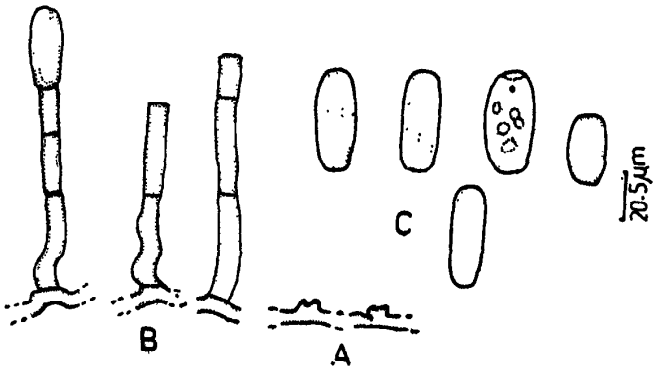
of the foot cells straight, mostly curved to flexuous. Conidia solitary, ellipsoid-ovoid to doliiform-cylindrical, 25-45 × 12-19 $\mu$ m.




*Oidium fabacearum sp. nov.*

Figs. A-C : A. Appressoria. B. Conidiophores. C. Conidia.

*Holotype* : On leaves of *Sesbania grandiflora* (L.) Poir. (Fabaceae), Pudur, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, Feb. 15, 1988, *V. B. Hosagoudar* HAL, Germany. *Isotype* deposited in the Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore under MH 82700.

Braun (1987) reported *Erysiphe communis* and *E. pisi* on the host genus *Sesbania*. However, the distinctly curved to flexuous basal portion of the foot cells of the conidiophores distinguishes the present species from the anamorph stages of the above said species and hence it warrants to place it under a new species.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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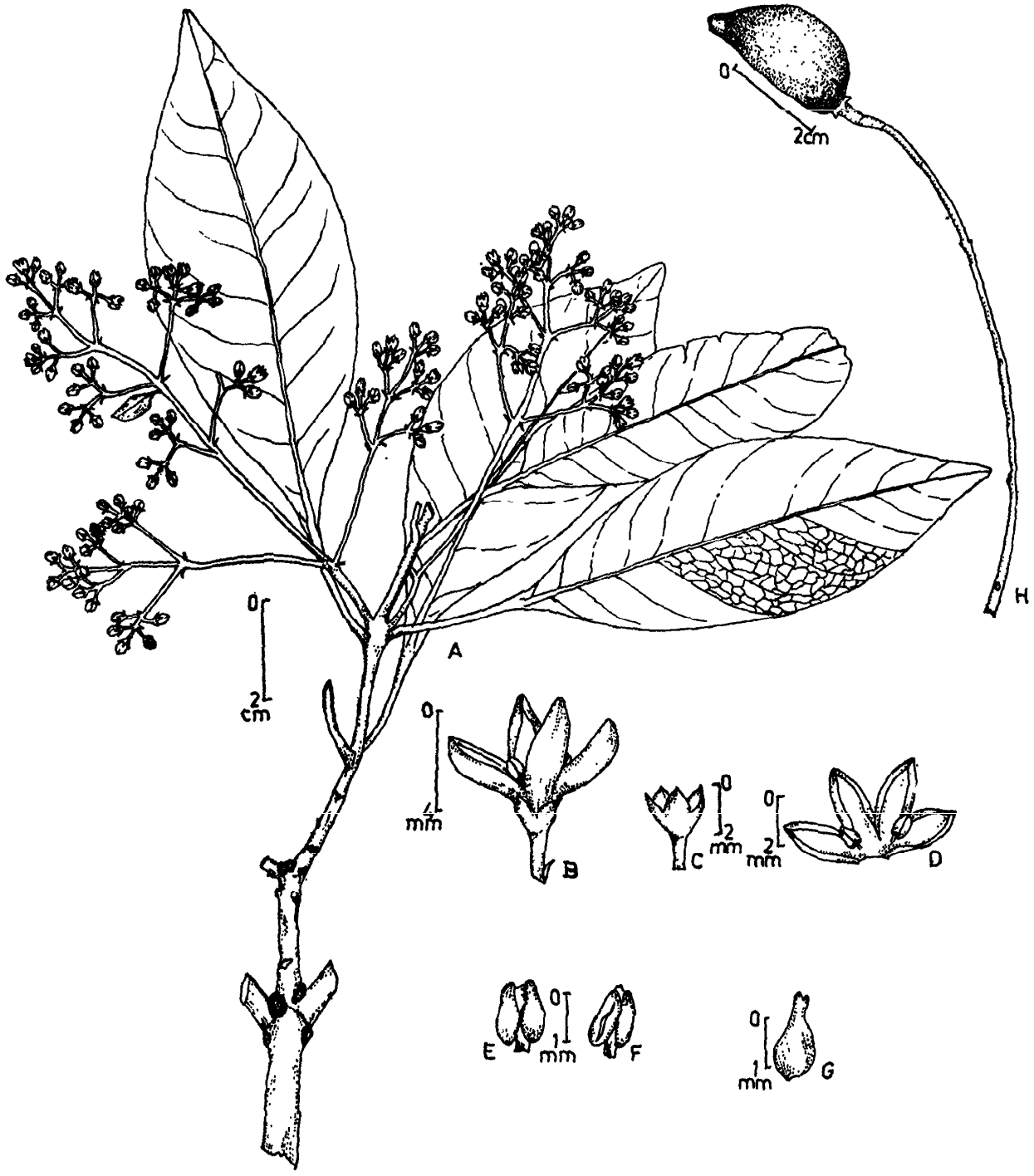
## A NEW VARIETY OF *CHIONANTHUS RAMIFLORUS* ROXB. (OLEACEAE) FROM SOUTH INDIA

A new variety *Chionanthus ramiflorus* Roxb. var. *peninsularis* has been described from South India.

