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Clerodendrum nicolsonii (Verbenaceae), a new species from north-eastern India

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RÉSUMÉ

RAJENDRAN, A. & P. DANIEL (1993). *Clerodendrum nicolsonii* (Verbenacée), une nouvelle espèce du nord-est de l'Inde. *Candollea* 48: 347-349. En anglais, résumés français et anglais.

Clerodendrum nicolsonii, espèce nouvelle du nord-est de l'Inde est décrite et illustrée.

ABSTRACT

RAJENDRAN, A. & P. DANIEL (1993). *Clerodendrum nicolsonii* (Verbenaceae), a new species from northeastern India. *Candollea* 48: 347-349. In English, French and English abstracts.

A new species, *Clerodendrum nicolsonii* from northeastern India, is described and illustrated.

KEY-WORDS: *Clerodendrum nicolsonii* — VERBENACEAE — Deomukh — Assam — India.

While studying the genus *Clerodendrum* L. for a revision of the genus in India as a part of a revision of the Indian Verbenaceae, a few collections from Assam were found to belong to an undescribed species.

***Clerodendrum nicolsonii* Rajendran & Daniel, spec. nov. (Fig. 1).**

C. wallichii Merr. affinis foliis decussatis, obovatis vel oblanceolate-ellipticis ad margineum serratis; petiolis usque ad 5 cm longis; bracteis oblanceolatis, $\pm 3.5 \times 1$ cm, ad margineum serratis, ad apicem caudate; inflorescentis paniculatis, erectis; calycibus pubescentibus, noninflatis; corollis laeviter 5-lobatis, lobis obovatis; calycibus fructiferis viridibus, fructibus in calyces includentibus differt.

Typus: India, Assam, North Lakhimpur, Deomukh Reserve Forest, 16.5.1966, *D. M. Verma 46361* (holo: ASSAM); paratypes: India, Assam, North Lakhimpur, 23.5.1966, *D. M. Verma 46654* (ASSAM); Assam, Deomukh, 13.11.1978, *G. D. Pal 70238* (ARUN).

Differs from *C. wallichii* in leaves being obovate or oblanceolate-elliptic, petioles up to 5 cm long, inflorescence erect panicles, composed of 6-8 branched cymes, 8-15 cm long, pubescent, bracts oblanceolate, serrate, caudate, ± 3.5 cm long, calyx not inflated, teeth lanceolate, pubescent outside, corolla indistinctly 5-lobed, lobes obovate, entire, tube narrow, cylindrical, ± 2.5 cm long, drupes globose, less than 1 cm across, fruiting-calyx green, pubescent and enclosing drupe.

