

## ***Lepisanthes amoena* (Hassk.) Leenh. (Sapindaceae), a new record for Thailand**

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ABSTRACT. *Lepisanthes amoena* was recently found in Chanthaburi Province, SE Thailand. It resembles *L. fruticosa*, but the leaves are much longer (up to 42 pairs of leaflets versus up to 14 pairs) and the ovary is 3-locular instead of 2-locular.

Recently, P. Phonsena and C. Kimsiri (7 July 2000) collected a *Lepisanthes* specimen (Sapindaceae) in Chanthaburi (Khao Khitchakut National Park), which did not match with the descriptions in the Flora of Thailand treatment (Welzen, 1999). Identification with Flora Malesiana (Adema et al., 1994) and the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak (Adema et al., 1996) led to the correct identification, a new record for Thailand: *L. amoena* (Hassk.) Leenh. Later, Phonsena also found additional specimens in Khao Soi Dao Wildlife Sanctuary (Chanthaburi).

The species can be added to the key and descriptions in the Flora of Thailand (Welzen, 1999), insert after the first lead in the key to the species (p. 212):

1<sup>1</sup>Leaves imparipinnate with a perfect terminal leaflet; leaves with 7–42 pairs of leaflets. Sepals and petals 5.  
Ovary and fruit 3-locular. Inflorescences terminal and axillary **1<sup>1</sup>. *L. amoena***  
1<sup>1</sup>Leaves paripinnate or imparipinnate with a reduced terminal leaflet; leaves with 1–8(–14) pairs of leaflets.  
Sepals and petals 4. Ovary and fruit 2-locular. Inflorescences axillary, rarely terminal **2. *L. fruticosa***

**1<sup>1</sup>. *Lepisanthes amoena*** (Hassk.) Leenh., Blumea 17: 71. 1969; Adema et al., Fl. Males. ser. 1, 11: 636, fig. 53. 1994 (see for full synonymy); in Soepadmo et al., Tree Fl. Sabah Sarawak 2: 313, fig. 12a–c. 1996.— *Melicocca amoena* Hassk., Flora 25, 2, Beibl.: 39. 1842. Fig. 1.

Treelet up to 10 m high, shortly hairy when young. *Leaves* imparipinnate with a non-reduced terminal leaflet, 7–42-jugate (up to 90 cm and 16-jugate in Thailand); pseudo-stipules present. *Leaflets* linear to ovate, 5–25 by 1.2–6 cm, thin-chartaceous to pergamentaceous; base oblique or not, obtuse to subcordate; apex obtuse to shortly acuminate; upper surface only densely fulvous on midrib, lower surface sparsely hairy. *Inflorescences* terminal and axillary, up to 75 cm long. *Flowers* scentless. *Sepals* 5, ovate to orbicular, outer two 1.5–3.5 by 1.2–2 mm, inner three 2.5–4 by 2–3.5 mm, red. *Petals* 5, white or red, shortly clawed, blade subdeltoid to suborbicular, up to 1.5 by 1.2 mm, at base with 2 incurved, almost connected lobes. *Stamens* 7–9. *Ovary* 3-locular. *Fruits* purple, slightly 3-lobed, 2–2.5 by 2.2–2.8 cm (fresh ca. 2.5 by 3 cm), (sub)glabrous.

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Thailand.— SOUTH-EASTERN: Chanthaburi (Khao Khitchakut National Park [*Phonsena & Kimsiri* 2541 (BKF)], Khao Soi Dao Wildlife Sanctuary [*Phonsena* 1940 (BKF)]).

Distribution.— Sumatra, Malay Peninsula, Borneo, W. Java, Timor.

Ecology.— In Thailand found in evergreen forest at 20–410 m altitude.

Vernacular.— Chamma liang pa (จ๋ามะเลียงป่า) (Chanthaburi).

Uses.— The fruits are edible.

Notes.— The description is mainly based on Adema et al. (1994).



Figure 1. *Lepisanthes amoena* (Hassk.) Leenh.: A. flowering branch; B. pseudo-stipules; C. flowers; D. fruits. Photographed by P. Phonsena.

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