

***Bauhinia strychnoidea* Prain (Leguminosae–Caesalpinioideae),
a new record from Thailand**

KAI LARSEN & SUPEE SAKSUWAN LARSEN*

ABSTRACT. *Bauhinia strychnoidea* Prain is recorded from Narathiwat. The species is described on Thai material and illustrated for the first time.

When revising the genus *Bauhinia* for Flora of Thailand, the authors had no flowering material of the West Malaysian species *B. strychnoidea* Prain from Thailand. We had, however, collected a fruiting specimen of *Bauhinia* in Waeng, Narathiwat. This collection could not be identified with certainty, but we annotated it *B. cf. strychnoidea* and included the species in the key to the Thai species omitting a full treatment in the descriptive section. Recently the species was collected in flower in the same area, and the identity could be confirmed.

Material studied: K. & S.S. Larsen 32756. March 11th. 1974. Narathiwat: Sungai Kolok, Nikhom Waeng, in evergreen forest, alt 300 m (AAU); C. Niyomdham, P. Puudjaa & S. Chonkunjana 6125. May 8th. 2000. Narathiwat, Galong, Srisakhon, c 350 m (AAU, BKF).

Bauhinia strychnoidea Prain, J. As. Soc. Beng. 66(2): 195. 1897; Ridley, Fl. Mal. Pen. 1: 633. 1922; K. & S.S. Larsen in Fl. of Thai. 4: 5. 1984; Fl. Males 1, 12: 533. 1996.—*Lasiobema strychnoidea* (Prain) de Wit, Reinwardtia 3: 429. 1956. Fig. 1.

Slender, tendrilled liana or climbing shrub, up to 30 m. Stems terete; young branches and tendrils glabrous. Leaves entire, coriaceous; stipules oblong, slightly falcate, ca. 4 by 2 mm, early caducous; petiole slender 1–3 cm, glabrous; lamina ovate, elliptic to elliptic-oblong, 4–14 by 2.5–6 cm, 3-nerved, occasionally with 2 thin basal nerves; base obtuse to cuneate, apex acute to acuminate; both sides glabrous, upper side glossy. Inflorescences terminal and lateral racemes, dense-flowered, up to 30 cm long, axis finely rusty pubescent to glabrescent; pedicels slender, ca. 2 cm long, indumentum as the axis; bracts subulate, recurved, pubescent, 2–3 mm long; bracteoles very minute, scaly, subopposite inserted below the middle of the pedicel. Buds small, glabrous, ca. 3 mm. Hypanthium 1.5 mm, obliquely turbinate, finely rusty pubescent to almost glabrous. Calyx open before anthesis, more or less campanulate, 2–2.5 mm long, shallowly 5-dentate, finely pubescent to almost glabrous. Petals orange to red, spatulate, 5–7 mm,

*Department of Systematic Botany, University of Aarhus, Nordlandsvej 68, DK-8240 Risskov, Denmark.

including the 2–3 mm long claw; the median one longest, carinate, glabrous on both sides, the other slightly pubescent along the margin, glabrous outside, more or less silky hairy inside at the middle part. Stamens 3 fertile; filaments 6–7 mm long, flat, glabrous, recurved at anthesis; anthers oblong, 1.5 mm, opening lengthwise. Staminodes (6)–7, subulate, 2 minute ca. 1 mm between the fertile ones, the others 0.5–3.5 mm long at the opposite side of the fertile ones. Ovary ca. 4 mm long, sessile, densely light brown hairy; style 2 mm, glabrous towards the obliquely peltate stigma. Pods flat, woody, densely rusty to brownish velvety, 11–14 by 4–6 cm, broadest towards apex; stalk ca. 2 cm. Seeds 1–4, flat, orbicular, glossy, black, 2.5 cm diam.

Thailand.—PENINSULAR: Narathiwat.

Distribution.—Peninsular Malaysia (lectotype K).

Habitat.—Evergreen rain forest at low altitudes. In Malaysia found on limestone.

Note.—As this species has never been illustrated in flower or fruit, we include line drawing as well as colour illustrations of flowering and fruiting specimens from Thailand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to take the opportunity to thank the director of the Botanical Section, Royal Forest Department, Dr. Chawarit Niyomdham for always providing us with material from his excellent collections from Southern Thailand and the Curator of the Forest Herbarium, Dr. Kongkanda Chayamarit for good working conditions in the herbarium during our many visits to Bangkok. We are also indebted to the staff of the herbarium for help in many ways and specially to Mrs. Oratai Kirdkaew for preparing the line drawing.

