

A NEW *ALYXIA* FOR TAIWAN

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In 1976, the authors went to Chinshan, Taichung County, for a field trip where they discovered a plant belonging to the genus *Alyxia* of the family *Apocynaceae* and were surprised to see it because previous collections of *Alyxia* on Taiwan had only been made on Lanyu island. This plant was not in flowering stage at the time of collection but the leaves appeared to be different from *Alyxia insularis* Kaneh. & Sasaki. So the authors concluded that it was a new record for our area and thought it might be related to *A. hainanensis* Merrill & Chun. But the next year when flowering materials were collected it was evident that it was not *A. hainanensis* and is not like any known species from adjacent areas, therefore it is here reported as a new species.

Alyxia taiwanensis Lu et Yang, sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Frutex scandens. Folia opposita vel ternato-verticillata, coriacea, glabra, oblongo-lanceolata, acuta, basi cuneata, 2-4.5 cm longa, 0.9-1.8 cm lata, nervi laterales indistincti. Inflorescentiae pauciflorae, puberulae; calycis lobi ovato-triangulares, ca. 2 mm longa, 1 mm lata; corollae tubus 4-5 mm longus; ovarium pilosum. Mericarpia 1-3 articulata.

Scandent shrubs; twigs pubescent. Leaves opposite or 3 in a whorl, thickly coriaceous, glabrous, elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, 2-4.5 cm long, 0.9-1.8 cm wide, midrib impressed above, conspicuous beneath, lateral veins indistinct, petioles 1-2.5 mm long. Inflorescence with a few flowers, thyrsoid, terminal, with pubescent peduncles. Flowers bisexual; calyx lobes ovate-triangular, ciliate, pubescent; corolla tube 4-5 mm long, pubescent inside, lobes obliquely ovate, obtuse; stamens 5, inserted below the mouth; ovary pilose; stigmas 2-fids, pubescent. Mericarps with 1-3 articles.

This species is near to *A. hainanensis* but differs in its smaller leaves and the indistinct and fewer lateral veins, also in that the stigma and inside of the corolla are pubescent.



Fig. 1. *Alyxia taiwanensis* Lu et Yang. 1. twig 2. leaf 3. flower 4. calyx 5. corolla 6. corolla lobe 7. fruit 8. seed.

Specimens examined: Chinshan, Taichung County, Lu 5936 (Holotype in TAIF).

This new species apparently differs from *A. insularis* in the vegetative parts. The key of the of the two species is given as follows:

1. Leaves usually 4 in a whorl, obovate to obovate-oblong, longer than 5 cm, obtuse *A. insularis*
1. Leaves opposite or 3 in a whorl, elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, less than 4.5 cm, acuminate *A. taiwanensis*

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臺灣產鏈珠藤屬之一新種

呂勝由 楊遠波

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本文紀錄鏈珠藤屬 (*Alyxia*) 之一新種：臺灣鏈珠藤 (*A. taiwanensis*)。