

***Sciaphila nana* Blume (Triuridaceae), a new record for Thailand**

SAHUT CHANTANAORRAPINT\* & OBCHANT THAITHONG\*

ABSTRACT. *Sciaphila nana* Blume, a new record for Thailand is described and illustrated.

*Sciaphila* Blume is the largest genus of the family Triuridaceae with more than 30 species. Four species were previously known in Thailand (Larsen, 1972; Triboun & Larsen, 1999; Maneenoon & Sirirugsa, 2002). *Sciaphila nana* Blume is a new record for Thailand and was found during a botanical trip to Thong Pha Phum National Park, Kanchanaburi Province. The description below is based on the Thai material.

***Sciaphila nana*** Blume, Mus. Bot. 1: 322, fig. 48. 1851; Meerendonk in Fl. Males. I. 10: 117. 1984.— *Andruris nana* (Blume) Giesen, in Engler, Pflanzenr. iv. 18 (Heft 104): 18, fig. 2 (1–3). 1938. Fig. 1.

Monoecious, mycotrophic herb, violet. *Stem* delicate, erect ca. 4–10 cm tall, few-branched, glabrous. *Leaves* scale-like, entire, appressed to stem, ovate-lanceolate, acute, ca. 0.5 mm long. *Inflorescence* subcorymbose ca. 1 cm long, flowers unisexual, 7–15, male flowers above, female ones below. *Male flowers* ca. 1 mm in diam.; perianth with 6 unequal lobes, 3 larger alternating with 3 smaller, oblong, patent to reflexed; the larger perianth segments acute, ca. 0.7 by 0.4 mm without appendages; the smaller with ellipsoid knob at apex, 0.8 by 0.3 mm; stamens 3, filaments short, 4-lobed anthers. *Female flowers* ca. 1 mm in diam.; perianth with 5–6 equal lobes, oblong, acute, ca. 0.6 by 0.4 mm, apex without appendages; carpels ca. 25–40, ovate, upper half verrucose; style awl-shaped, 0.5 mm long, inserted laterally near the top, apex acute. *Fruits* obovoid, aggregated.

Thailand.— SOUTH-WESTERN: Kanchanaburi [Thong Pha Phum National Park, *S. Chantanaorrapint* 824 (BCU)].

Distribution.— Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines.

Ecology.— Growing on humus, under shade of bamboo, 1,000 m altitude. Flowering in November.

---

\*Department of Botany, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, 10330, Thailand.

