



Two new species of *Indigofera* (Leguminosae—Papilionoideae) from Thailand

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Abstract

Two new species of *Indigofera*, *I. smitinandii* and *I. udonthaniensis* from Thailand are described and illustrated.

Key words: Fabales, new taxon, Phu Khieo, Phu Phrabat, taxonomy

Introduction

Indigofera Linnaeus (1753: 751) is the largest genus of tribe Indigofereae, family Leguminosae—Papilionoideae, with 700–800 species worldwide, mainly distributed in the tropics and subtropics (Xinfen, Hang & Schrire 2010). There are two genera found in the tribe Indigofereae in Thailand viz. *Cyamopsis* De Candolle (1825: 215) with one introduced species, *C. tetragonoloba* (Linnaeus 1767: 104) Taubert in Engler & Prantl (1894: 259) and *Indigofera* with 30 species (Mattapha & Chantaranothai 2012). The former is distinguished from the latter by serrate margins of leaflets and monadelphous stamens. The genus *Indigofera* is recognized by a) T-shaped, also called medifixed hairs, which are distinct along reproductive and vegetative organs, and can often be taxonomically used to identify some species; b) a conspicuous lateral pocket or a sac-like structure on the wall of keel petal and c) the presence of apiculate connective or appendix-like anthers. However, the last two characters are absent in *I. aralensis* Gagnepain (1914: 197).

The Thai *Indigofera* was first enumerated by Craib (1928) with 22 species. Although the genus was previously revised for SE Asia by de Kort & Theijsse (1984), for Indo-China by Thuân, Dy Phon & Niyomdham (1987), new species are still discovered from the vicinity of the regions. During preparing the treatment of the genus for the Flora of Thailand, the authors found two new species, *I. smitinandii* and *I. udonthaniensis* which were described herein as new to science and also endemic species to Thailand.

Taxonomic Treatment

Indigofera smitinandii S. Mattapha & P. Chantaranothai, *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1).

Indigofera smitinandii can be distinguished from other Thai *Indigofera* species by symmetric T-shaped hairs, unifoliolate leaves and ciliate to fimbriate wing petals.

Type:—THAILAND. Chaiyaphum, Phu Khieo Wildlife Sanctuary, 16 ° 09' 54"N, 101 ° 39'18"E, 20 July 1973, *T. Smitinand 11861* (holotype BKF!, isotype BKF!).

Shrubs c. 1 m high; twigs with adpressed symmetric T-shaped hairs. Leaves unifoliolate, spirally arranged; stipules triangular, 0.5–1 mm long, hairy outside, glabrous inside, caducous; petioles 5–7 mm long, hairy; stipels lanceolate, 2 mm long, caducous; petiolules 2 mm long, hairy; lamina elliptic, 7–9 × 3.5–5 cm, apex