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A NEW SPECIES OF FREYCINETIA (PANDANACEAE) FROM PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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ABSTRACT

KEIM, A.P. 2010. A new species of *Freycinetia* (Pandanaceae) from Papua New Guinea. *Reinwardtia* 13(2): 101–106. — *Freycinetia streimannii* A.P. Keim is newly described from Papua New Guinea. The novelty is closest to *Freycinetia normanbyensis* Huynh but is clearly separated by differences in the size of the cephalia and in the number of stigmas.

Keywords: *Freycinetia*, *Pandanaceae*, Papua New Guinea.

ABSTRAK

KEIM, A.P. 2010. Jenis baru *Freycinetia* (Pandanaceae) dari Papua Niugini. *Reinwardtia* 13(2): 101–106. — Jenis baru *Freycinetia streimannii* A.P. Keim dari Papua Niugini dipertelakan. Jenis baru ini dibedakan dengan *F. normanbyensis* Huynh pada ukuran *cephalia* dan jumlah kepala putiknya.

Kata kunci: *Freycinetia*, *Pandanaceae*, Papua Niugini.

INTRODUCTION

New Guinea is renowned as a centre for floristic diversification in the paleotropics. The spacious nature of its major families is particularly evident in the *Pandanaceae*, and especially so in the genus *Freycinetia*. Although Huynh (1996; 1997; 1999; 2000; 2002) recently added some species to the generic conspectus, there are still many taxa awaiting formal description. The following account presents yet another novelty from New Guinea, lending further support to Stone's (1982) contention that the island is unquestionably the centre of diversity for *Freycinetia*.

Freycinetia streimannii A.P. Keim, *spec. nov.* — Figs. 1–3.

Mediocris scandens; infructescentia terminalis et lateralis, terna et quaterna; bacca rhomboideus; stigmata 1–2. — Typus: Papua New Guinea, Morobe, Menyamya, Aseki-Koki Road, 07° 20'S, 146° 10'E, 9 Jan. 1972, H. Streimann LAE 51997 (Holotypus-LAE!; Isotypi-A, BO!, BRI, CANB, K, L, SING!).

Medium sized climbing pandan, glabrous. *Stem* 0.6–0.65 cm diam., sulcate or angulate, brunnescent. *Leaves* elliptic-oblong, 14–15 cm long, ca. 4.5 cm wide, bifacially brunneous, base cuneate, margins entire, apex acuminate; auricle tapered. *Inflores-*

cence unknown. *Infructescences* terminal and lateral, ternate or quaternate, ca. 5 cm long; peduncles ca. 1 cm, cicatrose, fibrose, cylindrical, decortivating on older surfaces; prophylls 3, 0.5–1.2 cm long; bracts 6 in 2 whorls, bracts in outer whorl 1.3–1.5 cm long, bracts in inner whorl 3.4–4 cm long; pedicel 1.6–1.7 cm long, glabrous. *Cephalium* ellipsoidal, red, 1.1–1.5 cm long, 0.5–0.6 cm wide. *Berry* rhomboid, red, 1.5–2 mm long, pileus rigid; stigmas 1–2.

Field characters. Leaves green above, pale green below; fruits red.

Distribution. Known only from the type locality.

Habitat and ecology. Disturbed poor montane forest at about 1200 m altitude.

Etymology. Named after Estonian botanist Heinar Streimann, collector of the type specimen.

Conservation status. Probably vulnerable (VU). The Menyamya area has been extensively disturbed by anthropogenic activities. The roadside forest visited by Streimann has been either eradicated or severely impacted.

