

***Sebaea* (Gentianaceae), a new generic record for Thailand**

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ABSTRACT. *Sebaea microphylla*, a new record for Thailand is described and illustrated. The Flora of Thailand key to Gentianaceae is emended appropriately.

The Flora of Thailand account of Gentianaceae (Ubolcholaket 1985) recorded seven genera: *Canscora*, *Cotylanthera*, *Crawfurdia*, *Exacum*, *Gentiana*, *Microrhophium*, and *Swertia*. *Sebaea microphylla* (Edgew.) Knobl. was found during a short survey trip around Doi Suthep-Pui in September, 1998. This represents a new generic record for Thailand. *Sebaea* comprises ca. 100 species mostly found at higher altitudes in the Old World tropics.

The key to genera of Gentianaceae in Flora of Thailand is emended as follows:

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|---|--------------------|
| 7. Calyx tubular or urceolate, with longitudinal ribs or crests or wings; corolla more or less zygomorphic; ovary 1-locular | 1. <i>Canscora</i> |
| 7. Calyx deeply divided, nearly to the base, with longitudinal wings; corolla actinomorphic; ovary 2-locular | |
| 8. Anthers opening by apical pores | 3. <i>Exacum</i> |
| 8. Anthers opening by longitudinal slits | 8. <i>Sebaea</i> |

SEBAEA

Sol. ex R. Br. Prodr. 451. 1810.

Annuals. *Leaves* opposite; leaf blade scale-like to lanceolate. *Cymes* terminal. *Flowers* 5-merous. *Calyx* lobed nearly to the base. *Corolla* lobes shorter than tube. *Stamens* inserted at the throat of corolla tube between corolla lobes; anthers dehiscing longitudinally. *Ovary* 2-locular. *Capsules* 2-valved, ovules numerous. *Seeds* numerous, surface alveolate.

Sebaea microphylla (Edgew.) Knobl., Bot. Centralb. 60: 324. 1894.— *Cicendia microphylla* Edgew., Trans. Linn. Soc. 20: 83. 1851.— *S. khasiana* C.B. Clarke in Fl. Br. Ind. 4: 99. 1885. Fig. 1.

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Small, glabrous, annual herbs 13–16 cm tall; stem erect, slender, rigid, terete, green. *Leaves* scale-like, sessile, up to 4 by 1 mm, apex acuminate. *Inflorescence* in terminal cymes, 1–3-flowered; pedicel 3–9 mm. *Calyx* lobes 5, linear, up to 5 by 1 mm, apex acuminate, deeply divided near the base, margin broadly membranous. *Corolla* yellow, tubular to slightly urceolate, ca. 6 mm long; lobes 5, elliptic, apex acute, slightly imbricate, contorted in bud. *Filament* linear, 1 mm long, inserted at the throat of corolla tube below sinus. *Anthers* ellipsoid, ca. 0.8 mm long, opening by longitudinal slits. *Ovary* 2-locular, fused; style terminal, linear, 2.5 mm long; stigma lobes, orbicular. *Capsules* ellipsoid, ca. 4.5 mm long. *Seeds* numerous, minute, subglobose.

T h a i l a n d.— NORTHERN: Chiang Mai [Mae Rim, Sept. 1998, *Suksathan* 1567 (QBG) & 1898 (BKF, QBG)].

D i s t r i b u t i o n.— Africa, Madagascar, India, Bhutan, Nepal, China.

E c o l o g y.— On open grassy slope, ca. 1400 m. Flowering September–October.

V e r n a c u l a r.— Ya kam noi (หญ้ากำน้อย).

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REFERENCE

- Ubolcholaket, M. 1985. Gentianaceae. In: Smitinand, T. & Larsen, K. (eds), *Flora of Thailand* 5(1): 72–92.

