# *Pachylarnax praecalva* Dandy (Magnoliaceae): a new record for Thailand

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ABSTRACT. A newly recorded species for Thailand, *Pachylarnax praecalva* Dandy, was found on a ridge in Ton Nga Chang Wildlife Sanctuary, Nakhon Si Thammarat at ca. 550 m altitude. The species is described and illustrated.

## INTRODUCTION

The genus *Pachylarnax* (Magnoliaceae) comprises three species, and is distributed from Assam and Indo-China to Malaysia and Sumatra. One species, *Pachylarnax praecalva* Dandy, occurs in Peninsular Malaysia (Keng, 1973). The account of Magnoliaceae for the Flora of Thailand (Keng, 1975) includes seven genera and 17 species. *Pachylarnax* was excluded from the account, although given its close proximity in Malaysia it could also be expected to occur in Thailand. During fieldwork for a project, examining plant diversity in Ton Nga Chang Wildlife Sanctuary, Nakhon Si Thammarat in 1997, *Pachylarnax praecalva* was found. This species is uncommon at the study site, and only three large trees, ca. 10 m apart, were noted.

**Pachylarnax praecalva** Dandy, Kew Bull. 1927: 260. 1927. Fig. 1–2.

Tree up to 30 m tall, 90 cm in diameter. *Bole* straight to slightly twisted. *Buttresses* 1–5 m high, steep and thick. *Bark* pale brown, slightly scalloped. *Crown* roundish, dense. *Leaves* spiral, often clustered towards twig ends; petiole 1–2 cm long; blade elliptic-oblong, 5–14 by 2–5 cm, apex obtuse, often emarginate, base acute, dark green above, light green below, shining, leathery, both surfaces glabrous, midrib prominent on lower surface, nerves in 10–15 pairs, looping at margin, conspicuous. *Stipules* oblong-lanceolate, apex acute, base truncate, 12–16 by 3–4 mm, light green, caducous. *Flowers* solitary, terminal; peduncle 5–7 mm long; perianth-lobes subequal, oblong-oblanceolate or elliptic, 60–40 by 8–16 mm, creamy white, fragrant; stamens 1.5–2 cm long; ovary ovoid, glabrous, the carpels completely fused. *Aggregate fruit* glabrous, yellowish green with yellow and brown flecks when young, woody, dark brown when mature and splitting into 3–5 segments towards the apex. *Seeds* dark brown with a pink fleshy aril.

T h a i l a n d.— PENINSULAR: Songkhla (Hat Yai, Ton Nga Chang Wildlife Sanctuary).

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D i s t r i b u t i o n.— India (Assam), Malaysia (Kedah, Penang, Kelanton, Selangor and Indonesia (Sumatra).

E c o l o g y.— In tropical rain forest, along ridge, 500–600 m. Phenology: Flowering May–June.

