

New and Interesting Plant Records for Singapore, II*

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Abstract

Plant collecting in Singapore in 1983 has resulted in 3 new records and other species that have not been recorded here in many years. Brief notes on these plants, with information on their collection localities and general distribution, are included.

Introduction

Continued floristic work in Singapore during 1983 has resulted in the following finds: 3 new records and 3 other rare and interesting plants which have not been collected recently. It is hoped that other botanists will take an active interest in Singapore's native flora and continue the work.

Annonaceae

1. *Goniothalamus macrophyllus* (Bl.) Hk.f. & Thoms.

Fruiting material has been collected from a small, cauliflorous understorey treelet at Ngadiman Bridge in the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve in a shaded undisturbed area. This species is found throughout most of the Malay Peninsula, in Thailand, Borneo, Java, and Sumatra. In Singapore, previous collections date 1890's and early 1900's from the following localities: Tanglin, Serangoon Road, Sungei Tengah, Tuas, Bukit Mandai, Ang Mo Kio, and Bukit Timah.

Voucher specimen: Maxwell 83-86, 6 Feb. 1983.

Elaeocarpaceae

2. *Elaeocarpus acmosepalus* Stapf ex Ridley

New Record

Ridley's descriptions (1917, 1922) of this species do not match well with actual specimens in our Herbarium, collected so far by several persons, as pointed out by Corner (1939) and do not match my collection. The problem, as Corner (*loc. cit.*) notes, is that the three type collections are not in the Singapore Herbarium. These are presumably at Kew. The name used with some reserve by Corner for those specimens in the Herbarium, which match mine is *E. floribundus* Bl. (1939, 1978). The specimens are:— Corner 32290 (18 Feb. 1937), C.F. 4120 (*Mohd. Yusop*, 8 March 1920), and SFN 33969 (*Mohd. Nur*, 1 Oct. 1937). R. Weibel (of the Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques de Genève), who has recently published descriptions of

* continued from *Gard. Bull. Sing.* 35: 198, 1982

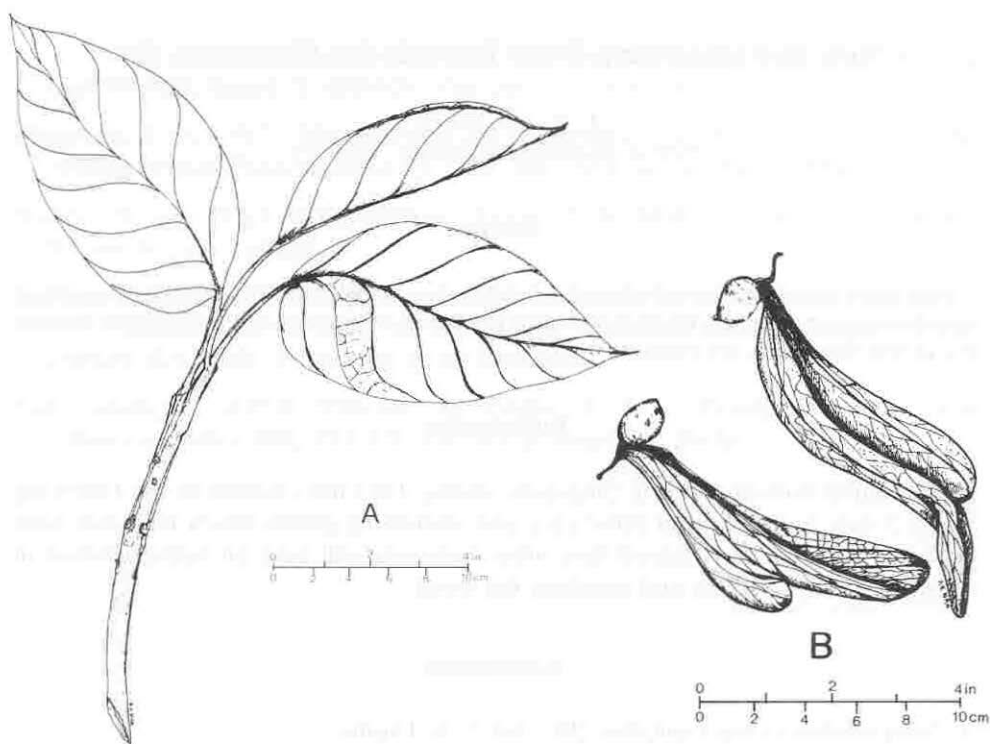


Fig. 1. *Pterocymbium tubulatum* (Mast.) Pierre. A: branchlet with leaves (Goodenough 1428, Malacca, Aug. 1893); B: mature fruits (Mohd. Noor 789, Singapore 8 Sept. 1983). Drawn by Mr. Wan Ah Keong.

