

TREE FLORA of SABAH AND SARAWAK

Volume One

edited by
E. Soepadmo and K.M. Wong



ITTO
International Tropical
Timber Organization



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Overseas Development
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TREE FLORA
of
SABAH AND SARAWAK

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INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION



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MONIMIACEAE

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and

Lesmy Tipot

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Hooker *f.*, Fl. Br. Ind. 5 (1890) 114; Merrill, EB (1921) 271, PEB (1929) 77; Ridley, FMP 3 (1924) 73; Masamune, EPB (1942) 305; Backer & Bakhuizen *f.*, FJ 1 (1963) 116; Anderson, CLTS (1980) 253; Philipson, Blumea 28 (1982) 77, Blumea 30 (1985) 389, FM 1, 10 (1986) 255; Ng, TFM 4 (1989) 261; Whitmore, Tantra & Sutisna, CLK 2, 1 (1990) 235.

Trees or shrubs, rarely woody climbers. **Leaves** simple, decussate or rarely alternate or in whorls of three, usually with round oil-cells in the lamina, bearing simple or stellate hairs or glabrous. Stipules absent. **Inflorescences** cymes, solitary or fascicled, terminal or axillary, rarely on the trunk. **Flowers** unisexual or bisexual, regular; receptacles usually well-developed or rarely reduced, round, urceolate or bell-shaped; tepals inconspicuous, rarely developing as distinct sepals and petals, decussate, in whorls or spirals. **Male flowers** with few to many stamens arranged in whorls, spirally or irregularly, filaments strap-shaped, anthers 2–4-loculed, opening through slits or valves. **Female flowers** with or without staminodes; carpels few to many, sessile or stalked (stipitate), free or immersed in the receptacles; ovule solitary, anatropous, erect or pendulous, with a thick nucellus (crassinucellar), bitegmic or unitegmic. **Fruits** achenes or drupes, rarely plumose, usually enclosed by the persistent receptacle, stalked or sessile, set free by splitting of the receptacles. **Seed** one; endosperm copious, oily; embryo straight; cotyledons appressed or divergent.

Distribution. About 33 genera and 320 species, mostly in the warmer parts of the southern hemisphere (Malesia, Australia, SW Pacific, islands in the western Indian Ocean and S America). In Sabah and Sarawak, represented by 2 genera with 3 species.

Taxonomy. The two genera (*Kibara* and *Matthaea*) occurring in Sabah and Sarawak are included by Philipson (*l.c.* (1986) 261) in the subfamily *Mollinedieae* and characterised by the male flowers having globose or flask-shaped receptacles and by drupaceous fruits borne in heads. For a detailed account of the systematic position of the family see Philipson's account (*l.c.* 1986).

Key to genera

Leaves ovate to broadly elliptic; lateral veins diminished and not joined toward the margin. Stamens 6–9, arranged in 2 series, anthers opening by a single longitudinal slit. Fruit-stalk shorter than 8 mm.....**1. Kibara**

Leaves narrowly lanceolate to lanceolate-oblong, lateral veins looped and joined at the margin. Stamens usually 4, free, anthers opening by two longitudinal slits. Fruit-stalk longer than 8 mm.....**2. Matthaea**

1. KIBARA Endl.

(a Sundanese plant name)

Gen. Pl. (1837) 314; Hooker *f. l.c.* 114; Merrill *l.c.* (1921) 271, *l.c.* (1929) 77; Ridley *l.c.* 73; Masamune *l.c.* 305; Backer & Bakhuizen *f. l.c.* 117; Anderson *l.c.* 253; Philipson *l.c.* (1985) 389, *l.c.* (1986) 287; Ng *l.c.* 261; Whitmore, Tantra & Sutisna *l.c.* 235. **Synonyms:** *Brongniartia* Blume, Bijdr. 9 (1825) 455 (*non* Knuth); *Sciadicarpus* Hassk., Flora 25, 3 (1842) 20; *Sarcodiscus* Griff., Not. Pl. As. 4 (1854) 380.

