

CIRCAEA ALPINA L. (ONAGRACEAE) IN THAILAND

Craib (1931) included *Circaea alpina* L. in his "Florae Siamensis Enumeratio" on the basis of a collection made by Kerr at Doi Chiengdao. Fifty years later Shimizu et al. (1981), without citing specimens or references, included *C. alpina* in their preliminary list of temperate species in the flora of Thailand. Previously, Gagnepain (Gagnepain in Lecomte, 1921) provided a key to five species of *Circaea* to be expected in "Indo-China," and described and illustrated (p. 983, fig. 107: 17–22) *C. mollis* Sieb. & Zucc., the only species known at the time from the region he was treating.

In my monograph of *Circaea* (Boufford, 1982) I did not attribute any members of the genus to Thailand. Since then, however, I have seen two specimens of the Kerr collection cited by Craib. These specimens are *Circaea alpina* L. subsp. *imaicola* (Asch. & Mag.) Kitamura; they apparently remain as the only collection of the genus made to date in Thailand. Label data of the Kerr specimens are: Thailand, Doi Chiengdao, ca. 2,100 m, on mossy rocks, A. F. G. Kerr 6607 (ABD, K).

Circaea alpina subsp. *imaicola* has been collected in similar situations in north and west Burma and in extreme northwestern Vietnam. Although its occurrence in Thailand at about 20°N latitude is somewhat south of the main range of distribution, it is not as far south as the populations in southern India at about 10°N latitude

where the subspecies is found at about the same elevation. Another species, *C. mollis* Sieb. & Zucc. has been collected in northern Burma, northern Laos, and in extreme northwestern Vietnam. Throughout its range *Circaea mollis* occurs at lower elevations and generally at lower latitudes than *C. alpina* subsp. *imaicola*. It is also to be expected in Thailand, and both taxa should be sought wherever temperate elements are found.

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