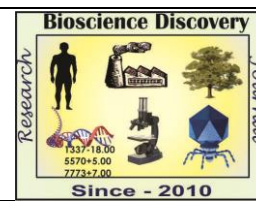


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Research Article



Diospyros phuketensis (Ebenaceae): A newly recorded species from Vietnam

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Abstract

Diospyros phuketensis Phengklai, a previously known species only in Thailand, is newly recorded from Vietnam. For this species we provide color images and a description of the collecting locality.

Keywords:

Diospyros, *Diospyros phuketensis*, newly recorded, Vietnam.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Diospyros* L. belonging to the family *Ebenaceae* is mostly confined to the tropics (Mabberley, 2008). A total of 607 species have so far been reported, of which ca 300 species occur in Asia and the Pacific area, 98 species in Madagascar and the Comoro Islands, 94 species in African Mainland, ca. 100 species in America and 15 species in Australia (Wallinofer, 2001). In the most recent treatment of *Diospyros* in Vietnam, There were 74 species found in Vietnam (Ho, 1999).

During field trip in Tra Xinh Town, Tay Tra District, Quang Ngai Province, we collected *Diospyros phuketensis* Phengklai, previously only described from Thailand, and report it here as a new record for Vietnam.

Taxonomic treatment

Diospyros phuketensis Phengklai, Thai For. Bull. (Bot.) 33: 157–160. 2005. [Fig. 1.]

Type: THAILAND. Phuket, Khao Pra Thaeo Ecological Center, ca. 100–150 m altitude, C. Niyomdham et al. 294 (BKF–holotype; C, AAU–isotype).

Specimens examined: VIETNAM: Quang Ngai Prov., February, 13, 2015, HS 12335 (SRI); Quang Ngai Prov., March, 20, 2015, HS 12654 (SRI).

Evergreen tree, up to 18 m high, 60–80 cm girth. Twigs glabrous, dark brown to blackish when dry. Terminal buds terete, 8–10 by 1–1.5 mm, with adpressed dark tomentum. Bark blackish, longitudinally furrowed, sparsely pale lenticelate. Leaves oblong, oblong-lanceolate, 10–20 by 3.0–6.0 cm, chartaceous, glabrous on both surfaces, except along midrib, sparsely adpressed-pubescent then glabrescent, margin entire; apex acuminate to caudate; base obtuse, usually suboblique; midrib prominent on the lower surface, depressed on the upper surface; lateral nerves in 7–10 pairs, rather faintly arched but not anastomosing, distinct



Fig. 1. *Diospyros phuketensis* Phengkai (Photo by Hoang Thanh Son, February, 2016, Quang Ngai Prov.). A. Tree. B. Leaf (lower surface and upper surface). C. Inflorescence fruits. D. Mature fruit. E. Cross-section of fruit. F. Seeds.

on the lower surface and subdepressed on the upper surface; scalariform veins usually distinct on the lower surface; reticulate veins hardly distinct; petiole 1–1.5 cm, grooved on the adaxial side, white adpressed-pubescent, then glabrescent, dark brown when dry. Inflorescences not yet seen. Infructescences ramiflorous. Fruits ovoid, depressed on both top, 4.5–5.5 by 4.0–6 cm, pubescent then glabrescent, yellowish brown with grey brown patches; fruiting calyx saucer-shaped, 1–1.5 by 3–4.5 cm, with 5 slightly undulate lobes along margin, densely pale lenticellate on outer part, annular ring-like between fruiting calyx and the end of fruit-stalk; fruit-stalk tubular, 15–20 by

4–6 mm, wrinkled and sparsely dark tomentose, then glabrescent. Seeds (8–)10, 1.5–2.5 cm long, 1–1.5 cm thick, not ruminant.

Habitat: Primary and secondary board-leaved evergreen sub-mountain forest on of Tra Xinh Town, Tay Tra District; 300–350 m alt.

Distribution: Vietnam (Quang Ngai), Thailand (Phuket).

Phenology: Fruiting, December–January.

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