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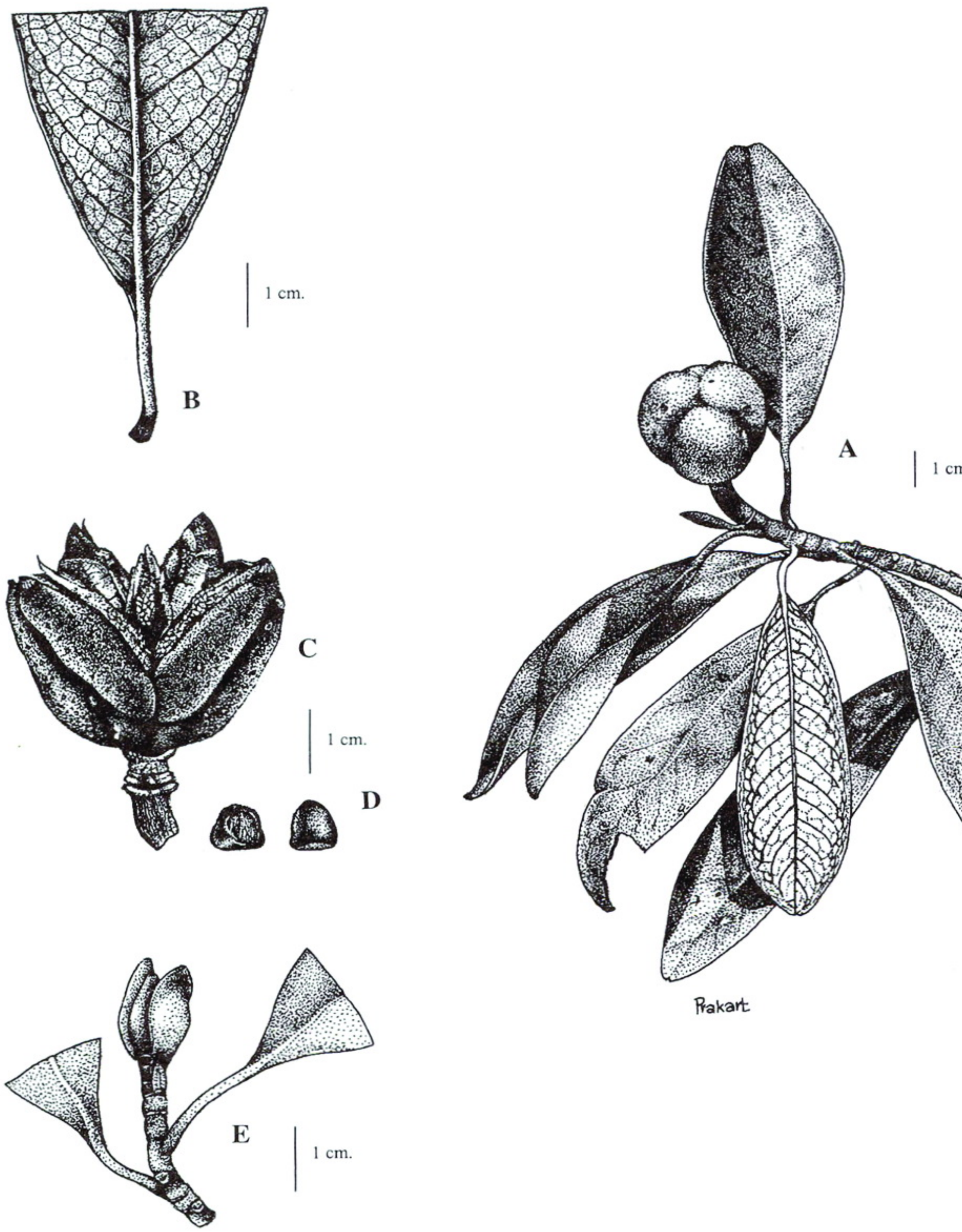
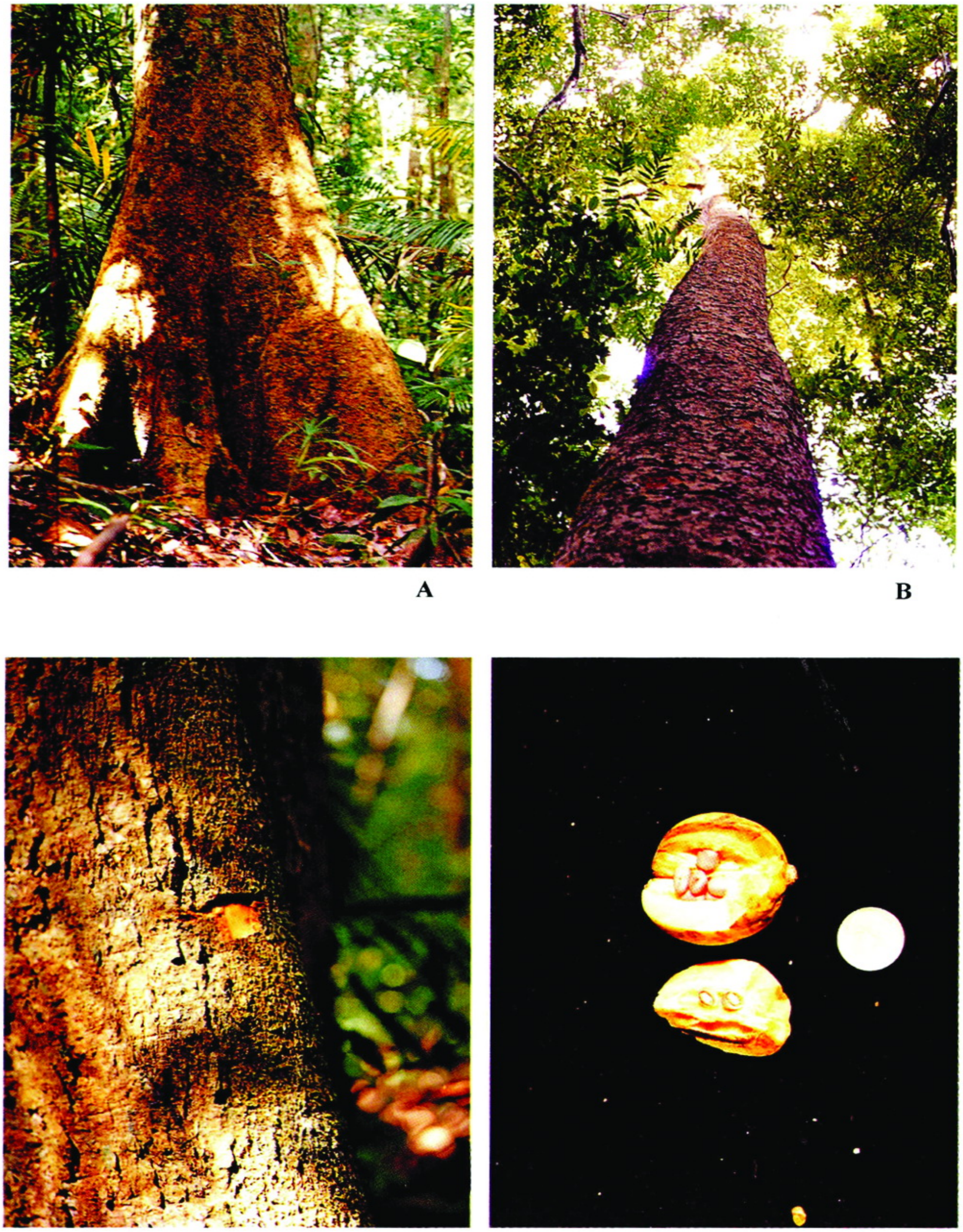



Figure 1. *Pachylarnax praecalva* Dandy: A. Fruiting branch; B. Lower surface of leaf; C. Fruit after dehiscing; D. Seeds; E. Branch with young flower.



A B C D

Figure 2. *Pachylarnax praecalva* Dandy: A. Stem base with steep and thick buttresses; B. Twisted bole; C. Fawn thin bark; D. Seeds with pink fleshy aril.