

A NEW SPECIES OF SYMPLOCOS (SYMPLOCACEAE) FROM SULAWESI

H. P. NOOTEBOOM

Rijksherbarium, Leiden, The Netherlands

Symplocos ambangensis Noot., *spec. nov.* – Fig. 1.

Arbor 25 m alta ramulis glabris foliis glabris 3 ad 6 cm longis et 1,5 ad 2,5 cm latis nervis primariis 5 ad 10 paribus petiolo 2 ad 5 mm longo. *Inflorescentia* racemosa pedicellis brevissimis bracteis foliaceis sed apicem inflorescentiae versus haud foliaceis caducis bracteolis ciliatis 2,5 ad 3 mm longis demum caducis. *Calyx* glabrus quinquelobatus lobis 1 ad 1,5 mm longis divisus. Corolla glabra 8–10 mm longa. Stamina multa. Discus quinqueglandulatus sparsim pilosus base styli pilosa. Ovarium glabrum 2,5 mm altum. Fructus ignotus. – T y p u s: *de Vogel & Vermeulen 7199* (L), Sulawesi Utara, Bolaang Mongondow.

Tree 25 m high and 25 cm ϕ . Twigs glabrous. *Leaves* glabrous, elliptic, 3–6 by 1.5–2.5 cm with cuneate to somewhat rounded base, crenulate margin, and rounded or hardly acuminate apex with blunt tip; nerves in 5–10 pairs, faintly prominent on the undersurface, meeting in an also faintly prominent intramarginal vein; reticulation coarse. Petiole 2–5 mm. *Inflorescence* a leafy raceme, but pedicels very short, axis glabrous or pilose; bracts resembling foliage leaves (sometimes solitary flowers in the axils of the upper foliage leaves), the largest 2 cm long, flowers at the top of the racemes, or in other racemes all flowers, probably suspended by normal bracts, but all fallen; bracteoles ciliate, 2.5–3 mm, later caducous than the bracts. *Calyx* glabrous, divided into 5 ciliate 1–1.5 mm long lobes; corolla glabrous, 8–10 mm long; stamens many (more than 100); ovary glabrous, 2.5 mm high; disk 5-glandular, sparsely hairy; style base hairy. Fruits not known.

Distribution. Indonesia, North Sulawesi, Manado Dist. (type) and Poso Dist. (*Eyma 3638*, buds only).

Ecology. Mountain plant, 1780 m (once cited), in the other collection only 'Top of mountain', in elfin forest.

Notes. This species resembles *S. buxifolia* Stapf from North Borneo (Mount Kinabalu) but differs from it i.a. in the longer racemes, longer pedicels, the calyx being only 1–1.5 mm, wholly divided into the lobes. It also shows resemblance with *S. bractealis* Thwaites from Sri Lanka and some forms of *S. cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Moore from New Guinea. Apparently, the leaf characters are an adaptation to higher altitudes.

In *Flora Malesiana* I, 8 (1977) 229–230, key for Celebes and the Moluccas, it keys out at lead 25 next to *S. maliliensis*:



Fig. 1. *Symplocos ambangensis* Noot. Habit, $\times 0.85$ (de Vogel & Vermeulen 7199).

- 25. Bracts caducous. Inflorescence a raceme but pedicels sometimes very short.
- 25a. Leaves 15–22 cm long 36. *S. maliliensis*
- 25a. Leaves 3–6 cm long *S. ambangensis*

In the key on pp. 237–238 it keys out whether next to *S. maliliensis*:

- 17a. Leaves 15–22 cm long 36. *S. maliliensis*
- 17a. Leaves 3–6 cm long *S. ambangensis*

or next to *S. cochinchinensis*:

- 20. Stone different.
- 20a. Leaves more than 6 cm long 16. *S. cochinchinensis*
- 20a. Leaves shorter than 6 cm *S. ambangensis*