

NEW RECORDS OF STYRAX AND CASUARINA FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

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STYRACACEAE

Styrax agrestis (Lour.) G. Don; cf. Van Steenis in Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg III. 12: 224. 1932.

SOLOMON ISLANDS: Ysabel Island, common in mountain forest on Mt. Marescott, ca. 1000 m. alt., Dec. 2, 1932, *L. J. Brass 3261*, a slender, small tree, flowers white. — Guadalcanal Island, Vuolo, Mt. Tutive, common in rainforest, growing on top of mountains, ca. 1200 m. alt., April 4, 1931, *S. F. Kajewski 2499*, a small tree, up to 12 m., petals white, stamens cream, fruit 18×7 mm., finely hairy, with pointed apex, twig galls present, v.n. "born-born." BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO: New Ireland (Neu Mecklenburg), Uguna District, Abhang des Lelet Gebirges, 150 m. alt., Mai 12, 1938, *Father G. Peekel 106*, "Baum 12 m. hoch, Blüten weiss, wächst auch in der Ebene und blüht schon wenn nur 5–6 m. hoch, auf gelbem Lehm Boden."

This species was hitherto known from the Indochinese Peninsula, Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas (Ceram) and New Guinea. No representative of the Styracaceae was previously known to occur east of New Guinea.

In Malaysia it occurs mostly at low altitude, the highest recorded ones being 500 m. in Celebes and 700 m. in Ceram. It is noteworthy that in this eastern extension of range the species occurs at higher altitudes, 1000–1200 m.

Recently Hosokawa, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa 28: 65. 1938, described a new species of *Styrax* from the islet of Korrör, Palau, Micronesia, viz. *S. rostratus* Hosokawa. This species he placed in the affinity of *S. Warburgii* Perk., which I have reduced to *S. agrestis* G. Don (Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg. III. 12: 224. 1932). Hosokawa's description of the first representative of the family to be recorded from Micronesia, agrees well with that of *S. agrestis* and, although I have not seen any Korrör specimen, I am convinced that it must be reduced to the widely distributed *S. agrestis*. Phytogeographically the Palau locality fits well into the area of *Styrax agrestis* G. Don.

CASUARINACEAE

Casuarina sumatrana Jungh. & de Vriese.

SOLOMON ISLANDS: San Cristoval Island, Hinua-haoro, common in mountain rainforest, growing usually on crests of spurs, ca. 900 m. alt., Sept. 16, 1932, *L. J. Brass* 2871, a tree 20 m. or more, with stout, spreading branches, thin, brown, furrowed, suberose bark, red within, and with very heavy reddish wood. Bark of branches warted. Branchlets stiff, bright green. Young growth yellowish.

I fail to see any differences between this specimen and the rather abundant Malaysian material in the Buitenzorg Herbarium. The species was hitherto known from Sumatra, Borneo, Philippines and Celebes, and probably occurs also in New Guinea.

At the time that the species was described it seemed phytogeographically strange to detect in Sumatra an endemic inland species of a genus principally centering in Australia. As has been shown in numerous cases the absence of collections was the principal cause of this assumed peculiar distribution, and later collections have revealed a much wider range. Now all the Malaysian species of *Casuarina* are connected phytogeographically with the Australian-Papuan districts. *Casuarina equisetifolia* is a widely distributed shore tree, *C. sumatrana* occurs throughout the Archipelago, *C. Rumphiana* is also known from Celebes and the Philippines eastward and is probably identical with *C. nodiflora* Forst. (as I have mentioned in this Journal, **12**: 197. 1931), whereas *C. Junghuhniana* Miq., ranging from eastern Java to Timor, is closely allied to certain Australian species (e.g. *C. stricta*).

A similar case of Australian-Papuan types found in western Malaysia which manifestly represents a continuous distribution is that of the genus *Deplanchea* (cf. Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg III. **10**: 218. 1928). Representatives of this genus are now known from Sumatra, the Malay Peninsula, Riouw, Banka, Billiton, Borneo, Celebes, New Guinea, Australia and New Caledonia.

'S LANDS PLANTENTUIN,
BUITENZORG, JAVA.



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