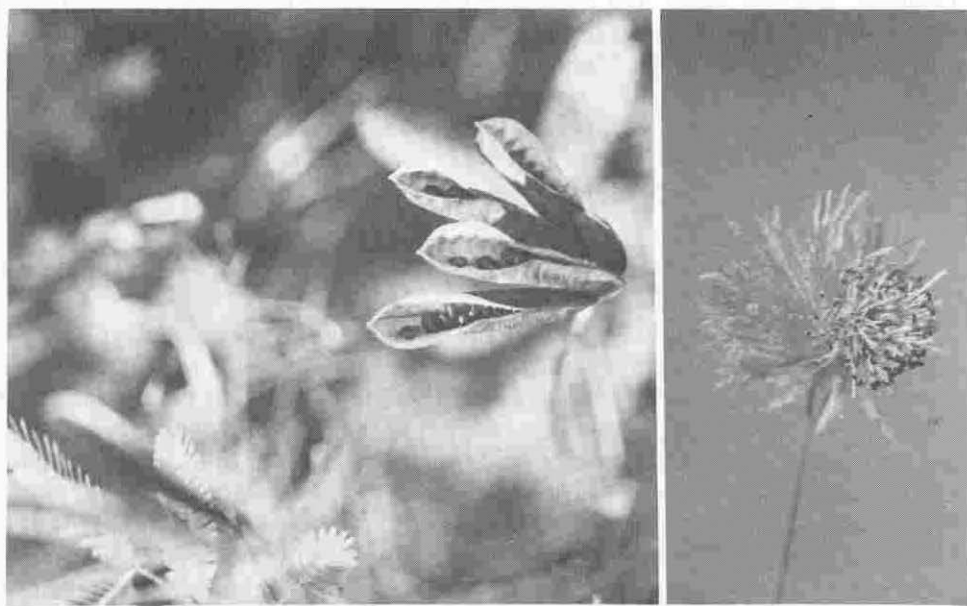


Plate 1. *Neptunia plena* (L.) Bth. Mature pods and seeds; insert: mature inflorescence with staminodes, and staminate and bisexual flowers. Photograph by Mr. Wan Ah Keong.

new species of the same genus for the Malesia Region, has annotated these collections as *E. acmosepalus*. The peculiar setae on the tip of the awns of the anthers are, by the author's description, quite distinctive a feature for *E. acmosepalus*. The anthers in *E. floribundus* differ in that the tips have no setae.

A fully mature tree 12 m tall was found along the pipeline at Nee Soon on the partly open margin of the swamp-forest. This species is, apparently, rather rare as is shown by the meager collections in our herbarium. These are from Selangor, Pahang and Johore. It is also known from Sarawak.

Voucher specimen: Maxwell 83-25, 13 March 1983.

Gramineae

3. *Eriachne triseta* Nees ex Steud.

New Record

This interesting grass, which is readily recognised by having 2-awned paleas, was referred by Gilliland (1971) to *Massia triseta* (Nees ex Steud.) Balansa in his book on the Grasses of Malaya. There are only a few collections of this species from Malacca, Pahang, Trengganu, and several specimens from SE. Thailand, Philippines, Sabah, and northern Queensland in the herbarium. It is also known from Sri Lanka and Burma.

A very localized group of this grass was found near the Pasir Panjang Nursery on a partly shaded, lateritic, periodically mown slope.

Voucher specimen: Maxwell 83-27, 22 March 1983.

Leguminosae

4. *Derris amoena* Bth. var. *maingayana* (Baker) Prain

Previous collections are:— without locality (Hullet, 1885), the Economic Garden of our Botanic Gardens (Ridley, 1898) and Siglap (Ridley, 1899). My collection was from the open margin of the swamp-forest in Nee Soon. The same variety has been collected in Malacca and Johore. The flowers on my Singapore plant produced sparse fruit.

Voucher specimen: Maxwell 83-11, 14 Feb. 1983.

5. *Neptunia plena* (L.) Bth. Plate 1

New Record

I found several individuals of this hardy, decumbent shrub with spreading branches and bright yellow inflorescences along West Coast Road in an open waste

area. Aside from having two types of flowers, this species lacks thorns and spines. It, therefore, would be a very desirable species to plant on Singapore's sandy reclaimed land, where it will surely thrive. This species, which is native to tropical America and the West Indies, produces viable seeds here which have been successfully propagated at the Pasir Panjang Nursery.

Voucher specimen: Maxwell 83-2, 7 Jan. 1983.

6. *Pterocymbium tubulatum* (Mast.) Pierre

Fig. 1

Winged fallen fruits of this species, a canopy tree of primary forests, was collected by Mohd. Noor from one which is in the Fern Valley in Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. It is the second ever collected in Singapore, *Ridley 6435* in 1894, from the same Reserve, being the first and it bears flowers. This species is apparently rare and is known from Malaya (Kelantan, Malacca, and Johore), Singapore, Sumatra, Sabah, Sarawak, and Kalimantan.

Voucher specimen: Mohd. Noor 789, 8 Sept. 1983.

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