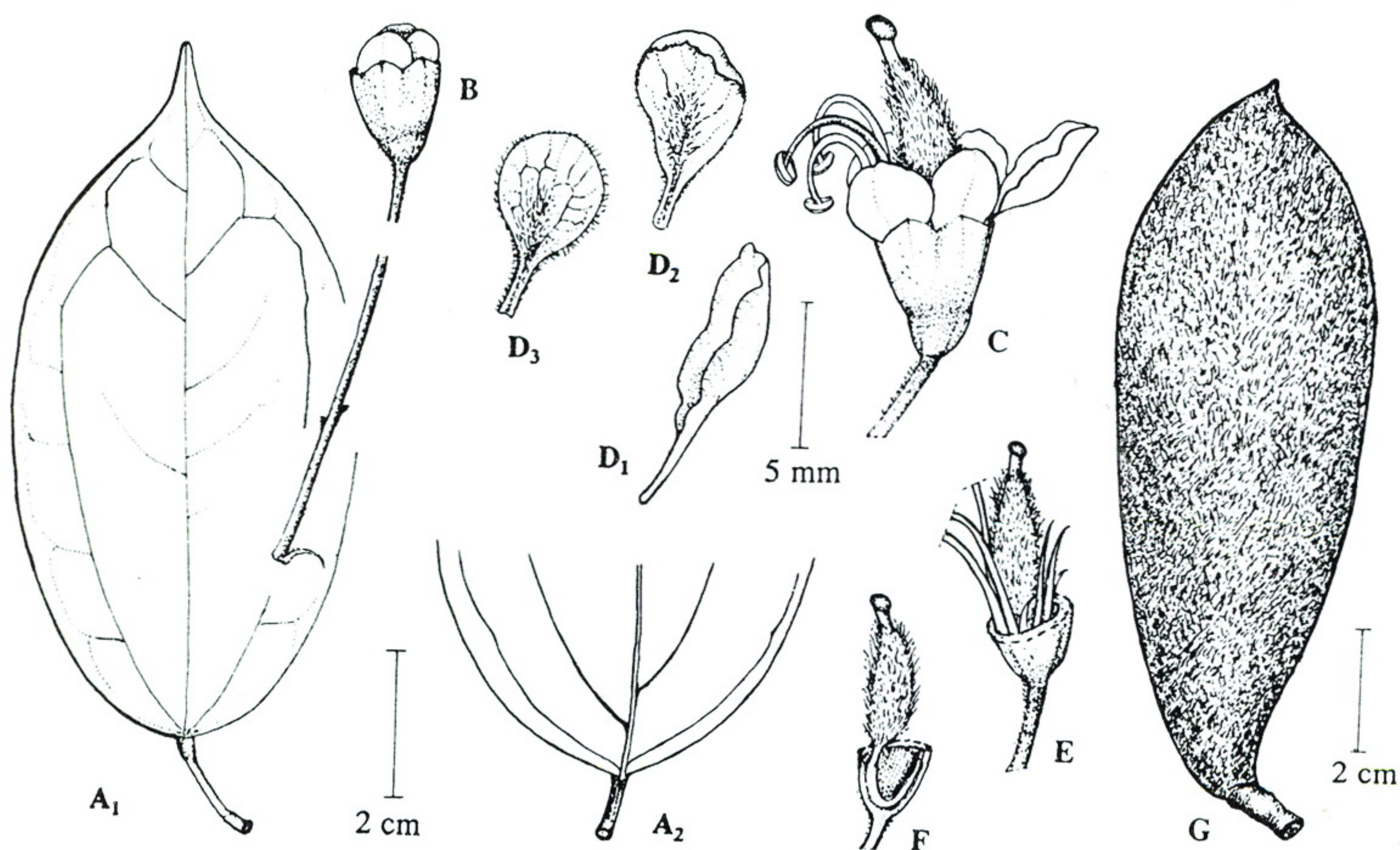


Fig. 1. *Bauhinia strychnoidea*: A1 & A2. Leaf and lower part of leaf upper surface showing basal nerves; B. Bud. C. Flower at anthesis; D1-3. Petals, D1. Median D2-3. Lateral; E. Hypanthium with pistil and parts of stamens; F. Inner side of hypanthium from longitudinal section; G. Pod. Scale bar 5 mm for all floral parts. Drawn by O. Kirdkaew from Niyomdham et al. 6125 and K. & S.S. Larsen 32756 (pod).