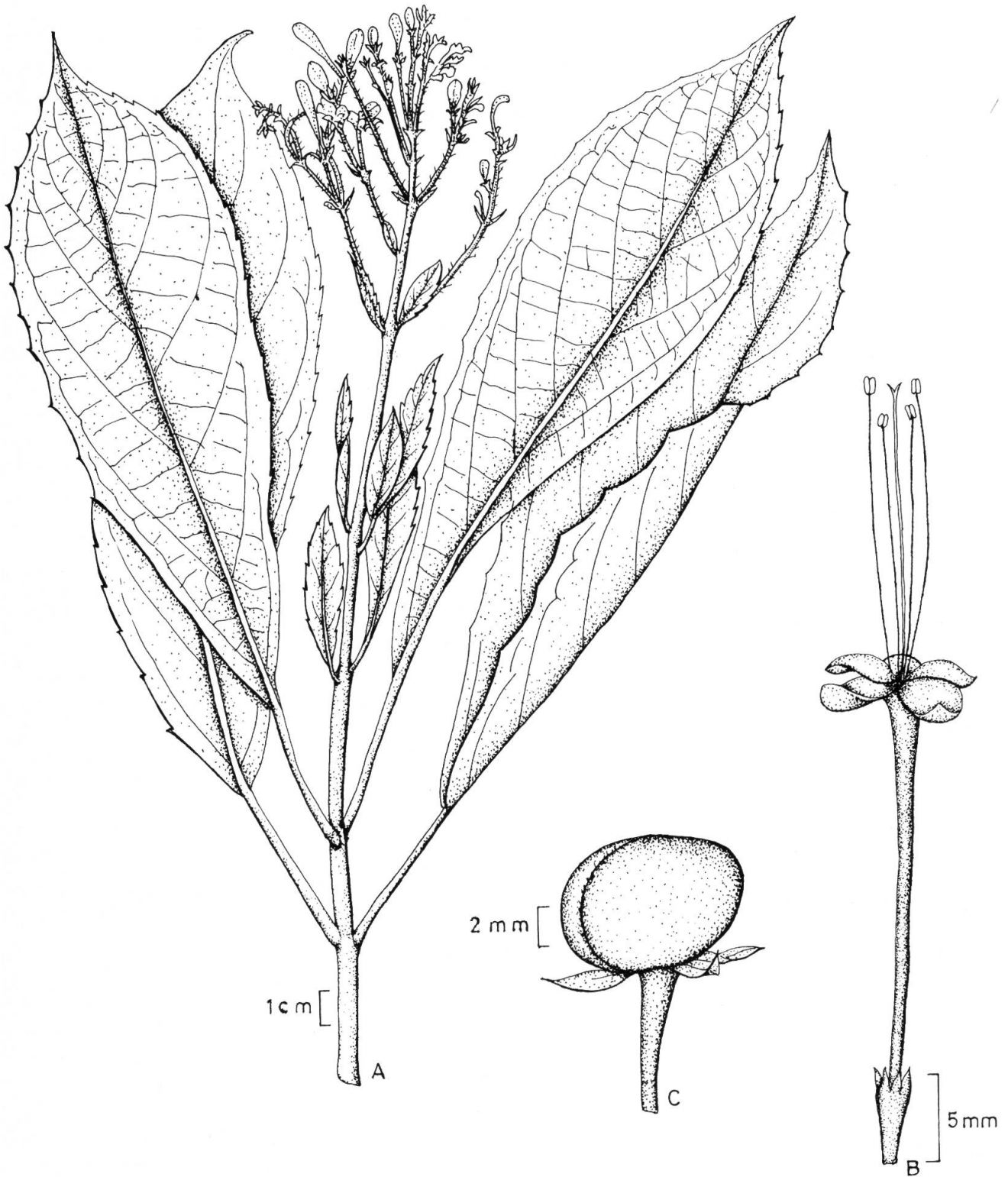


Fig. 1. — *Clerodendrum nicolsonii* Rajendran & Daniel, spec. nov.
A, habit; B, flower; C, fruit.

Shrub, 3-3.5 m high, pubescent when young, nearly glabrous when mature, acutely 4-angular, slightly sulcate between angles; nodes annulate with a band of hirsute pubescence. Leaves obovate or oblanceolate-elliptic, obtuse or acute to cuneate at base, faintly and irregularly serrate at margins, abruptly acuminate at apex, 4-20 × 1.5-7 cm, chartaceous, dark green above, paler beneath, glabrous; lateral nerves 6-8 pairs, ascending, arcuate at margins, distinct beneath; petioles slender, canaliculate, 0.8-5 cm long. Panicles terminal, erect, composed of 6-8 decussate-opposite branched cymes, 8-15 × 6-13 cm; peduncles acutely 4-angular, sulcate between angles, 2.5-3.5 cm long, pubescent; bracts oblanceolate, serrate at margins, caudate at apex, ± 3.5 × 1.5 cm; bractlets subulate, ± 6 mm long. Flowers numerous; pedicels slender, 0.5-1 mm long, pubescent. Calyx ± 5 × 1 mm, 5-toothed; teeth lanceolate with a prominent midrib, pubescent outside. Corolla hypocrateriform, white, 5-lobed; lobes subequal, obovate, obtuse, ± 5 × 3 mm, glabrous; tube narrow, cylindrical, ± 2.5 × 0.1 cm, glabrous outside. Stamens 4, didynamous, attached below the mouth of corolla tube; filaments filiform, 4-5 cm long, exserted; anthers greyish black. Ovary globose, ± 1 mm; style slender, equalling filaments; stigma 2-lobed; lobes equal, subulate. Drupes globose, 5-6 mm, black, seated on persistent accrescent calyx; fruiting-calyx distinctly 4-lobed; lobes lanceolate.

Flowering and fruiting. — May-November.

Distribution. — Known to occur only in Deomukh Reserve Forest in Assam, India.

Note. — This new species is named after Dr. Dan H. Nicolson, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC., whose generosity with literature and expertise on nomenclature have been of immense help in our revision of the Indian Verbenaceae.

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