

**TWO NEW SPECIES OF ALYXIA
(APOCYNACEAE: PLUMERIOIDEAE) FROM THAILAND**

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SUMMARY

The new species *Alyxia thailandica* and *Alyxia kerrii* are described.

INTRODUCTION

Whilst investigating the genus *Alyxia* for an account of the Apocynaceae for the Flora of Thailand, the following two new species were found. Both would appear to be related to *Alyxia reinwardtii* Blume. The descriptions are based on all specimens examined.

***Alyxia thailandica* D.J. Middleton, *spec. nov.* — Fig. 1**

Alyxia reinwardtii Blume affinis sed corollae alabastro acuminato, inflorescentia lanato, corollae lobis longioribus. Ab *Alyxia pisiformis* Pierre ex Pitard differt inflorescentia lanato, corollae tubo longiore et lobis longioribus. — Typus: *Maxwell 74-804* (holo AAU; iso L), Thailand, Nakhon Nayok Prov., Khao Yai National Park, Khao Kieo, 1000 m, 12 Aug. 1974.

Forest climber. *Stems* puberulent when young, older glabrous. *Leaves* in whorls of 3 or 4; coriaceous; petiole 3–7 mm long; blade elliptic, apex obtuse to short acuminate, base cuneate; 15–25 pairs of lateral nerves; puberulent on adaxial and abaxial midrib; 2.7–7.5 × 1.2–2.6 cm. *Inflorescence* 1.2–2.5 cm long; short axillary and/or terminal; lanate; pedicels 0.5–1.5 mm long. *Sepals* ovate to lanceolate, apex acute to acuminate; lanate; 2–3 × 1.1–1.4 mm. *Corolla* creamy yellow, sometimes with an orange tube; 6.5–8.2 mm long in mature bud of which the acuminate head is 0.31–0.39 of the bud length; tube 4.2–6.5 mm long; lobes 2.5–4.2 mm long, lanceolate, apex acute; glabrous outside, pubescent in top of tube. *Stamens* inserted at 3–3.4 mm from the base of the corolla; filament 0.4–0.5 mm long; anthers 1–1.1 × 0.4 mm. *Ovary* densely pubescent around base, 0.6–0.8 mm long; style + pistil head 2.6–3 mm long. *Fruit* articles puberulent at base and apex; very slightly succulent; each article 9 mm long, 7 mm diameter. *Seeds* 6 × 5 × 5 mm.

Distribution – Thailand (Nakhon Ratchasima and Nakhon Nayok Prov.).

Ecology – Climbers in evergreen and dry Dipterocarp forest; altitude 700–1400 m.

Note – This species has been collected only in Khao Yai National Park and in Sakaerat in Central Thailand. It is easily distinguished from related species particularly by the long acuminate head of the corolla bud and the densely pubescent inflo-