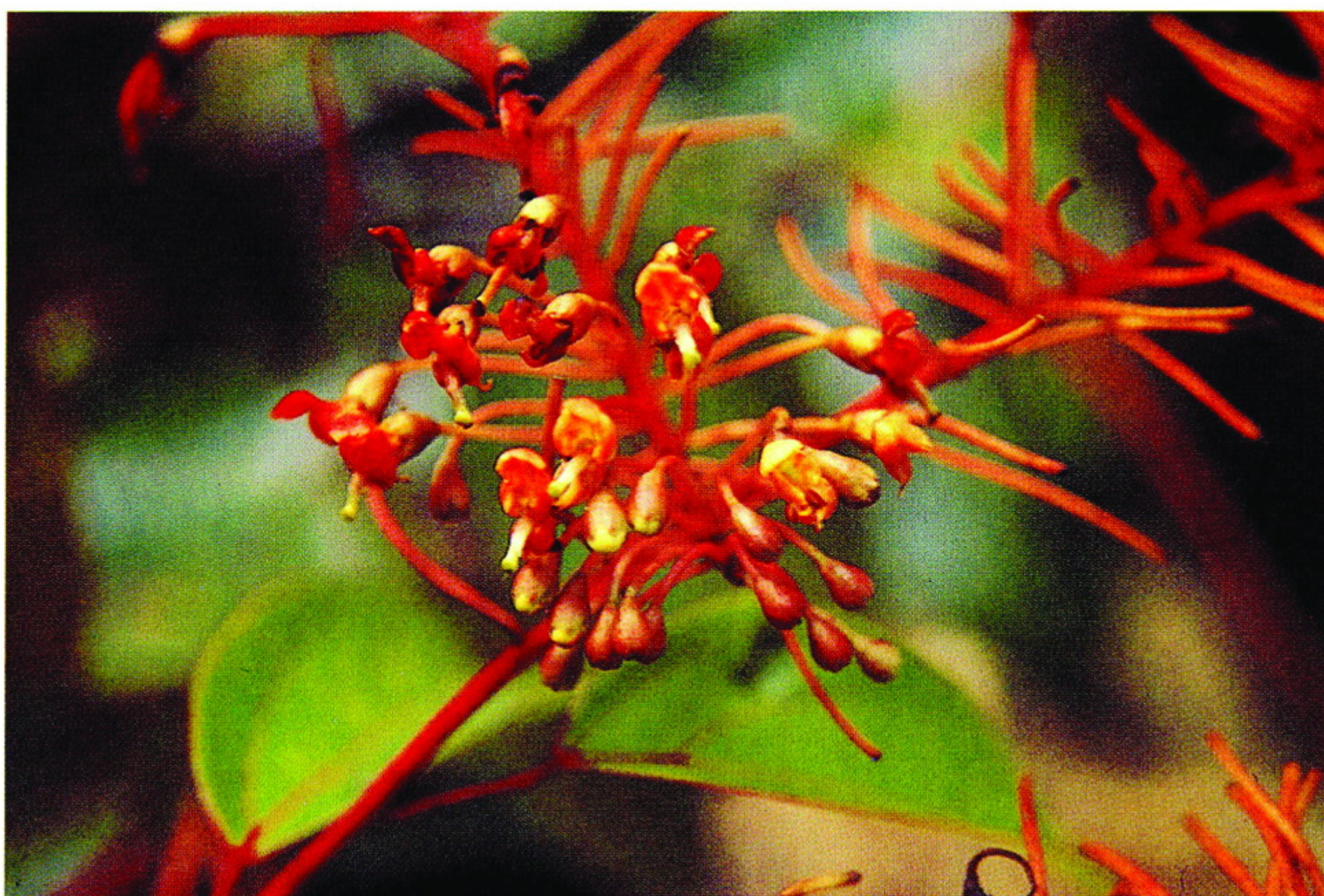


Fig. 2. *Bauhinia strychnoidea* from Narathiwat, Srisakhon.
Photo: C. Niyomdham and S. Chonkunjana (BKF).