Trees or shrubs with aromatic smell. Terminal vegetative buds conical or pyramidal, surrounded by scale leaves. **Leaves** simple, decussate; blades entire or toothed, usually with short, tufted, soft, brown hairs, gradually becoming glabrous; *lateral veins arched and diminishing toward the margins.* **Inflorescences** terminal or axillary cymes (racemose in the non-Bornean *K. streimannii*), paniculate or fasciculate; *pedicels thickening distally into flat or cup-shaped receptacles.* **Male flowers** usually smaller than the females, with a minute opening surrounded by 2–4 decussate pairs of tepals; *stamens 6–9, arranged in 2 series,* with an outer series of 4(–5) larger stamens, and an inner series of 4 smaller, often infertile stamens, *anthers opening by a single slit,* with a filament or subsessile. **Female flowers** with a minute opening surrounded by 5 decussate pairs of tepals, the inner pairs thickened and grandular; carpels many, free on the inside of the receptacles; style very short; ovule 1. **Fruit** a sessile or short-stalked drupe enclosed by enlarged receptacle. **Seeds** coniform; seed-coat membranous; embryo small.

Distribution. About 40 species, in Peninsular Thailand, Nicobar Islands, Malesia and Queensland (Australia). Only 2 species occur in Sabah and Sarawak.

Ecology. Mostly understorey shrubs and small trees in rain forest from sea-level to 2800 m; occasionally on limestone hills, sandy and coral beaches.

Key to *Kibara* species

Leaves broadly ovate to elliptic-oblong, base rounded or subcordate, margins entire or toothed, apex distinctly acuminate**1. K. coriacea**

Leaves narrowly to broadly elliptic, base narrowly to broadly cuneate, margins entire, apex obtuse.....**2. K. obtusa**

1. *Kibara coriacea* (Blume) Tulasne

(Latin, *coriaceus* = leathery; the leaves)

Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 7 (1855) 404; Hooker *f. l.c.* 114; Ridley *l.c.* 75; Merrill *l.c.* (1929) 77; Masamune *l.c.* 305; Backer & Bakhuizen *f. l.c.* 117; Philipson *l.c.* (1985) 406, *l.c.* (1986) 298; Ng *l.c.*

261; Whitmore, Tantra & Sutisna *l.c.* 235. **Basionym:** *Brongniartia coriacea* Blume *l.c.* (1825) 436. **Type:** Blume, *s.n.*, Java (L). **Synonyms:** *K. blumei* Steud., Nomencl. Bot. (1840) 846; *Sciadicarpus brongniartii* Hassk. *l.c.* 20; *Sarcodiscus chloranthiformis* Griff. *l.c.* 350; *K. chartacea* Blume, Mus. Bot. Lugd. Bat. 2 (1856) 89; *K. cuspidata* Blume *l.c.* (1856) 89, Merrill *l.c.* (1921) 271, Masamune *l.c.* 305; *K. tomentosa* and *macrophylla* J.R. Perkins, Bot. Jahrb. 25 (1898) 571; *K. trichantha* J.R. Perkins *l.c.* (1898) 572; *K. serrulata* J.R. Perkins *l.c.* (1898) 575; *K. angustifolia* J.R. Perkins *l.c.* (1898) 577; *K. motleyi* J.R. Perkins, Bot. Jahrb. 45 (1911) 424, Merrill *l.c.* (1921) 272, Masamune *l.c.* 305; *K. grandifolia* Merr., Philip. Govt. Lab. Bur. Bull. 29 (1905) 15; *K. ellipsoidea* Merr., Philip. J. Sc. 1 (1906) Suppl. 56; *K. mollis* Merr., Philip. J. Sc. 3 (1908) Bot. 225.

Shrub or tree, to 15 m tall, 15 cm diameter. **Bark** smooth, pale grey; inner bark pale yellow. Twigs slightly pubescent, gradually become glabrous. **Leaves** broadly ovate to elliptic-oblong, 6–26.6 x 4–18.5 cm, leathery or papery, glabrous or sparsely to rather densely hairy beneath; base cuneate, rounded or subcordate, margin entire or toothed toward the apex, apex distinctly acuminate; midrib and lateral veins prominent beneath; lateral veins arched, ascending and joining near the margins; stalk 5–25 mm long, slightly channelled above, pubescent or glabrous. **Inflorescence** a terminal or axillary, simple 3-flowered or compound cyme, with the male flowers at the proximal and the female flowers at the distal parts. **Male flowers** rounded, 1.5–2 mm across, hairy; tepals 6–8 with rounded apex; stamens 4 in outer series and 4 smaller ones in the inner series, filaments strap-shaped. **Female flowers** larger than male flowers, rounded, about 3–5 mm across; tepals about 6 with swollen pendulous glands within the minute opening. **Fruit** an ovoid drupe, c. 2 x 1.5 cm, ripening deep blue, purple or black, on short swollen orange stalk; in clusters of 3–13. **Seed** coat membranous, orange when dried.

Vernacular names. Sabah—*ambibiliw*, *labak* (Dusun).

Distribution. Throughout Malesia; in Sabah and Sarawak widespread.