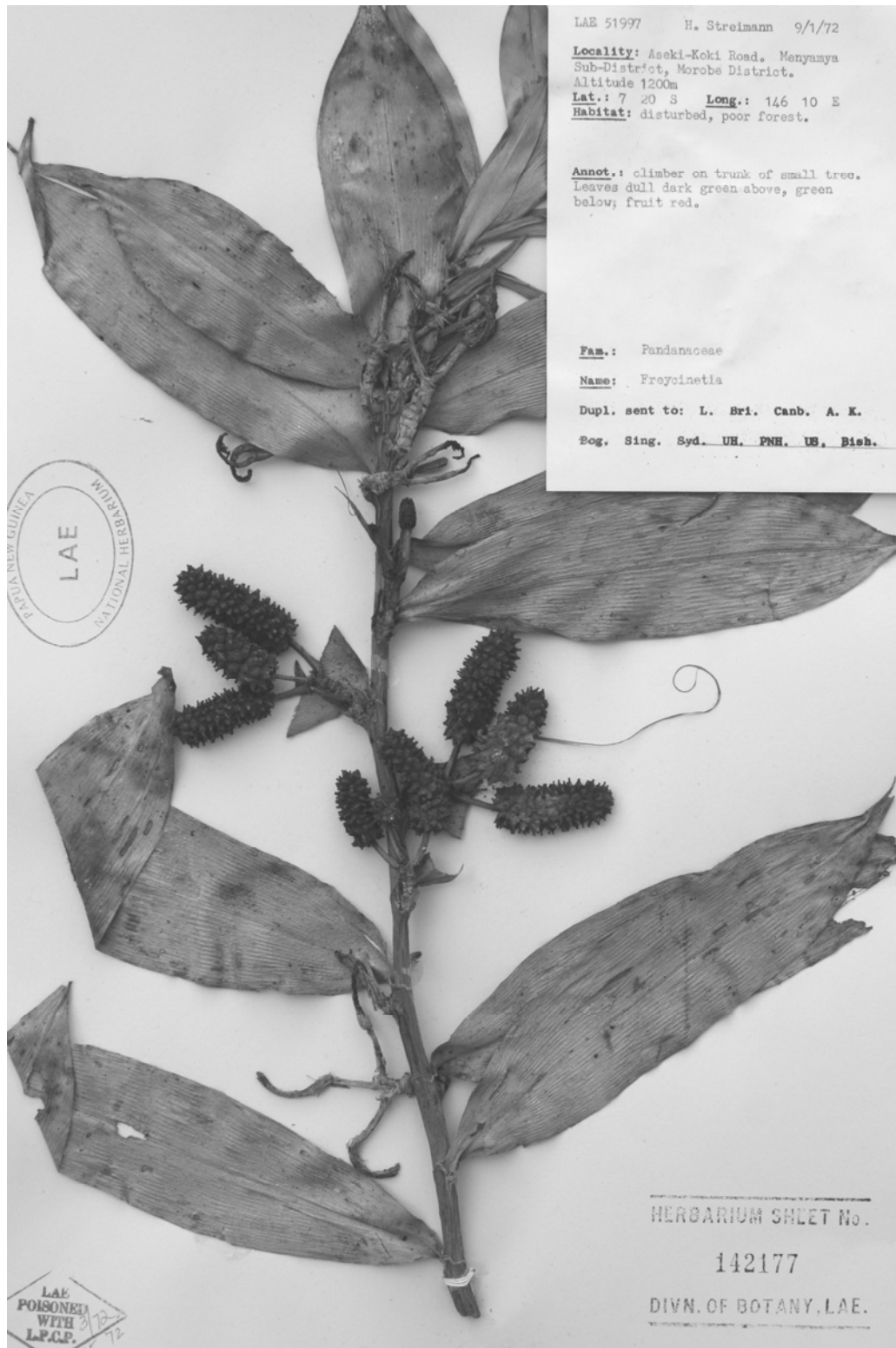


Fig. 1. *Freycinetia streimannii* A. P. Keim. Holotype (Streimann LAE 51997, LAE!) showing the lateral and terminal infructescences (x 2/5). Photo: Wayne Takeuchi.



Fig. 2. *Freycinetia streimannii* A.P. Keim. Holotype (*H. Streimann LAE 51997*, LAE showing the remains of terminal infructescence (x 1).
Photo: Wayne Takeuchi.



Fig. 3. *Freycinetia streimannii* A.P. Keim. Holotype (*H. Streimann LAE 51997*, LAE!) showing the ternate and quaternate infructescences ($\times 1$). Photo: Wayne Takeuchi.

Notes. In New Guinea, there are only a few species with both terminal and lateral infructescences. Among the congeners in this group, *Freycinetia streimannii* is the only one with 1–2 stigmas. *Freycinetia normanbyensis* Huynh is probably the closest to the new species (see Huynh, 2002), but can be

easily distinguished by the characters listed in Table 1.

There are also apparent similarities between *Freycinetia madangensis* and *F. streimannii*. However Table 2 provides a decisive compilation of their differentiating attributes.

Table 1. Comparison of *Freycinetia normanbyensis* and *F. streimannii*.

Characters	<i>Freycinetia normanbyensis</i>	<i>F. streimannii</i>
Leaf dimension	14–20 x 2–2.5 cm	14–15 x 4.5 cm
Number of cephalia per infructescence	3	3 or rarely 4
Cephalium dimension	2x3 cm	1.1–1.5 x 0.5–0.6 cm
Length of a berry	5 mm	1.5–2 mm
Number of stigmas	3–4 (also found 5–10)	1–2
Colour of a berry	Orange	Red

Table 2. Comparison of *Freycinetia madangensis* and *F. streimannii*.

Characters	<i>Freycinetia madangensis</i>	<i>F. streimannii</i>
Infructescence position	Always lateral	Terminal and lateral
Number of cephalia per infructescence	3	3, rarely 4
Cephalium dimension	2 x 1–1.8 cm	1.1–1.5 x 0.5–0.6 cm
Length of a berry	3 mm	1.5–2 mm
Number of stigmas	2	1–2

Stone (1967) mentioned *F. hollrungii* Warburg as a species with both terminal and lateral infructescences. Indeed, with number of stigmas 1 to 2, *F. hollrungii* seems to be the closest morphologically to *F. streimannii*. However, I am not in accordance with his account, as Warburg (1900) did not write that *F. hollrungii* has both terminal and lateral inflorescences and infructescences. In fact, he did not mention anything about the position of the infructescence except that it consists of 2 to 3 cephalia (infructescences binate or ternate). Unfortunately, the syntypes of *F. hollrungii* were destroyed during the World War II and there is no information about the presence of any copies in other Herbaria. Thus, everything is based only on the protologue. Nonetheless, the protologue is not in favour of Stone.

Among the extra-Papuan taxa, *Freycinetia imbricata* Blume is a well-known species having both terminal and lateral infructescences. This species is commonly found in Java, Borneo, and the Malay Peninsula (Stone 1970a, 1970b, 1970c, 1972), but so far has never been recorded in New Guinea. Nevertheless, with rather globose cephalia (9–10 × 6–7 mm) and with 3–5 stigmas, *F. imbricata* is immediately distinguishable from *F. streimannii*.

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