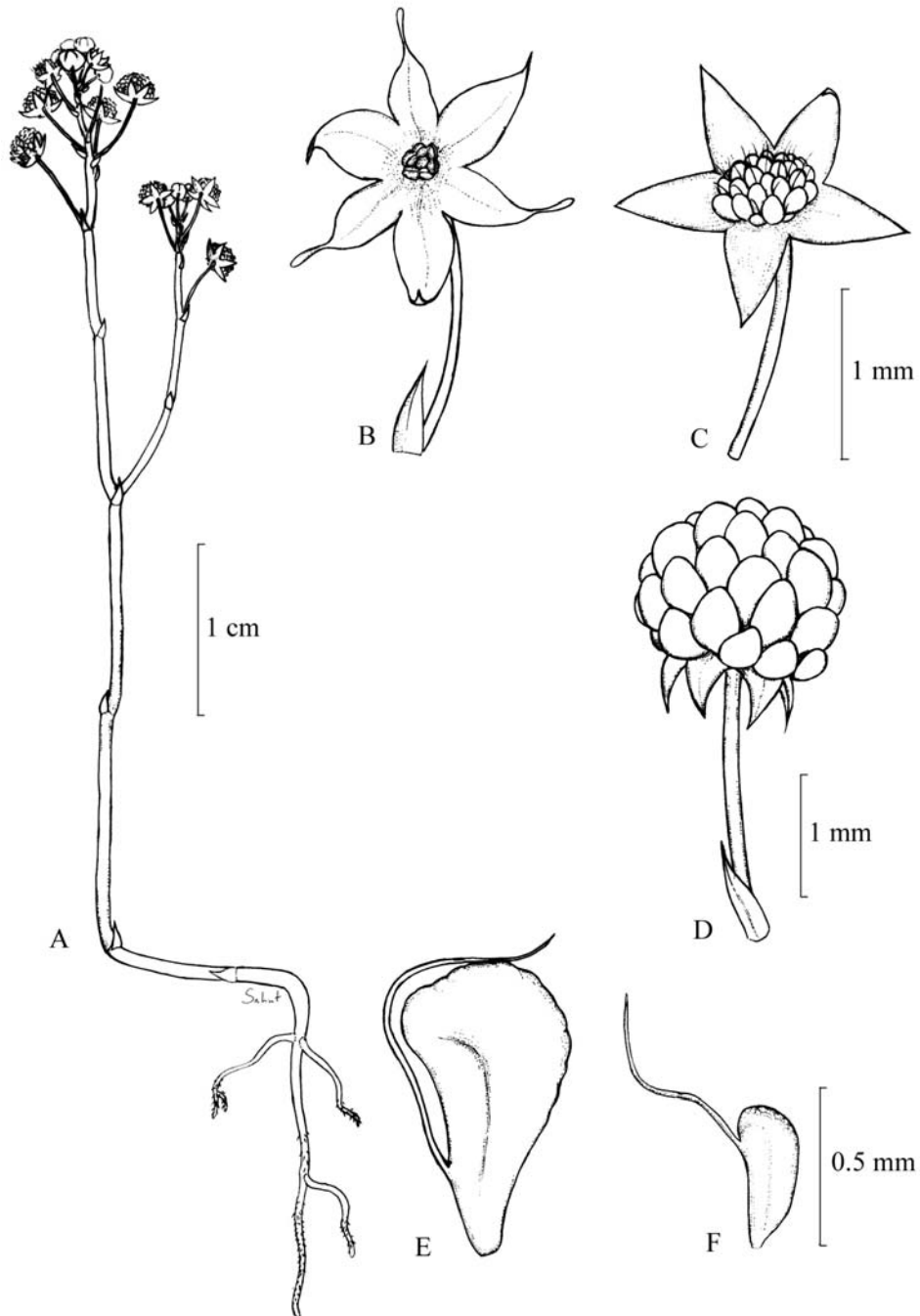


Figure 1. *Sciaphila nana* Blume: A. habit; B. male flower; C. female flower; D. aggregate fruit; E. fruit; F. ovary. All from *S. Chantanaorrapint* 824. Drawn by S. Chantanaorrapint.

Our plants match well with the clear description of *S. nana* in Meerendonk's work (1989). *S. nana* differs from *S. arfakiana* Becc. in having apical appendages only on the three smaller male perianth segments, the three larger one being inappendiculate. We suggest the following addition and modification to the key from Maneenoon & Sirirugsa (2002).

#### KEY TO THE SPECIES

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Plants with bisexual flowers. Apex of perianth segments long-bearded  | <b>1. <i>S. maculata</i></b>     |
| 1. Plants with unisexual flowers. Perianth segments not bearded  |                                  |
| 2. Male perianth segments with a knob-like structure at the apex   | <b>2. <i>S. arfakiana</i></b>    |
| 3. All perianth segments with a knob   | <b>3. <i>S. nana</i></b>         |
| 3. Only the 3 smaller perianth segments with a knob; the 3 larger without appendages   |                                  |
| 2. Male perianth segments without a knob-like structure at the apex  |                                  |
| 4. Stems ca. 5 cm tall, branched from the base. Racemes 1–15 cm long. Flowers 4–5 mm in diam. Male flowers with 6 perianth segments                    | <b>4. <i>S. thaidanica</i></b>   |
| 4. Stems ca. 15 cm tall, first branching ca. 4.5 cm from the base. Racemes 5 cm long. Flowers 8–10 mm in diam. Male flowers with 4–8 perianth segments | <b>5. <i>S. secundiflora</i></b> |

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Dr Thaweesakdi Boonkerd and an anonymous reviewer for their valuable comments on manuscript and the Department of Botany, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University for providing laboratory facilities for this research.

#### REFERENCES

- Larsen, K. 1972. Triuridaceae. In: T. Smitinand & K. Larsen (eds), Flora of Thailand 2: 175–176.
- Maneenoon, K. & Sirirugsa, P. 2002. Two species of *Sciaphila* Blume (Triuridaceae), new record for Thailand. Thai Forest Bulletin (Botany) 30: 39–42.
- Meerendonk, J. M. P. van de. 1989. Triuridaceae. In: van Steenis C. G. G. J. & de Wilde W. J. J. O. (eds), Flora Malesiana I. 10: 109–121.
- Triboun, P. & Larsen, K. 1999. *Sciaphila secundiflora* Thwaites ex Benth. (Triuridaceae), a new record for Thailand. Thai Forest Bulletin (Botany) 27: 47–51.