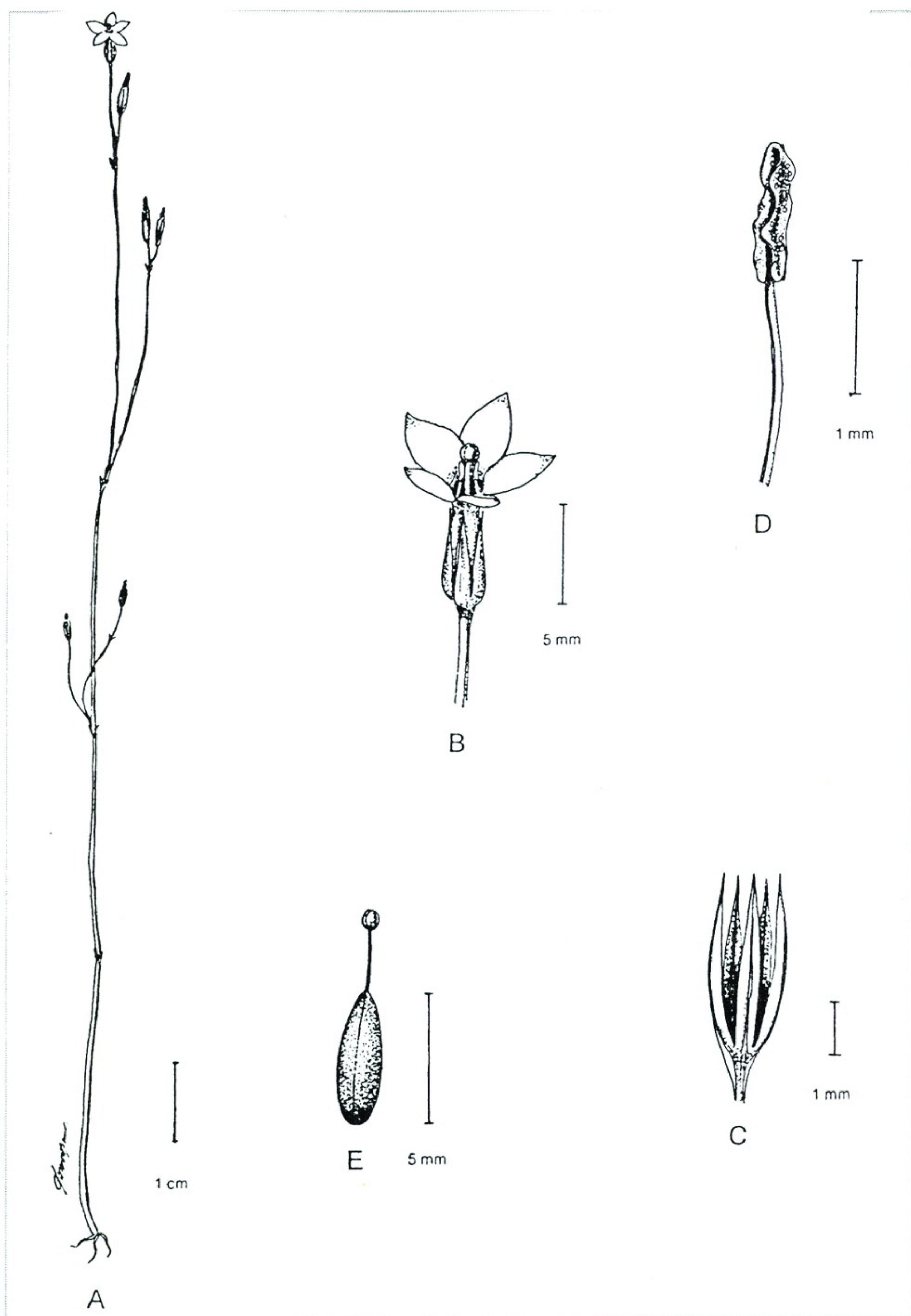


Fig. 1. *Sebaea microphylla* (Edgew.) Knobl.: A. Habit; B. Flower; C. Calyx; D. Anther; E. Ovary. From Suksathan 1567 (QBG). Drawn by Piyakaset Suksathan.



A



B

Fig. 2. A. Habit; B. Flower; Photo: P. Suksathan, Chiang Mai.