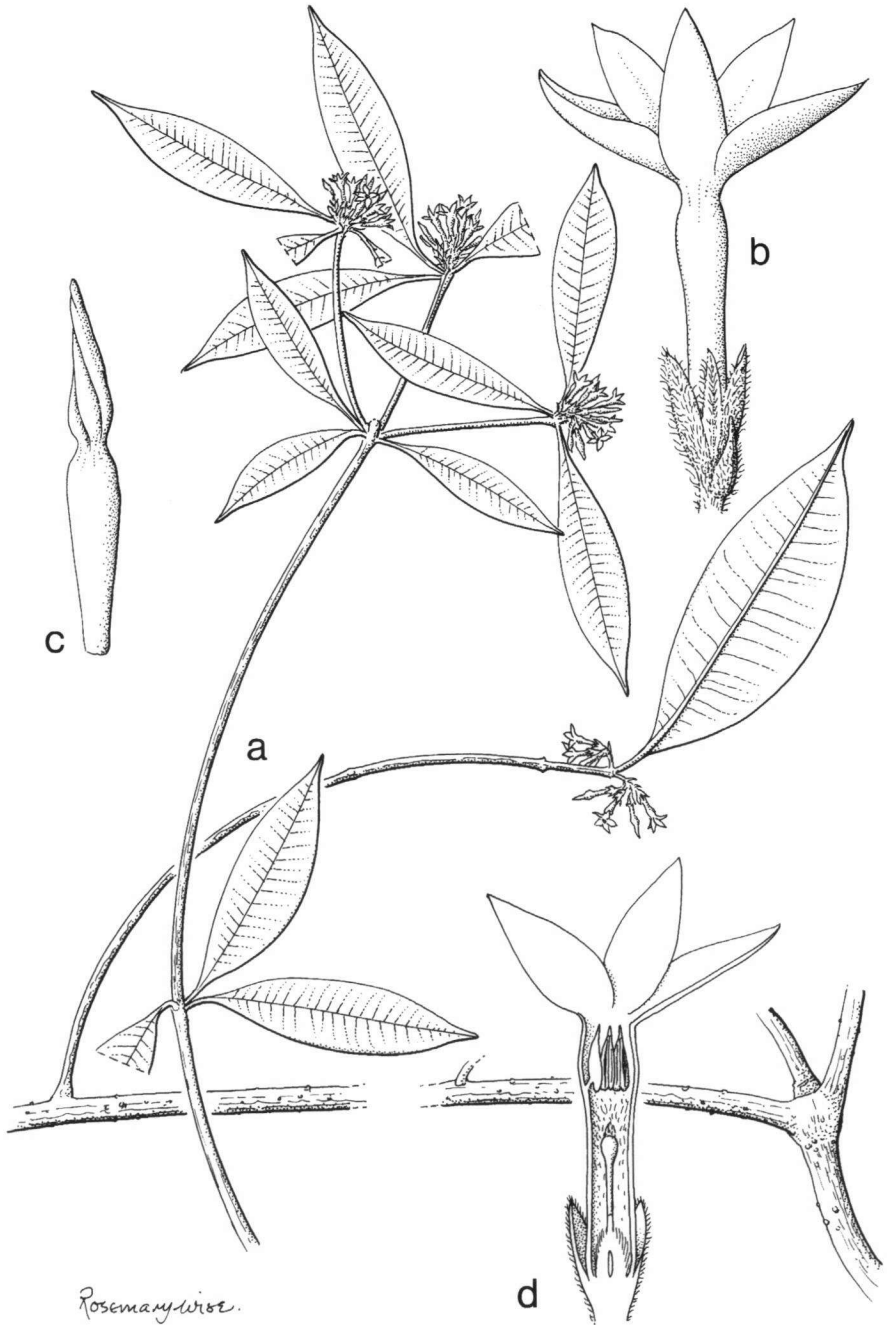


Fig. 1. *Alyxia thailandica* D. J. Middleton. a. Habit, $\times 0.66$; b. open flower; c. corolla in bud; d. dissected flower, all $\times 7$ (a-d: Maxwell 74-804, AAU, L).

rescences. It belongs in series *Reinwardtii* under the infrageneric scheme by Markgraf (1977) although his system would appear to be largely artificial. A more satisfactory system may need to wait for the much needed revision of the entire genus.

Collections studied: THAILAND. Nakhon Ratchasima Prov.: Khao Yai National Park, 1200 m, 18-10-1969, *van Beusekom & Charoenphol 1720* (BKF, K, L); *ibid.*, 700–1200 m, 2-12-1983, *Fukuoka & Ito T-34549* (A, BKF, L); *ibid.*, 1400 m, 11-11-1963, *Smitinand & Williams 8401* (BKF, L); *ibid.*, 1100 m, 6-10-1962, *Smitinand 7475* (A); Sakaerat Experimental Station, 360 m, 4-12-1983, *Fukuoka & Ito T-35017* (A). Nakhon Nayok Prov.: Khao Yai National Park, 950–1050 m, 9-9-1979, *Shimizu et al. T-19693* (A, BKF, L); *ibid.*, 1170 m, 9-9-1979, *Shimizu et al. T-18099* (A, BKF); *ibid.*, 1300 m, 20-9-1986, *Smitinand s.n.* (BKF).

Alyxia kerrii* D. J. Middleton, *spec. nov.

Alyxia reinwardtii Blume affinis sed corollae tubo brevior, folia nitidis. Ab *Alyxia nitens* Kerr corollae tubo brevior, fructu non carnosio differt. — Typus: *Floto 7402* (holo BKF; iso C), Thailand, Loei Prov., Phu Kradung, 1300 m, 9 July 1959.

Forest climber. *Stems* sparsely puberulent or glabrous when young, glabrous when older; densely lenticellate. *Leaves* in whorls of 3; shining above; coriaceous; petiole 3–9 mm long; blade obovate to narrowly elliptic, apex long acuminate, base cuneate; 15–34 pairs of lateral nerves, largely obscure; glabrous; 3.1–12.9 × 0.7–4.3 cm. *Inflorescence* 1.2–2.3 cm long; densely short puberulent; pedicels 1.1–2 mm long. *Sepals* ovate, apex acute; puberulent; 1–1.7 × 0.7–0.8 mm. *Corolla* white, sometimes with an orange tube; 5.5–6.4 mm long in mature bud of which head 0.3–0.4 of bud length; tube 3.4–4.4 mm long; lobes 1.5–2.2 mm long, elliptic, acute to obtuse; few hairs at top of tube or glabrous outside, pubescent inside tube. *Stamens* inserted at 2.1–3.2 mm from base; filament 0.2–0.5 mm long; anthers 0.9–1.1 × 0.4–0.5 mm. *Ovary* pubescent around base, 0.6–0.9 mm long; style + pistil head 2.1–3 mm long. *Fruit* glabrous; not succulent; each article 11–16 mm long, 7–10 mm diameter. *Seeds* 1.1 × 0.5 × 0.3 mm.

Distribution – Thailand (Phitsanulok, Loei, Kanchanaburi, and Ranong Prov.).

Ecology – Climber or scrambler in evergreen forest; altitude 1200–1400 m.

Note – This species was included by Kerr (1939) under the name *Alyxia forbesii* King & Gamble. That species, however, is a synonym of *Alyxia reinwardtii*. The Thai specimen cited by Kerr is quite distinct from *A. reinwardtii* and must be included in the new species *A. kerrii*.

Collections studied: THAILAND. Phitsanulok Prov.: Phu Miang, 1200 m, 14-11-1964, *Hansen, Seidenfaden & Smitinand 11146* (BKF, C, K). Loei Prov.: Phu Kradung, 1300 m, 9-7-1959, *Floto 7402* (BKF, C); *ibid.*, 28-11-1958, *Sørensen, Larsen & Hansen 6294* (C). Kanchanaburi Prov.: Khao Ri Yai, 1400 m, 1-2-1926, *Kerr 10403* (BM, E, K, L, TCD). Ranong Prov.: Khao Pho Ta Luang Kieo, 1300 m, 17-3-1987, *Niyomdham, Kubat & Aajchompho 1425* (K).

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