

A new combination in *Hedyotis* (Rubiaceae)

KHANIT WANGWASIT* & PRANOM CHANTARANOTHAI**

ABSTRACT. The new combination *Hedyotis kamputensis* (Pitard) K. Wangwasit & Chantar. is proposed and a full description and illustration of the species given. *H. diversifolia* Geddes is reduced to the synonym.

While preparing the treatment of the genus *Hedyotis* for the Flora of Thailand. We examined recently collected plant materials around the country. *Oldenlandia kamputensis* is clearly in *Hedyotis* rather than *Oldenlandia* (table 1). We also reduced *H. diversifolia* as a synonym of this species.

Hedyotis kamputensis (Pitard) K. Wangwasit & Chantar., **comb. nov.**— *Oldenlandia kamputensis* Pitard, Fl. Gén. I.-C. 3: 106. 1922.— *Hedyotis diversifolia* Geddes in Bull. Misc. Inform., Kew 1931: 220. 1931; Craib, Fl. Siam. Enum. 2: 40. 1932. Figs. 1, Fig.2 (p.67).

Undershrub, 40–70 cm tall; stem terete, glabrous. *Leaves* opposite; petiole 2–6 mm long; lamina ovate, ovate-lanceolate or lanceolate, 4.5–12 by 2–5 cm, apex acute or acuminate, base rounded or oblique, leathery, both surfaces glabrous; secondary veins in 4–7 pairs conspicuous, groove along nerves on upper surface; stipules connate above petiole, cup-like, apex acute, margin entire, glabrous. *Inflorescence* terminal, paniculate, usually bending or pendulous; peduncles 3–8 cm long, violet; pedicels 2–3 mm long, violet. *Calyx* 4 lobes, triangular-ovate, ca. 1.5 mm long, apex acute, erect. *Petal* violet outside, white inside; tube 6–6.5 mm long, lobes lanceolate-oblong, 1.5–2 mm, woolly inside. *Brevistylous flowers*: filament ca. 0.5 mm long; anthers oblong, 1.5–2 mm long; style 2–2.5 mm long, glabrous, stigmas 2 lobes, 1–1.5 mm long. *Longistylous flowers*: filament 0.2–0.3 mm long, anthers oblong, 1.3–1.5 mm long; style 4.5–5 mm long, glabrous, stigmas 2 lobes, 1.5–2 mm long. *Ovary* 2 locules, violet, glabrous. *Fruits* cup-like, widest on top, 1.5–2 by 2–3 mm, glabrous, septicial and loculicidal dehiscence. *Seeds* angular, 10–20 per locule, surface reticulate, blackish-brown.

Thailand.— SOUTH-EASTERN: Trat (Bo Rai, type of *H. diversifolia* Geddes, Kerr 9464 BK!).

Distribution.— Cambodia (type).

* Present address: Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden, PO Box 27, Mae Rim, Chiang Mai 50180, Thailand.

** Applied Taxonomic Research Center, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen 40002, Thailand.

Ecology.— In dry evergreen forest at 0-700 m. Flowering in November to June.

Vernacular.— Ya oi kham muang (หญ้าอ้อยคำเมือง).

Note.— *Hedyotis kamputensis* is closely related to *H. elegans* but differs in having the strongly marked venation, the pendulous or bending and violet inflorescence and pedicels which are 2–3 mm long. In addition, the freshy leaves and inflorescence of the species are usually easily to break.

Specimens examined.— *D. Bunpheng* 141 (BKF); *R. Geesink, T. Hattink & C. Phengkai* 6502 (BKF); *J.F. Maxwell* 74-339 (BK); *T. Smitinand* 11608 (BKF); *K. Wangwasit* 413-1 (Khon Kaen University Herbarium).

Pitard (1922) described a new species as *Oldenlandia kamputensis* from Kampot, Cambodia. Nine years later, *Hedyotis diversifolia* with remarkable violet flower and distinct venation like the former one was described by Geddes (Craib, 1931) from Trat Province, Thailand. We have examined carefully which agree very well with *H. kamputensis*.

