 (1912), pp. 366-368

Published by: Springer on behalf of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4111793>

Accessed: 26-06-2016 04:45 UTC

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XLIX.—A CONTRIBUTION TO THE FLORA OF HAINAN (CHINA).

S. T. DUNN.

The flora of Hainan is as yet very imperfectly known and the few botanical collections that have been made there were almost entirely from the low lying regions in the north of the Island. Hance and Sampson* paid a short visit to Kiung-chou-fu in 1866 but collected only near that city, which is a few miles from the northern coast. In 1868 Sir Rutherford Alcock, then British Minister at Peking, sent Swinhoe to investigate the commercial possibilities of the island and that energetic naturalist in the course of his enquiries penetrated as far into the interior as Ling-mun where the Li tribes come down from their southern fastnesses to barter with the Chinese of the northern plains. Fourteen years later B. C. Henry spent two months in exploring the interior and though he collected few plants we are fortunate in possessing an interesting description and map of his travels in his "Ling-nam" (Chap. xvii.—xxvii). His indefatigable namesake Augustine Henry, now Reader in Forestry at Cambridge University, collected a few hundred species around Hoihou the treaty port at the northern point of the coast, during his few months' residence there in 1889. Chinese collectors were also sent from Hongkong by Ford while Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department in that Colony and the writer, his successor there, made many efforts to obtain collections from the interior and especially from the sacred Ng-shi-shan or five-finger mountain which lies rather to the south of the centre.

The island of Hainan is about two-thirds the size of Ireland and the central portion is covered with dense forest and is intensely hot and humid during most of the year. The forest is moreover infested with land leeches of a specially attentive kind. These obstacles would not however deter the Chinese collectors who have been sent. They have been prevented from reaching the central districts by their fear of the wild Li people who resent any intrusion by the Chinese into their country. B. C. Henry succeeded in reaching the neighbourhood of Ng-shi-shan but was unable to ascend it. In 1908 the Japanese collector Katsumata was engaged by the writer with the special object of collecting plants on Ng-shi-shan for the Hongkong Herbarium and the plants described or mentioned below are chiefly from his collection.

He described the mountain as densely clothed with forest nearly to the summit, where it rises into (probably five) bare and rugged peaks. The few other travellers who have been fortunate enough to see it on one of the rare occasions when it was not partly hidden by clouds corroborate this description.

Hedyotis paridifolia, Dunn, sp. nov. *Herba* praeter corollam glabra, 20–30 cm. alta. *Caulis* superne angulata. *Foliorum* duo paria sub floribus arcta, reliqua distantia, omnia subsessilia, elliptica, apice acuta, basi cuneata, 7–12 cm. longa, papyracea,

* Bretschneider, History of European Botanical Discoveries in China, 635.

venis utrinque 7, paucis basin versus approximatis ascendentibus arcuatis areolarum series paucas includentibus; stipulae parvae, late triangulares. *Flores* glomerulum terminalem sessilem 2-2.5 cm. latum foliis 4 floralibus suffultum formantes, albi?, 8 mm. longi, sessiles, bracteis parvis ovatis suffulti. *Calycis* lobi 4, lineares, erecti, 2 mm. longi, tubo paullo longiores. *Corolla* infundibuliformis, lobis 4 linearibus tubo angusto his brevioribus patulis, tubo intus fauce tomentello. *Stamina* 4, infra faucem inserta, corollam paullo excedentia. *Ovarium* biloculare, multi-ovulatum; stylus filiformis, apice breviter 2-ramosus. *Fructus* ovoideus, crustaceus; semina minuta, numerosa, angulata.

Ng-shi-shan, June, 1909, collected by *Katsumata*, *Hongkong Herb.*, 6649.

Comparable with *H. uncinella*, Hook. et Arn., but distinct in the cuneate base of the leaves and in the suppression of the upper internode whereby a whorl-like arrangement of four large leaves subtends the inflorescence as in *Paris*.

