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A NEW LITSEA (LAURACEAE) FROM MALESIA

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ABSTRACT

Litsea hirsutior Kosterm. is newly described from the Malay Peninsula and is compared to *L. hirsutissima*.

ABSTRAK

Jenis baru *Litsea hirsutior* Kosterm. dipertelakan dari Semenanjung Malaya dan dibandingkan dengan *L. hirsutissima*.

Litsea hirsutior Kosterm. sp. nov. — Fig. 1.

Arbor parva ramulis crassis cylindricis dense ferrugineo hirsutis, foliis alternantibus chartaceis ellipticia magnis acutis basi breve acutis, supra glabra nitida subbullata nervo mediano et costis tenuibus subimpressis subtus dense hirsutis nervo mediano crassis costis subpatentibus tenuibus venis tertiariis subparallelis, petiolis crassis dense hirsutis, umbellis axillaribus solitariis pedunculis brevis bracteis bene evolutis, fructus ellipsoideis-subovoideis, cupulis subcoriaceis planis margine undulatis in pedicellis crassis conicis transeuntibus.

Typus: C. Stone & Mahmud Sidek 12546 (University of Malaya 23227).

Tree, 5 m tall. Twigs thick, juicy, cylindrical, *in sicco* densely, ferruginously hirsute with long glistening thin hairs. Leaves spirally arranged, chartaceous, rather juicy, elliptic, 7—15 × 15—32 cm, shortly acutish both ends; above glabrous (except midrib), sub-bullate, the thin midrib and thin lateral nerves impressed; lower surface densely rusty hirsute, midrib stout, prominent, lateral nerves 12—18 pairs, the lower ones patent, the apical ones erect-patent, running out at the leaf margin, connected by very thin, parallel tertiary veins, almost perpendicular to the lateral nerves. Petiole very stout, densely rusty hirsute, 2—2.5 cm. Inflorescences axillary, much reduced, consisting of a single umbel on a 3—4 mm long peduncle; umbel bracts elliptic, concave, 5 mm long. Fruit ellipsoid-ovoid, acutish, 6 × 10 mm (sub-mature), green, speckled; cupule fleshy, not very deep, 5—6 mm in diam., 1.5 mm high, margin wavy, base merging gradually into the fleshy, obconical, 5 mm long pedicel; inside of cup hirsute.

DISTRIBUTION: Only known from the type locality.



Figure 1. *Litsea hirsutior* Kosterm.

Related to *L. hirsutissima*, but differing in leaf shape, size and venation.

MALAY PENINSULA: Kelantan, Sungei Lebir, eastern bank opposite Jentah, lowland dipterocarp forest, alt. 70 m, fr. 28 April, *B. Stone & M. Sidek 12546* (Kelantan Bateq ethnobotany expedition Endicott-Stone) (A, BISH, BO, K, KEP, L, LAE, P, PNH, SAN, SAR, TI, TNS, UC, US).

CONTENTS

VOL. 10. NO. 2

	Page
J. R. TURNBULL & A. T. MIDDLETON. Three new <i>Nepenthes</i> from Sulawesi Tengah	107
KUSWATA KARTAWINATA. <i>Chydenanthus</i> Miers (<i>Lecythydaceae</i>): A correction	113
J. F. VELDKAMP. <i>Aegopogon</i> (Gramineae) in Malesia	115
R. R. RAO & N. S. JAMIR. <i>Bolbitis nagalandense</i> R. R. Rao & N. S. J., a new species of <i>Lomariopsidaceae</i> from Nagaland, India	119
A. J. G. H. KOSTERMANS. Two new <i>Chrysobalanaceae</i> of Eastern New Guinea	123
K. GOPALAKRISHNA BHAT & C. R. NAGENDRAN. Two new species of <i>Poaceae</i> from India	127
S. RISWAN. Nitrogen content of topsoil in lowland tropical forest in East Kalimantan (Indonesia) before and after clear-cutting and burning	131
J. W. A. RIDDER-NUMAN & H. WIRJADINATA. A revision of the genus <i>Spatholobus</i> (Leguminosae-Papilionoideae)	139
A. J. G. H. KOSTERMANS. A new <i>Libsea</i> (Lauraceae) from Malesia	207
M. SANJAPPA. The genus <i>Indigofera</i> L. (Fabaceae-Papilionoideae) in Burma	211
C. E. RIDSDALE, L. A. ANDERSON, A. T. KEENE & J. D. PHILLIPSON. Hasskarl's cinchona barks 1. Historical review	245
M. A. RIFAI, K. KRAMADIBRATA & T. BASUKI. The anamorph of <i>Sarawaleus succisus</i> Rifai	265