

## TWO NEW MOUNTAIN PLANTS FROM EASTERN NEW GUINEA

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### MYRIOPHYLLUM PEDUNCULATUM HOOK. F. (HALORAGACEAE)

Hitherto only one species of *Myriophyllum* has been recorded from New Guinea, viz. *M. pygmaeum* Mattf. (Bot. Jahrb. 69, 1938, 275—277), belonging to the austral sect. *Pentapteris* § *Pelonastes*. Recently a second species of the same section was collected in the Papuan highlands.

**Myriophyllum pedunculatum** Hook. f. in Lond. J. Bot. 6 (1847) 474; Schindler, Pfl. Reich Heft 23 (1905) 85; Cheeseman, Man. Fl. New Zeal. ed. 2 (1925) 625; Ewart, Fl. Vict. (1930) 885; Curtis, Stud. Fl. Tasm. 1 (1956) 190; Allan, Fl. New Zeal. 1 (1961) 252.

NEW GUINEA. Western Highlands: Sirunki, in swamp under Umbidam cliff, *Walker ANU 523*, amongst sward of *Xyris*, *Juncus*, and *Cyperus* in 5 cm of water, at 2500 m, Aug. 10, 1962.

*Notes.* Schindler mentioned that this species should have no ovary in the ♂ flowers or only an abortive one. Both this specimen and another in the Rijksherbarium from New Zealand identified by both Hooker and Schindler, have such a reduced ovary, c. 0.4 mm long.

The new collections are a bit more lush than Schindler's description would permit, leaves are longer, stipules less wide, and calyx segments somewhat smaller, but they agree in all other aspects. To a certain extent the species approaches *M. longibracteolatum* Schindl. which only differs from the present one in quantitative characters. Future revision will probably lead to reduce the latter species to *M. pedunculatum*.

Apart from Papua, the species ranges from New Zealand (also Stewart and Chatham Is.) to Tasmania, the Victorian Alps, and New South Wales.

### A NEW AMMANNIA (LYTHRACEAE)

Recently, two collections became available of a small lythraceous plant. The identification of the genus did not give much difficulty; it is not *Peplis* because its fruit is not circumsciss, and the fruit wall does not show the characteristic striping as in *Rotala*. It is clearly an *Ammannia*. Specific identification with Koehne's monograph in *Pflanzenreich* Heft 17 (1903) led to the species of sect. *Eustylia* Koehne. It approaches both *A. multiflora* Roxb. and *A. coccinea* Rottb. but does not agree with these distinct species. It is undoubtedly of southern affinity, but is not mentioned in various Floras of New Zealand, Tasmania, New South Wales, and Victoria. It is concluded that it is a hitherto undescribed species.

**Ammannia uniflora** R. v. d. Meijden, *n. sp.* — **Fig. 1.**

Caules decumbentes, ad nodos radicanes, quadrangulares, sublati, glabri,  $\frac{3}{4}$ —1 mm diam. Folia decussata, estipulata, orbicularia ad obovata, integra, obtusa, in petiolum

