



Palaquium bintuluense (Sapotaceae), a new species from Sarawak

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Abstract

Palaquium bintuluense, a new species from Sarawak, is described and illustrated. The species appears most similar to *P. rufolanigerum*.

Key words: Malaysia, Borneo, Malesia, Ericales

Introduction

Palaquium Blanco (1837: 403) (Sapotaceae) is a genus of trees distributed from India, South-East Asia to the Pacific islands. The most comprehensive revision of the genus in Malesian region was made by van Royen (1960) with 115 species, after that five new species from Malaysia, Thailand, Fiji and India, were found (van Royen 1967, Ng 1969, Smith & Darwin 1975, Sasidharan & Vink, 1991). During the preparation of a revision of Sapotaceae for the Flora of Thailand, both Thai specimens of *Palaquium* and materials from neighbouring countries, also including those from the region covered by Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak account (Abang Pawozan, 2002), were consulted. It has become evident that two unnamed collections from Sarawak are a new species, *P. bintuluense*.

Materials & Methods

This study was based on the available taxonomic literature and study of herbarium specimens at the following herbaria: AAU, BCU, BK, BKF, BM, BO, C, CMU, K, KEP, KKU, QBG, SING and TCD. Herbaria are abbreviated according to the Index Herbariorum (Thiers 2013).

Taxonomic treatment

Palaquium bintuluense P. Chantaranonthai, *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1)

P. bintuluense is similar to *P. rufolanigerum* van Royen (1967: 580) but differs in having an obtusely acute or rarely retuse leaf apex, a V-shaped patch of pubescence at the top of the corolla lobes, 16 stamens, and eight locules per ovary (Table 1).

Type:—MALAYSIA. Sarawak: 4th Division, Nyabau, Bintulu, between heath and dipterocarpaceous types, ca. 100 m elevation, 25 June 1966, *Hou 381* (holotype K!, isotypes BO!, KEP!, SAR, SING!).

Tree up to 25 m tall. Branchlets terete, light brown, glabrous. Leaves mostly at apex of branchlets; lamina coriaceous, spathulate, 8–13 × 2.5–4 cm; apex obtusely acute or rarely retuse; base cuneate, decurrent; both surfaces of leaves glabrous; midrib crested above, rounded below; lateral veins 9–13 pairs, looped; tertiary veins reticulate somewhat subparallel to the lateral veins; petiole 1–1.6 cm long, flat above, rounded in the basal part, brownish woolly, glabrescent; stipules lanceolate, ca. 7.5 × 1.5 mm, glabrous except for brownish woolly on the basal part outside. Flowers 2–10 in axils of fallen leaves; pedicel terete, 9–15 mm long, brownish woolly; sepals 4, broadly ovate; outer sepals 5.8–6.5

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