

A NEW MICRONESIAN TERMINALIA (COMBRETACEAE)

F. R. Fosberg and M. V. C. Falanruw

During botanical exploration of the northern Marianas in 1972, a most unexpected discovery was a new species of Terminalia from Asuncion Island. It is described here.

TERMINALIA ROSTRATA Fosberg and Falanruw, n. sp.

Arbor partibus juvenalibus ochraceis tomentosis vel sericeis, foliis obovatis brevipetiolatis spicis elongatis, fructibus teretibus umbonatis non alatis non compressis.

Tree to 8 m tall, 50 cm diameter of trunk, young growth, petioles, spikes yellowish tomentose, branchlets with proximal several cm slender, 5 mm thick, without leaf scars, distal portion with densely crowded large leaf and superposed inflorescence scars, about 9-10 mm thick, branching apparently "terminalioid;" leaves broadly obovate-cuneate, to 20 x 12 cm, apex rounded-subtruncate to very slightly acuminate or retuse, mucronulate, base cuneate, then abruptly contracted to a thick petiole about 5-7 mm long, 5 mm thick, principal veins 8-12 on a side, not exactly opposite, lower pairs and uppermost ones weak, main ones arching upward to near margin, network of several orders, mostly not prominent, upper surface of blade glabrous except tomentose basal part of midrib, lower surface sparsely yellowish pubescent, densely so on midrib, more so toward base; spike when mature 16 cm long, tapering, portion distal to main fruit scars slender, yellowish tomentose; flowers about 2-3 mm long, broadly campanulate, throat 3 mm wide, with recurved ovate acutish lobes about 1.5 mm long, stipitate base tomentose to glabrate, throat externally sparsely pilosulose, glabrate, within densely and stiffly bearded; stamens 10, filaments subulate, strongly exerted, glabrous, anthers oval, about 0.5 mm long; style slightly more exerted than stamens, slightly curved, then strongly hooked at apex; fruit 37 x 20 mm, very slightly pedicellate, pedicel and extreme base sericeous, body subcylindric, scarcely at all compressed, base slightly cordate-4-lobed, apex forming a somewhat compressed beak about 1 cm long with 2 slight keels running about 1 cm down fruit from edges of beak, texture hard, woody, surface smooth, brown when dry, fruit floats in fresh water.

The leaves resemble those of T. catappa, but with pubescence like that of T. samoensis; the fruit is not like that of any Pacific species. The plant is unfamiliar to Dr. A. C. Smith

who most recently revised some of the Pacific species (Brittonia 23:394-412, 1971) and who kindly examined this specimen.

In Exell's key (Fl. Males I, 4:551-554, 1954) this plant runs to T. foetidissima Griff. to which it is undoubtedly most closely related. It differs in its broader, much more shortly petiolate leaves with more main veins, much more shortly pedunculate, longer spikes, strongly hooked style, and differently shaped, strongly beaked fruit. In Exell's synopsis (op. cit. p. 550) T. rostrata would seem to fit in his "Series E" with T. crassifolia, T. samoensis, and T. insularis, but does not seem close to any of these species, which have drupaceous fruits.

A single large tree was found by Marjorie V. C. Falanruw, on Asuncion Island, in forest on lower slopes. Nothing like it is known elsewhere in Micronesia.

The name alludes to the strongly beaked fruit.

Marianas Is.: Asuncion Island, about 400 ft. elevation, July 7, 1972, Falanruw 2290 (US, type).

A NEW VARIETY OF FAGRAEA BERTERIANA (GENTIANACEAE)

by F. R. Fosberg and M.-H. Sachet

Presented below is a brief discussion of the taxonomy of the Pacific Islands collective species, Fagraea berteriana Gray ex Benth., and the description of a new variety of this species from the Marquesas Islands.

Fagraea Thunb., Vet. Acad. Handl. Stockh. 3:132, t.4, 1782.

This genus is usually placed in the Loganiaceae, but is regarded by us as closer to the Gentianaceae. A discussion of this is reserved for a future, more comprehensive paper.

Fagraea berteriana Gray ex Benth., Jour. Linn. Soc. Bot. 1:98, 1856.

This species, first described from Tahiti, has been given an enormously wide circumscription by Leenhouts (Bull. Jard. Bot. Brux. 32:419-420, 1962; Fl. Males I, 6:335, 1962), with a geographical distribution extending from the Marquesas to New Guinea and Queensland, and north to the Marianas. We agree with



Fosberg, F. Raymond and Falanruw, Marjorie V. C. 1974. "A new Micronesian Terminalia [T. rostrata] (Combretaceae)." *Phytologia* 28(5), 469–470.

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