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香港桃金娘科一新种—凹脉赤楠

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摘要: 对香港桃金娘科蒲桃属一新种, 凹脉赤楠 Syzygium impressum N. H. Xia, Y. F. Deng & K. L. Yip 作了描述, 它与赤楠 S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. 近似, 区别在于叶倒卵形, 中脉下凹, 果直径约 4 mm。

关键词: 蒲桃属; 凹脉赤楠; 桃金娘科; 香港; 新种
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Syzygium impressum (Myrtaceae), A New Species from Hong Kong

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Abstract: A new species of Syzygium Gaertner (Myrtaceae), S. impressum N. H. Xia, Y. F. Deng & K. L. Yip, is described and illustrated. The new species is similar to S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn., but differs by its obovate leaves, conspicuously impressed midveins, and smaller fruits.
Key words: Syzygium; Syzygium impressum; Myrtaceae; Hong Kong; New species

The genus Syzygium Gaertner of Myrtaceae is one of the fifty largest genera of seed plants[1]. It consists of about 1 000 species distributed in the tropical regions of the Old World[2]. Because of the large number of species, and difficult to estimate the variability within a species on limited material, the identification of the specimens of the genus has always been difficult[3-4]. In the latest treatment of the Chinese species of Syzygium in Flora of China, Chen & Craven[5] accepted the broad concept of the genus and recognized 80 species. When preparing the manuscript of Syzygium for the Flora of Hong Kong, we found that some specimens collected from Sunset Peak, Lantau Island, Hong Kong were identified as S. buxifolium are quite different from the true S. buxifolium and there is no species can be found to match the plant. It represents an independent new species described below.

Syzygium impressum N. H. Xia, Y. F. Deng & K. L. Yip, sp. nov. Fig. 1.

Species nova a S. buxifolio Hook. & Arn. lamina obovata, costa supra manifeste impressa, fructibus minoribus ca. 4 mm diam. differt.

Shrubs, ca. 2 m tall, glabrous throughout; branchlets tetragonous, blackish brown when dry. Leaves opposite, petioles ca. 2 mm; leaf blades thin leathery, broadly obovate, 1-1.8 cm ×0.7-1 cm, base cuneate, margin entire, slightly revolute, apex obtuse to retuse, abaxially brown when dry and densely covered with glandular dots, adaxially dark brownish when dry,

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midvein impressed adaxially, prominent abaxially, lateral veins 6-8 in each side of midvein, ca. 1.5 mm apart, departing at an angle of ca. 50° with midvein, adaxially inconspicuous, abaxially slightly conspicuous, intramarginal veins very close to margin. Inflorescences cymose, terminal or axillary, 0.6-1 cm, few-flowered; peduncles 2-4 mm; pedicels 1-2 mm; bracts subulate, ca. 1 mm; bracteoles subulate, ca. 1 mm; hypanthium campanulate, ca. 1 mm ×0.5 mm; calyx lobes 4, ovate, ca. 0.5 mm, apart; petals 4, white, distinct, suborbicular, ca. 2 mm; stamens many, filaments ca. 2 cm; ovary globose; styles ca. 2 mm. Fruit globose, ca. 4 mm in diam., black when mature.

CHINA. Hong Kong: Sunset Peak, hillside, 1975-07-02, Y. S. Lau 2598 (holotype, HK); the same locality, 1997-11-30, Y. W. Lam 468 (HK); the same locality, 1904-04-09, Anonymous s.n. (Hong Kong Herbarium 11425) (HK).

Distribution: Endemic to Hong Kong.

Ecology: It grows in montane forests along streamsides. Flowering: Apr.-Jul.; fruiting: Nov.

Etymology: The specific epithet is from Latin "impressum", meaning "impressed", because the plant has impressed midveins.

This new species is very similar to S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn., but distinguished by its ovate leaves, conspicuously impressed midveins, and smaller fruits[5-6]. Forbes & Hemsley[7] treated S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. and its allied species as a single species under the name Eugenia sinensis Hemsl. and indicated that the species is an exceedingly variable one and might include some independent species. In fact, according to Art. 52 of the Vienna's Code[8], the name Eugenia sinensis Hemsl. is illegitimate because the names S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn., Eugenia grijsii Hance and E. pyxophylla Hance were cited as its synonyms. When they separated Syzygium Gaertner from broadly Eugenia Linn., Merrill & Perry [9-10] split Hemsley's Eugenia sinensis into two independent species, Syzygium grijsii (Hance) Merr. & Perry and S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. Eugenia pyxophylla Hance was merged with E. grijsii Hance as Syzygium grijsii (Hance) Merr. & Perry with verticillate and elliptic leaves. S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. was divided into two unnamed groups, verticillate leaves group and larger leaves group, because they thought that it is difficult to define the specific lines for S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. due to the variation in size and outline of the leaves. Recently, the group bearing verticillate leaves was described as a new variety, S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. var. verticillatum C. Chen[11]. This taxon might be raised to specific rank and need further investigation because it has verticillate and obovate leaves while S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. is defined for the taxon has opposite and elliptic leaves. Chang & Miau[12] described S. oblancilimbum Hung T. Chang & R. H. Miau with opposite and oblanceolate leaves as a new species and raised S. buxifolium Hook. & Arn. var. austrosinense Merr. & Perry to specific rank as S. austrosinense (Merr. & Perry) Hung T. Chang & R. H. Miau with much larger leaves up to 4-7 cm. The key to S. impressum and its allied taxa mentioned above is provided below.

