

**THISMIA LAURIANA (BURMANNIACEAE),
A NEW SPECIES FROM CENTRAL KALIMANTAN**

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SUMMARY

A new species of the genus *Thismia* (Burmanniaceae), *T. lauriana*, from Kalimantan, is described and illustrated.

INTRODUCTION

In the last revision of the family Burmanniaceae for the Flora Malesiana (Jonker, 1948), the author noted with certainty that further collecting would yield novelties. While making collections contributing to an ongoing flora project for the Bukit Baka-Bukit Raya National Park in Central and West Kalimantan, Indonesia, one such novelty was a new species of *Thismia*. Within the treatment of Jonker (1948) it would appear to most closely resemble the species in sect. *Euthismia* Schltr. subsect. *Odoardo* Schltr., especially *T. aseroe* Becc. and *T. alba* Holttum, both known from the Malaysian Peninsula. It differs from these species in possession of horizontal bars throughout the perianth tube, rather than basally only, bifid stigmata and relatively long tentacles. The tentacle size and possession of bifid stigmas has been reported more recently for one species in Sarawak, *T. bifida* (Hotta, 1967). *Thismia lauriana* differs most notably from *T. bifida* in the perianth tube being white rather than orange-yellow and, once more, having the entire perianth covered in transverse bands. Additionally, the anthers of *T. lauriana* possess two, rather than three (as in *T. bifida*) anther appendages.

Thismia lauriana, along with *T. bifida*, can be inserted into the 'Key of the species' of *Thismia* in Flora Malesiana I, 4 (1948) 22 as follows:

- 7. Stigmas bifid.
 - 8. Transverse bars found throughout the perianth tube. Anther appendages 2 . . . ***T. lauriana***
 - 8. Transverse bars found in the basal part of the perianth tube. Anther appendages 3 ***T. bifida***
- 7. Stigmas not bifid.

9 et seq. = 7 et seq. in Flora Malesiana (Jonker, 1948).