Table 1. Comparison of some morphological characters among *Hedyotis*, *Oldenlandia* and *H. kamputensis*

Characters	<i>Hedyotis</i>	<i>H. kamputensis</i>	<i>Oldenlandia</i>
habit	herb, undershrub, shrub, small tree or climbing	undershrub	herb
stipule	free, adnate with petiole or connate above petiole	connate above petiole	adnate with petiole
dehiscence	indehiscent, septicidal or septicidal and loculicidal	septicidal and loculicidal	loculicidal

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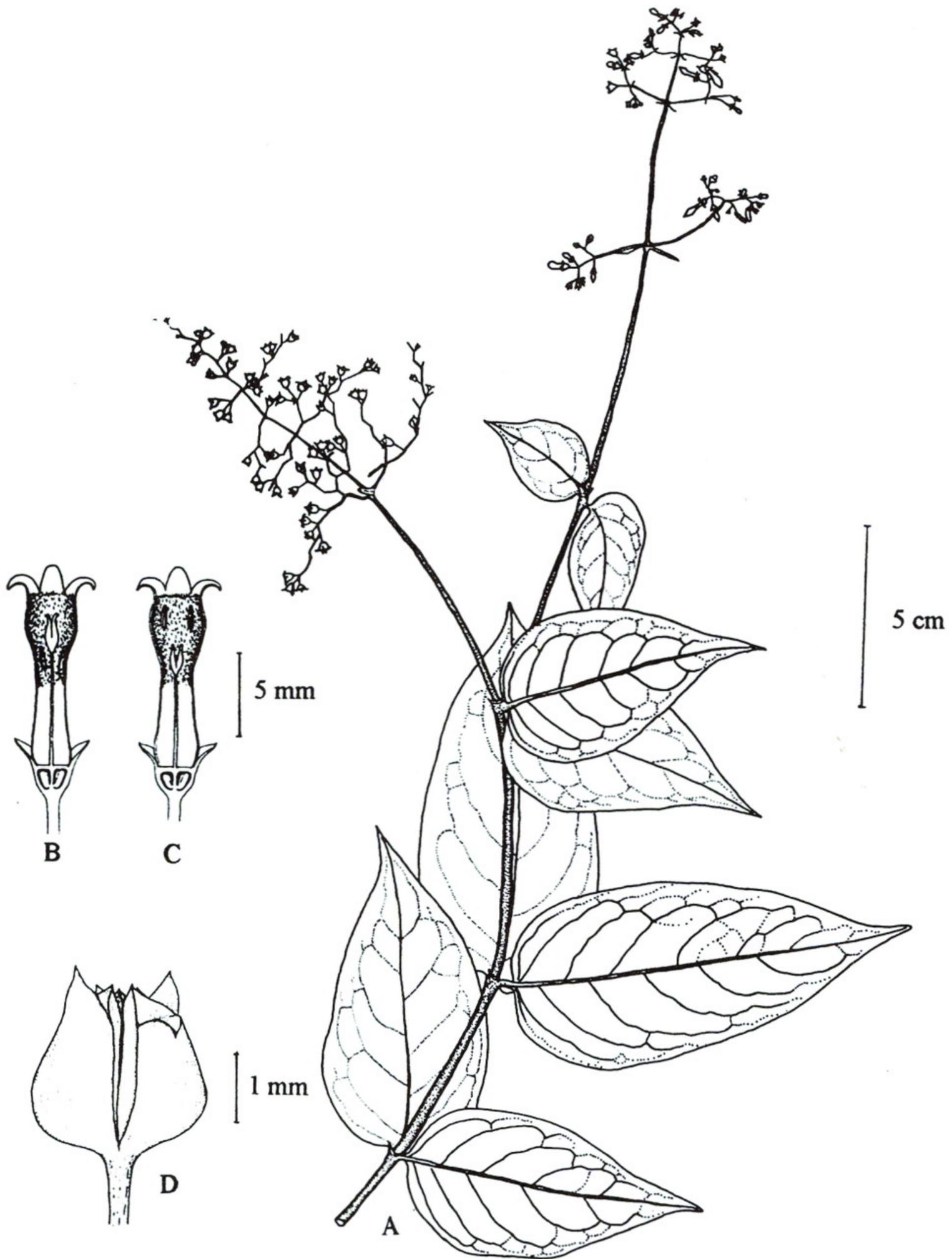


Figure 1. *Hedyotis kamputensis* (Pitard) K. Wangwasit & Chantar: A. habit; B. Longistylous flower; C. Brevistylous flower; D. Fruit.