Ecology. Lowland rain forests including swamp, coral beach, limestone hill, mixed dipterocarp forests, and lower montane forests from sea-level to 1600 m.

Uses. The fruit is said to be edible and the leaves are used as flavouring in meat dishes.

2. *Kibara obtusa* Blume

Fig. 1.

(Latin, *obtusus* = blunt or rounded; the leaf apex)

l.c. (1856) 89; Philipson *l.c.* (1985) 409, *l.c.* (1986) 300. **Type:** Blume, *s.n.*, Celebes (holotype L). **Synonym:** *K. depauperata* Merr., Philip. Govt. Lab. Bur. Bull. 35 (1906) 13.

Tree to 20 m tall, 20 cm diameter. **Bark** scaly to shallowly fissured, pale yellow; inner bark dull orange. Young twigs with short stiff-hairs. **Leaves** narrowly to broadly elliptic, 7–16.5 x 3.3–10 cm; base cuneate, margin entire, apex obtuse or rounded; midrib and lateral veins prominent beneath, glabrous or with sparse stiff-hairs; stalk 10–18 mm long, pubescent or glabrous. **Inflorescence** a terminal or axillary, simple or compound cyme, to about 70 mm

long, with a pair of small bracteoles. **Male flowers** obovoid, *c.* 2 mm across; tepals 4, minute; *stamens usually 4 in the outer series and 2 smaller, infertile ones in the inner series.* **Female flowers** larger than male flowers, globose, about 2.5–3 mm across; *tepals 4, apex obtuse, with 4 swollen glands projecting among the carpels*; carpels about 13, hairy, with blunt stigmas. **Fruit** an ovoid drupe, 17–24 x 10–12 mm, ripening black, seated on a *short orange stalk.* **Seed** coat membranous, orange in colour when dried.

Distribution. Borneo, Philippines, Celebes, and W New Guinea. In Sabah, uncommon and only known from 4 collections, 3 from Lahad Datu (*SAN 29844, SAN 31104, SAN 33382*) and one from Semporna (*SAN 46055*). Not yet reported in Sarawak.

Ecology. Primary rain forest from sea-level to 700 m.

2. MATTHAEA Blume

(Matteo de S. Guiseppe, 1617–1691, an Italian Missionary and Botanist in India)

l.c. (1856) 89; Hooker *f. l.c.* 115; Merrill *l.c.* (1921) 272; Ridley *l.c.* 73; Masamune *l.c.* 305; Anderson *l.c.* 254; Philipson *l.c.* (1982) 77, *l.c.* (1986) 319; Ng *l.c.* 263.

Trees or shrubs. **Leaves** simple, *opposite*, entire or sub-serrate, leathery. **Inflorescences** axillary, rarely terminal cymes, much shorter than leaves. **Male** receptacle subglobose; *tepals 4*; *stamens 4, free*, filaments short, *anthers opening by 2 longitudinal slits.* **Female** receptacle depressed globose; *tepals 4, without apical pore or gap but upper half abscising as a calyptra* at anthesis to reveal numerous carpels. **Fruits** *long-stalked drupes*, fleshy; one or more on the enlarged receptacle.

Distribution. 6 species, all Malesian: Sumatra, Peninsular Malaysia, Anambas Island, Borneo, Celebes, Philippines, and N Moluccas. Only 1 species has been recorded in Sarawak.

Ecology. Understorey trees in lowland and submontane forests to about 1700 m.

Matthaea sancta Blume

Fig. 2.

(Latin, *sanctus* = holy; alluding to the religious work of Matteo de S. Guiseppe)

l.c. (1856) 90; Hooker *f. l.c.* 115; Merrill *l.c.* (1921) 272; Ridley *l.c.* 73; Masamune *l.c.* 305; Anderson *l.c.* 264; Philipson *l.c.* (1982) 82, *l.c.* (1986) 323; Ng *l.c.* 263. **Type:** *Blume, s.n.*, “Sumatra and Borneo” (holotype L). **Synonyms:** *M. latifolia* J.R. Perkins *l.c.* (1898) 563; *M. calophylla* J.R. Perkins *l.c.* (1898) 563, Merrill *l.c.* (1921) 272, Masamune *l.c.* 305; *M. ellipsoidea* Merr. ex J.R. Perkins *l.c.* (1911) 423.

