

A NEW STAUROGYNE FROM THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA

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The new species described below belongs like *St. leptocaulis* Brem. (in Nova Guinea, new ser., 8: 129. 1957) to the subgenus *Tetrastichum*, which is characterized by the presence in each of the ovary cells of circ. 60 ovules arranged in four rows and by the lower flowers of the inflorescence being subtended by ordinary leaves. The new species is easily distinguishable from *St. leptocaulis* by its larger and relatively wider leaves and by its obovate-orbicular bracts.

Staurogyne latibracteata Brem. n. spec. ad subgenus *Tetrastichum* pertinens, caule ascendente et anthisre appendiculatis ad *St. Neesii* (Vidal) C. B. Clarke ex Merr., *St. rivularem* Merr. et *St. leptocaulis* Brem. accedens, caule pilis capitatis vestito praesertim *St. Neesii* et *St. leptocaulis* similior sed bracteis multo latioribus ab eis et a speciebus omnibus huius generis hactenus notis faciliter distinguenda.

Herba e basi decumbente ascendens, 18–25 cm alta, parce ramosa, sine brachyblastis sterilibus. Caulis pilis pro parte capitatis satis dense vestitus, in parte decumbente 2 mm diam., in parte ascendente circ. 1 mm diam., internodiis circ. 1.5 cm longis. Folia fere omnia opposita, sensim in petiolum subtus pubescentem usque ad 1 cm longum contracta; lamina lanceolato-oblonga vel oblanceolata, 4.5–8.0 cm longa et 1.8–2.5 cm lata, apice obtusa, basi cuneata vel contracta, discolor, sicc. supra olivacea, subtus griseo-viridis, primum supra sparse strigosa sed mox glabrescens, subtus primum pilis capitatis dense pubescens, deinde costa parce pubescente excepta etiam glabrescens, nervis utroque latere costae 5–7. Inflorescentia caulem terminans interdum inflorescentiis aliquibus ramos longiores terminantibus comitata, spiciformis. Folia flores inferiores suffulcens gradatim magnitudine decrescentia, apice obtusissima; bractee florum aliorum obovato-orbiculares, 5.5–9.0 mm longae et 4.0–8.0 mm latae, mucronatae, pilis capitatis utrimque sed ad marginem densius pubescentes, utroque latere costae plerumque nervis 2 instructae. Bracteolae lineares, 5 mm longae et 1.2 mm latae, acutae, pilis capitatis densius pubescentes, 1-nerviae. Calycis lobus posticus linearis-oblongus 7 mm longus et 2 mm latus, acutus, 3-nervius; lobi antici lineares 5 mm longi et 0.2 mm lati; lobi laterales filiformes 3.5 mm longi; omnes pilis capitatis pubescentes. Corolla dilute purpurea lineis purpureis striata 11 mm longa, extus glabra. Stamina thecis basi vix notabile appendiculatis instructa. Staminiodium ecapitatum 2 mm longum. Ovarium glabrum. Capsula glabra 5 mm longa.

Territory of Papua: Milne Bay District, near Guru village (North coast of Cape Vogel Peninsula), alt. 10 m, R. D. Hoogland 4740 CANB, type, dupl. L, LAE.

The affinity with *St. Neesii* (Vidal) C. B. Clarke ex Merr., *St. rivularis* Merr. and *St. leptocaulis* Brem. is doubtless more pronounced than that with the species occurring in the western part of the area. It manifests itself in the ascendent stem and in the appendiculate anthers. *St. latibracteata* differs from these three species in the absence of brachyblasts in the axils of the leaves, the much greater width of the bracts and the broad posticus calyx lobe.