**Chionanthus ramiflorus** Roxb. var. **peninsularis** Ravikumar et Lakshmanan var. nov. *Chionanthus ramiflorus* Roxb. var. *ramiflorus* affinis, sed fructibus ellipsoideis, obliquis, ad apicem acutis ad breviter acuminatis, 3-3.5 × 1.4-1.7 cm, laevigatis, brunneo-atris differt. Typus : India, *Lakshmanan* 87782 (holotypus CAL : isotypi K, MH ; Paratypi : *Shetty* 27322, *Vajravelu* 77892, *Lakshmanan* 91042, *Lakshmanan* 91082 (MH).

Trees, up to 15 m tall ; bark smooth, greyish with lenticels ; branches terete or subangular. Leaves elliptic or elliptic-lanceate, cuneate at base, acute or shortly acuminate at apex, 2.5-13 × 1.2-6 cm, entire to undulate along margins, coriaceous, glabrous, light green above, pale green beneath ; lateral veins 8-12 pairs. Petioles 1-3.5 cm long, glabrous. Flowers in lax, axillary, cymose panicles, up to 8 cm long, 3-5 in each cyme, glabrous, pale yellow ; bracts minute, subulate, glabrous, caducous in infrutescences ; pedicels terete, *ca* 2 mm long, *ca* 0 25 mm thick, glabrous. Calyx-tube *ca* 2 mm long, sepals 4, trianiular, acute at apex, each *ca* 1 mm long, glabrous. Petals 4, valvate, oblong-elliptic, acute at apex, *ca* 4 × 1 mm, margins hyaline, incurved, connate in

pairs, pale yellow. Stamens 2, each *ca* 1.5 × 1 mm ; filaments attached to the base of the corolla, alternate ; anthers oblong, *ca* 1.25 × 1 mm, glabrous, yellow ; connective broad. Ovary ovoid to subglobose, *ca* 1.25 × 0.75 mm ; style very short ; stigma obscurely bifid. Infrutescences 7-14 cm long, stout. Fruits ellipsoid, oblique, acute to short acuminate




*Chionanthus ramiflorus* Roxb. var. *peninsularis* Ravikumar & Lakshmanan var. *nov.*

Figs. A-H : A. Flowering branch. B. Single flower. C. Calyx tube. D. Petals spreadout showing epipetalous stamens. E. & F. Stamens dorsal and ventral view. G. Ovary. H. Fruit.

at apex, 3-3.5 × 1.4-1.7 cm, smooth, glossy, green when young, brownish black when mature, 1-2 in number; stalks 4-8 mm long, stout, jointed; endocarp hard, stony.

*Holotype* : *V. Lakshmanan* 87782 (CAL) and *Isotypes* : *V. Lakshmanan* 87782 (K, MH), Hospital Valley, High Wavy's Mountains, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu State, ± 1600 m, 22.01.1988. *Paratypes* : *Shetty* 27322 (MH), Umaiya Malai Shola, Devicolam, Kottayam District, Kerala State, ± 2000 m, 18.04.1966; *Vajravēlu* 77892 (MH), Athikandi Estate, Bababudangiri, Chickmagalur District, Karnataka State, ± 1600 m, 1.03.1984; *Lakshmanan* 91042 (MH), Hospital Valley, High Wavy's Mountains, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu State, ± 1600 m, 26.05.1989; *Lakshmanan* 91082 (MH), Nursery Valley, High Wavy's Mountains, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu State, ± 1350 m, 28.05.1989.

Uncommon tree sparsely scattered along the streams of evergreen forests and sholas.

*Flowering & Fruiting* : January to May.

*Chionanthus ramiflorus* Roxb. var. *peninsularis* can be easily distinguished from the var. *ramiflorus* by the fruits being ellipsoid, oblique, acute to short acuminate at apex, 3-3.5 × 1.4-1.7 cm, smooth, brownish black whereas in the typical variety the fruits are oblongoid, obtuse at apex, 1.5-2 × 0.5-0.8 cm, ribbed, grey.

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## ON THE IDENTITY OF *CYRTANTHUS PARVIFLORUS* BAKER—A NEWLY INTRODUCED GARDEN PLANT IN INDIAN BOTANIC GARDEN

Some leafy bulbs were collected from Dowhills in May 1980 in course of a collection tour in Darjeeling district. The bulbs were planted in the Nursery of Inlian Botanic Garden, Howrah.

For long 6 years the plants survived giving rise daughter bulbs and grassy leaves, without bearing any flower. In March 1987 some scarlet flowers appeared on slender scapes surrounded by several leaves.

Plants are growing in pots under the shade of a big tree. Four leafless scapes arise, each from a bulb. It takes more than a week for a scape to mature to bear 4 flowers in an umbel. Flowers of an umbel persist for about 4 days and then starts withering. All the flowers decayed except two which produce fruits.

After thorough examination of the plants and critical study of the literature and specimens extant in herbarium CAL it has been identified as *Cyrtanthus parviflorus* Baker. *Cyrtanthus* Ait. (Amaryllidaceae) is an African genus, comprising 47 species, well known for ornamental showy flowers. *Cyrtanthus*—name had been taken from a Greek word which means curved flowers, for the pendulous nature of the flowers. None of the species of the genus was ever grown in Indian Botanic Garden before, nor does it