Key to S. impressum and its allied taxa

1. Leaves verticillate.
  2. Leaves obovate, 1.5-3 cm ×0.5-1.5 cm ····· S. buxifolium var. verticillatum
  2. Leaves elliptic, 1.5-2 cm ×0.5-0.8 cm ····· S. grijsii
1. Leaves opposite.
  3. Leaves oblanceolate, 2-3 cm ×0.7-1 cm, length 2.5-3 times as width ····· S. oblancilimbum
  3. Leaves elliptic or obovate, length 1-1.5 times as width.
    4. Petioles 2-5 mm, leaves elliptic, 4-7 cm ×2-3 cm ····· S. austrosinense
    4. Petioles 1-2 mm, leaves elliptic or obovate, 1-2 cm ×0.5-2 cm.
      5. Leaves elliptic, 2-3 cm ×1-2 cm, midvein flat ····· S. buxifolium
      5. Leaves obovate, 1-1.8 cm ×0.7-1 cm, midvein impressed ····· S. impressum

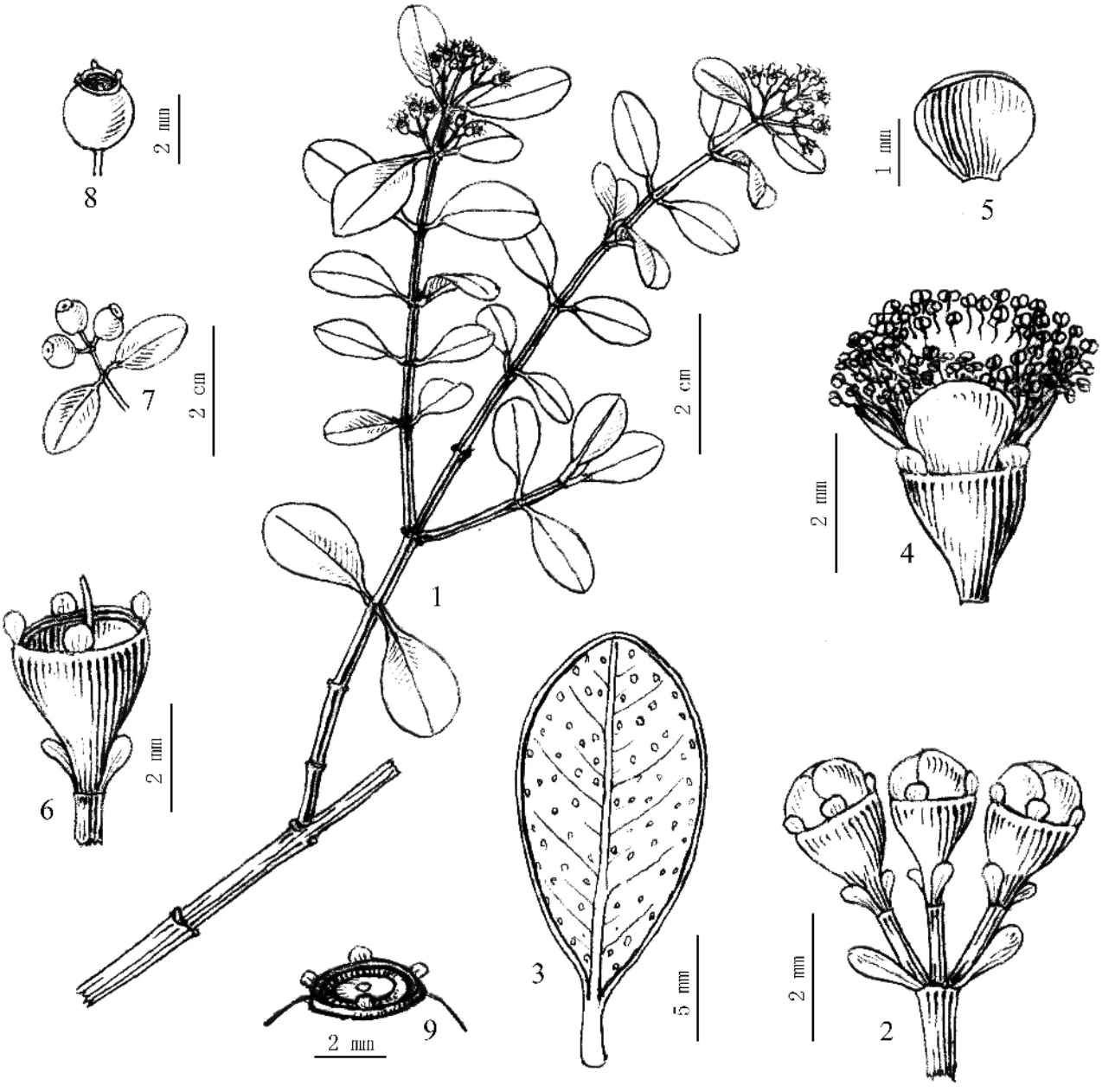

Fig. 1 Syzygium impressum N. H. Xia, Y. F. Deng & K. L. Yip
1. Flowering branch; 2. Inflorescence; 3. Adaxial surface of leaf; 4. Flower; 5. Petal; 6. Flower with petals and stamens removed; 7. Infructescence; 8. Fruit; 9. Fruit apex. (Drawn by H. P. Yu)

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