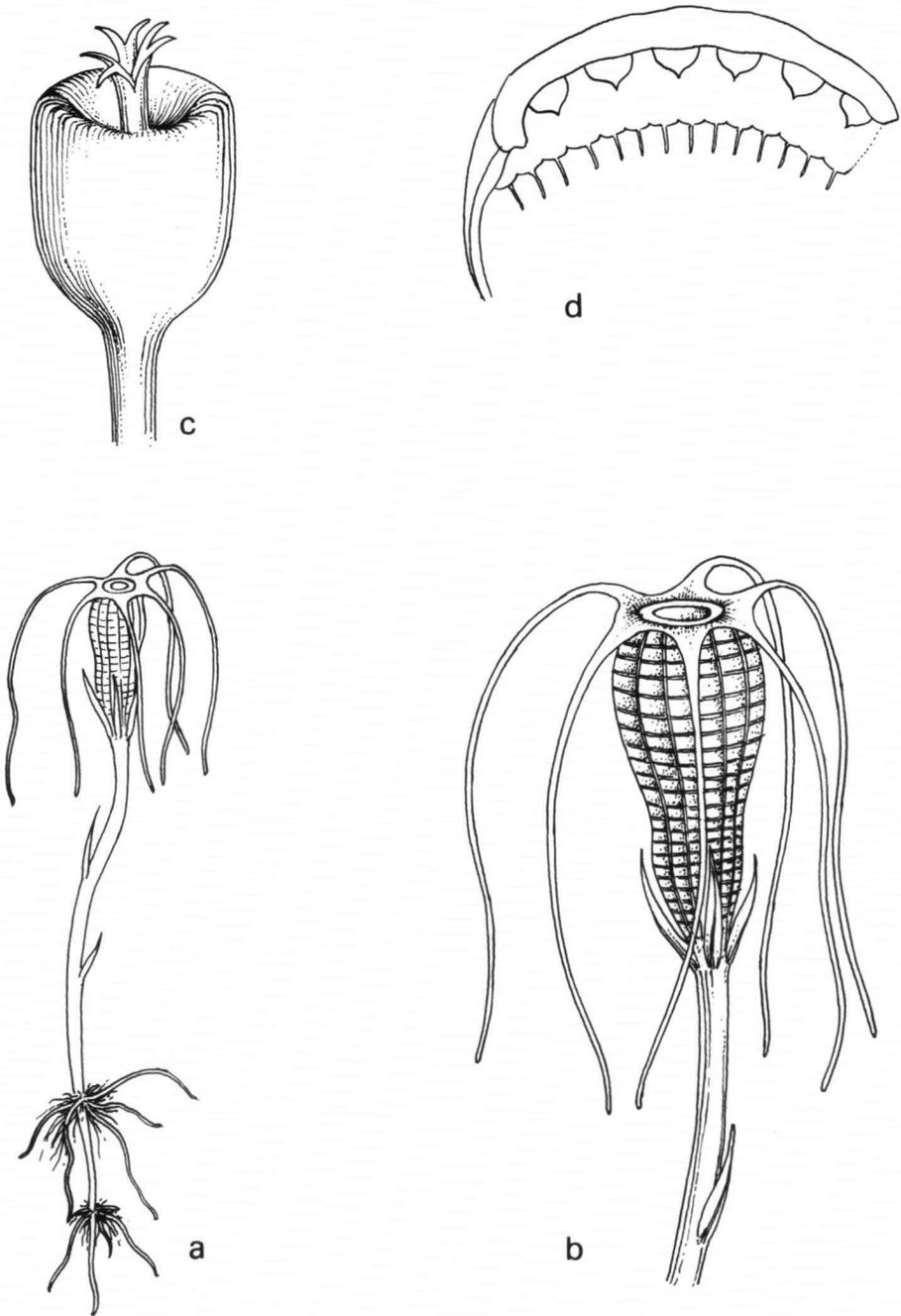


Fig. 1. *Thismia lauriana* Jarvie. a. Whole plant, $\times 1$; b. corolla tube and subtending bracts, $\times 2$; c. gynoecium, $\times 5$; d. androecium, $\times 3$ (Jarvie & Ruskandi 6203).

***Thismia lauriana* Jarvie, spec. nov. (sect. *Euthismia* subsect. *Odoardo*) — Fig. 1**

Perianthium album; perianthii lobis tentaculis ad 70 mm longis. Stigmata bifidis. — Typus: Jarvie & Ruskandi 6203 (A; BO iso), Kalimantan Tengah, Bukit Raya area, 0° 42' 50.2" S, 112° 50' 8" E, 340 m alt., 5 Feb. 1995.

Small herbaceous, achlorophyllous saprophyte. Roots vermiform. Stems unbranched, terete, to 5–10 cm long, light orange. *Leaves* and *bracts* reduced, lanceolate, to 6 × 2 mm; 3 bracts subtending each flower. *Flowers* solitary, generally terminal; perianth tube urceolate, translucent white coloured, 15–30 mm long, 7–10 mm wide at apex, with horizontal bars throughout; lobes 6, terminated by tentacles up to 70 mm in length; filaments 6, flattened, 2 mm long; anthers connate, 2 × 2 mm; anther appendages 2, 1 mm long, folding back between anther and perianth tube; stigmas 3, connate, each one bifid, 1 mm long.

Distribution — Malesia: Borneo (Kalimantan Tengah, Samba, Bukit Raya area), Known from one collection.

Notes — This species is distinguished by its large size, relative to other members of the genus, and the combination of horizontal bars throughout the perianth tube and bifid stigmas. It was collected, in alcohol and with photographs made, between the buttresses of a large *Shorea*, in hill forest dominated by Dipterocarpaceae. The population of *Thismia lauriana* had about 15 plants within an area of approx. 4 m². This particular *Shorea* was felled two hours after the collection of *Thismia* was made. During the intensive six-week expedition which encountered this collection, no other individuals were found. Whether or not this species remains extant is questionable.

As noted by Stone (1980), it may be that most species of *Thismia* are rare, or that they are just under-collected. However, in the case of this species, repeated collecting trips to the surrounding locality have failed to turn up any more populations.

Thismia lauriana is named after Laurie Ina Pierce.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I express here my thanks to Pak Subari for the illustrations.

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