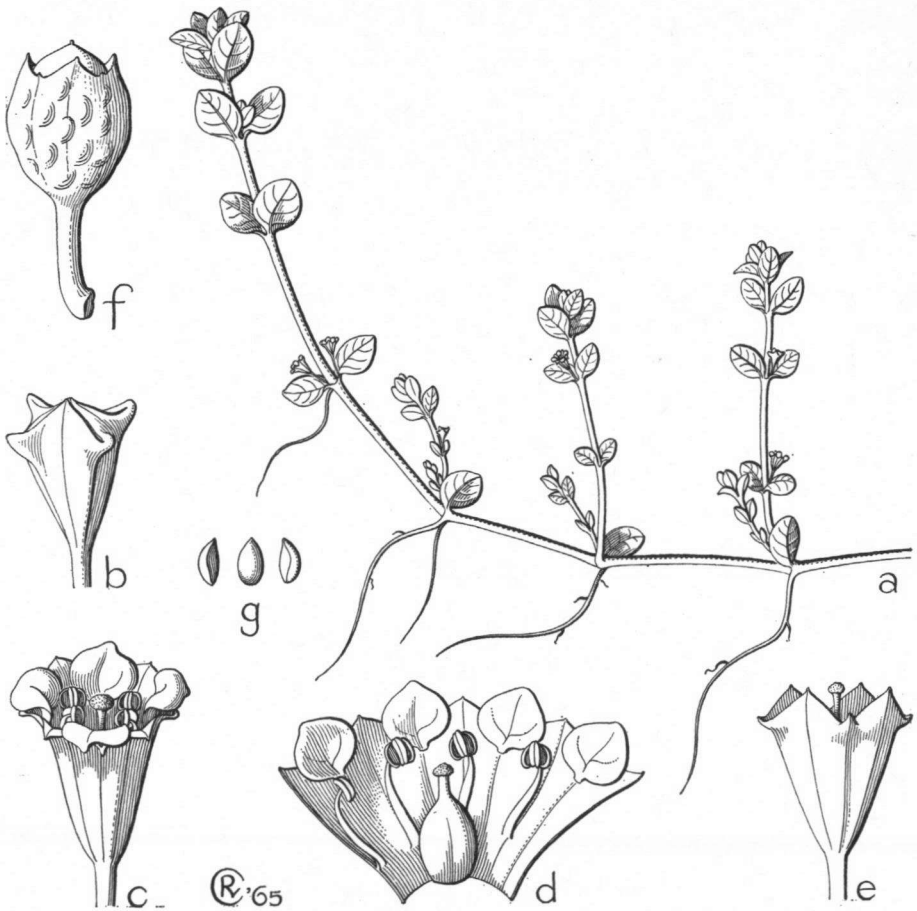


Fig. 1. *Ammannia uniflora* Van der Meijden — a. Habit, b. bud, c. flower, d. same, laid open, e. calyx, f. fruit, g. seeds (a-e from Walker ANU 563, f-g Womersley NGF 15301; habit nat. size, details  $\times 10$ ).

1 mm latum angustata, pinnatinervia, nervis lateralibus obscuris (1—)3(—4) paribus, 3—7  $\times$  (2—)3—6 mm. Flores solitarii actinomorphi hypogyni, tetrameri, pedicellis filiformibus maxime 2 mm longis, post anthesin ad 4 mm accrescentibus, ad basin bracteolis 2 munitis. Calyx infundibuliformis, 8-nerviis, post anthesin campanulatus,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ —2  $\times$   $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm, lobis 4, late triangularibus, mucronatis,  $1 \times 0.3$  mm, alternantibus cum appendicibus subinframarginalibus subulatis minutis ad 0.15 mm longis. Petala late ovata subsessilia minute unguiculata, caduca, (ex sched.) pallide coerulea. Stamina 4, ad partem inferiorem tertiam calycis tubi adnata, calycis tubo subbrevis, filamentis subulatis. Ovarium late ellipticum, 2-sulcatum, incomplete 2-loculare, multiovulatum, c. 0.7 mm, glabrum. Stylus apud flores maturos plus quam dimidium ovario longior, 0.2—0.8 mm. Capsula irregulariter dehiscens subbisulcata, calycis tubo aequilonga vel paullo longior, c. 1.8  $\times$  1.8 mm. Semina numerosa depresso-globosa laevia, c. 0.5  $\times$  0.3 mm, brunnea.

EAST NEW GUINEA. Western Highlands: Lake Iviva, along Wabag-Laiagam road, 5°25' S, 143°25' E, c. 2500 m, July 1962, J. S. Womersley NGF 15301 (L, type; isotypes, LAE, CANB, BRI, etc.), prostrate herb, flowers pale blue, growing on peat swamp surface; Sirunki, a few km from above-mentioned locality, in swamp near the village of Kaipare, 2500 m, 21-8-62, Walker ANU 563 (L, CANB, LAE, BRI, etc.), in open flushed areas between large hummocks of fern, grass, and sedge species.

*Note:* The first-named specimen was distributed as *Scroph.*, the last without a pre-identification.