



Curcuma arida and *C. sahuynhensis*, two new species from subgenus *Ecomata* (Zingiberaceae) from Vietnam

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Abstract

Two new *Curcuma* species are described and illustrated from Vietnam. They are compared to their closest allies from subgenus *Ecomata*. *Curcuma arida* from Núi Chúa National Park, Ninh Thuận Province, is compared to *Curcuma pambrosima* and *C. vitellina*, while *Curcuma sahuynhensis* from Quảng Ngãi Province is compared to *Curcuma xanthella*.

Key words: *Curcuma pambrosima*, *Curcuma vitellina*, *Curcuma xanthella*, Ninh Thuận Province, Núi Chúa National Park, Quảng Ngãi Province

Introduction

The Indochinese region is one of the diversity hotspots for the family Zingiberaceae (Leong-Škorničková *et al.* 2010). However, the Zingiberaceae flora is not well studied with the last account being over a century old (Gagnepain 1908). During our extensive explorations of Zingiberaceae for the Flora of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, numerous interesting ginger species including a new genus *Newmania* N.S.Lý & Škorničk. (in Leong-Škorničková *et al.* 2011: 1390) from Vietnam have been recently described (Lý *et al.* 2010, Lamxay & Newman 2012, Nguyen & Leong-Škorničková 2012) including eight *Curcuma* species from Laos and Vietnam. Six of these are from the recently recognised subgenus *Ecomata* Škorničk. & Šída f. (in Závěská *et al.* 2012: 758)—*C. vitellina* Škorničk. & H.Đ. Trần (in Leong-Škorničková *et al.* 2010: 111), *C. pambrosima* Leong-Škorničková & Lý (2010: 652), *C. newmanii* Škorničk. and *C. xanthella* Škorničk. (both in Leong-Škorničková & Trần 2013: 170, 172), *C. corniculata* Škorničk. and *C. flammea* Škorničk. (both in Leong-Škorničková *et al.* 2014: 106, 108), while two species are from subgenus *Hitcheniopsis* Schumann (1904: 101)—*Curcuma pygmaea* Škorničk. & Šída f. (in Leong-Škorničková *et al.* 2013: 639) and *Curcuma leonidii* Leong-Škorničková & Luru (2013: 37).

The species, named below as *Curcuma arida*, was noticed by the second author several years ago, and new collections including spirit material were made recently by the first and third authors. The second novelty, named below as *C. sahuynhensis*, has been collected by the second author in 2010 along with ample spirit material and detailed photographic documentation. With the progressing revision of the genus *Curcuma* for Indochina by the first author, it is clear these collections represent new species and therefore are described and illustrated below. *Curcuma arida* is by its inflorescence shape and colour of the bracts somewhat similar to *C. pambrosima*, but the shape of the anther also suggests affinity to *Curcuma vitellina*. *Curcuma sahuynhensis* has a distinct L-shaped anther, somewhat similar to *C. xanthella*, but this species is otherwise different in the shape of the inflorescence and flowers. The differences are further discussed in notes for each species. Descriptions are based on living flowering material. Terminology used here follows Beentje (2012) and the recent ginger works cited above.

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