Hedyotis cryptantha, *Dunn*, sp. nov. *Herba* perennis, procumbens, 30-40 cm. alta, praeter flores glabra; caulis inter folia angulata, robusta. *Folia* primo caerulescentia, anthesi ex nodis paucis summis magna, erecta, approximata, flores obtegentia, ceteris ob bases tantum persistentes internodia brevia inferiora notantibus, elliptica, utrinque angustata, acuminata, basi dilatata, 20-30 cm. longa, papyracea, venis marginem approximantibus 6-7-paribus; stipulae magnae, margines foliorum basi dilatatas jungentes, in lobum 1-2 cm. longum anguste triangularem dentatum expansae. *Flores* in glomerulos 2.5 cm. longos axillares collecti, albi, 2 cm. longi, subsessiles; bracteolae lineari-lanceolatae. *Calyx* 1.5 cm. longus, lobis 4 linearibus tubo 6-8-plo longioribus. *Corolla* tubulosa, intus fauce tomentella, 1.7-1.8 cm. longa, lobis angustis tubo 6-plo brevioribus patentibus. *Antherae* in tubo infra tomentum inserta et eo sessiles. *Ovarium* ovale, 2 mm. longum, multi-ovulatum; stylus tubo corollae aequilongus, bifidus. *Capsula* ovulis, membranacea, indehiscens; semina minuta, angulata.

On level marshy ground near Hong-ta village, June 27th, 1893, *Hongkong Herb.*, 410.

Though differing in no way generically from *Hedyotis* this curious species is rather divergent in habit from any of that genus previously known from the region, having its clusters of white flowers almost hidden among the large leaves.

Ixora pavettaefolia, Craib.

Already known from Yunnan, Cochin China, and Siam.

Lasianthus calycinus, *Dunn* sp. nov. *Arbor* parva vel frutex; caulis primo adpresse sericeus, mox glaber. *Folia* oblongo-elliptica, breviter acuminata, basi rotundata, 13-15 cm. longa, chartacea, praeter venis tenuiter adpresse pubescentibus glabra, venis utrinque 8 infra prominentibus, trabeculis numerosis parallelis conspicuis; petioli 0.8-1 cm. longi; stipulae triangulares, acuminatae. *Flores* 4-6-ni, subsessiles, glomerulos axillares ebracteatos formantes, 7 mm. longi. *Calyx* 6 mm. longus, extus tenuiter pubescens, lobis 4 linearibus tubo breviter apice libero his longioribus. *Corolla* tubulosa, extus sericea, intus infra faucem tomentosa, calyci aequilonga,

lobis 4 ovatis patulis tubo 4-plo longioribus. *Stamina* in tomento faucis inserta ex tubo paullo exserta. *Ovarium* ovatum; stylus tubo corollae equilongus, bifidus.

Ng-shi-shan, June, 1909, collected by *Katsumata*, *Hongkong Herb.*, 6643.

Nearest to the Burmese *L. Kurzii*, Hook. f., from which it is distinguishable by its nearly glabrous leaves.

Ardisia pachyphylla, *Dunn*, sp. nov. *Arbor* omnino glabra. *Folia* oblanceolata, apice acuta, basi in petiolum attenuata, 8–9 cm. longa, coriacea, venis obscuris; petioli 0·8–1·2 cm. longi. *Flores* umbellati vel breviter racemosi in ramis inflorescentiae compactae terminalis 12 cm. latae; pedicelli 6–8 mm. longi. *Calyx* 5-fidus, 1–1·5 mm. longus, lobis ovatis glandulosis. *Corolla* eglandulosa, rotata, 0·9–1·0 cm. lata, fere ad faucem 5-fida, lobis ovatis aestivatione contortis. *Stamina* fauce inserta, antheris 3 mm. longis apiculatis filamento 6-plo longioribus. *Ovarium* globosum stylo ante anthesin incluso, ovulis paucis biseriatis.

Ng-shi-shan, June, 1909, collected by *Katsumata*, *Hongkong Herb.*, 6680.

Allied to the North Indian *A. neriifolia*, Wall., but distinguished by its umbellate or nearly umbellate flowers.

Ervatamia pallida, Pierre ex Spire, Le Caoutchouc, 141.

The Hainan form has a glandular corolla and less caudate leaves. The species is rather widely dispersed in and about the same latitude in French Cochin China. It is said to yield a good caoutchouc (*Spire*, l.c. 180).

Callicarpa brevipes, Hance in Ann. Sci. Nat. sér. 5, v. 233.

Ng-shi-shan, June, 1909, collected by *Katsumata*.

Only known previously from the neighbourhood of Swatow and Hongkong, on the coast of Kwangtung.

L.—MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

MR. I. H. BURKILL, M.A., Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India, and Curator of the Industrial Section of the India Museum, Calcutta (*K. B.* 1899, p. 50; 1900, p. 16), has been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies Director of the Botanic Gardens, Singapore, in succession to Mr. H. N. Ridley, M.A., C.M.G., F.R.S., retired.

MR. GEORGE HENRY EADY and MR. ERNEST WILLIAM MORSE, formerly members of the gardening staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens, have been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the recommendation of Kew, Curators in the Agricultural Department of the Gold Coast.