Shrub or small tree, to 10 m tall, 10 cm diameter. Twigs green, glabrous. **Leaves** papery, glabrous, lanceolate-oblong to oblong, 15.5–29 x 5.5–9.5 cm; base broadly cuneate, truncate or rounded, margins entire or slightly toothed at the upper part, apex acuminate; *lateral veins arched, ascending and looping far from the margins, impressed on the upper surface, prominently raised beneath*; stalk 1.5–3 cm long, glabrous. **Inflorescences** axillary cymes. **Male flowers** depressed globose, 23 mm across, opening by a small gap between a pair of

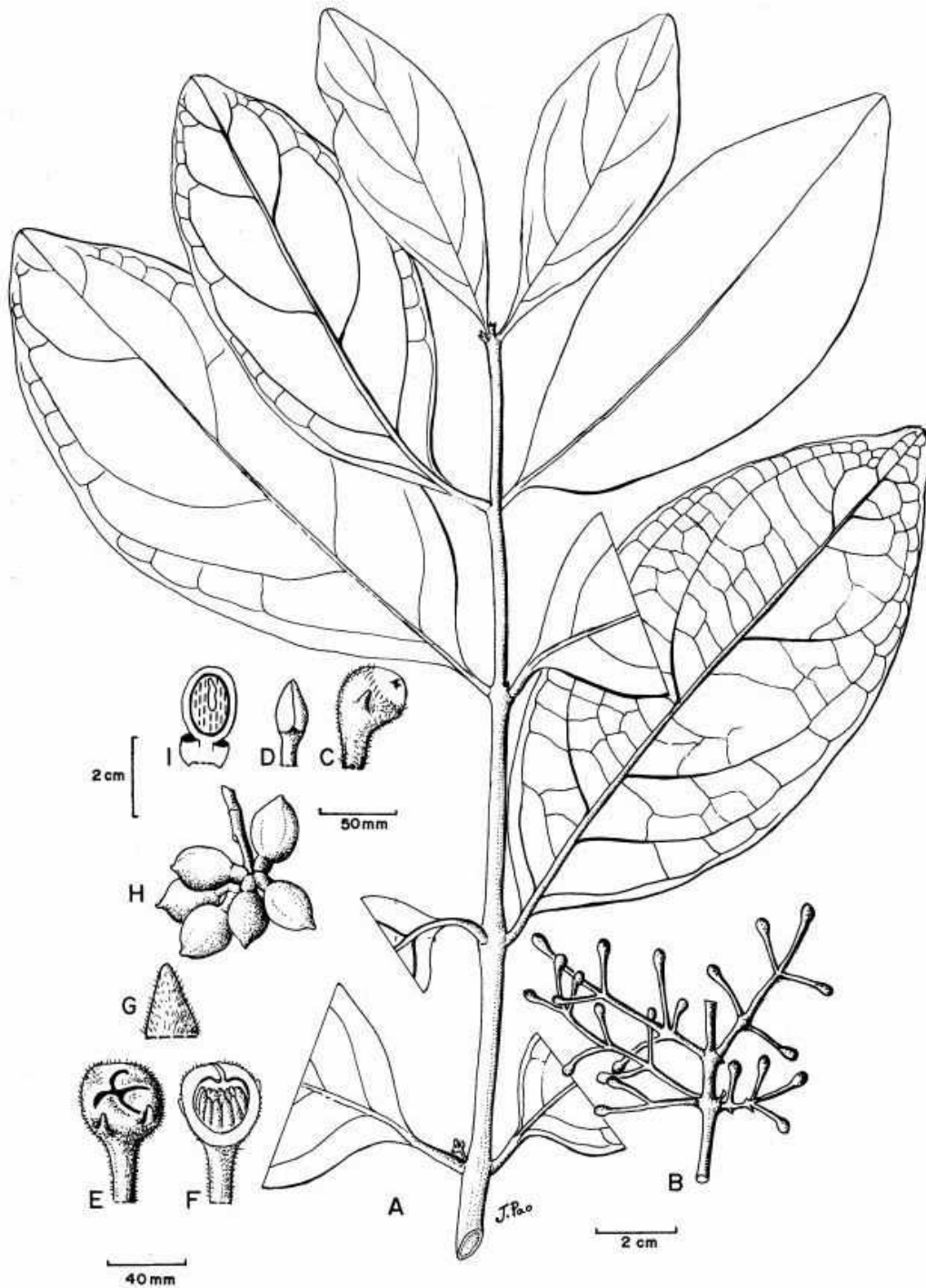


Fig. 1. *Kibara obtusa*. A, leafy twig with young axillary inflorescence; B, inflorescence; C, male flower; D, stamen; E, female flower; F, section of female flower; G, carpel; H, fruits; I, section of fruit. (A-G from SAN 29844, H-I from SAN 31104.)

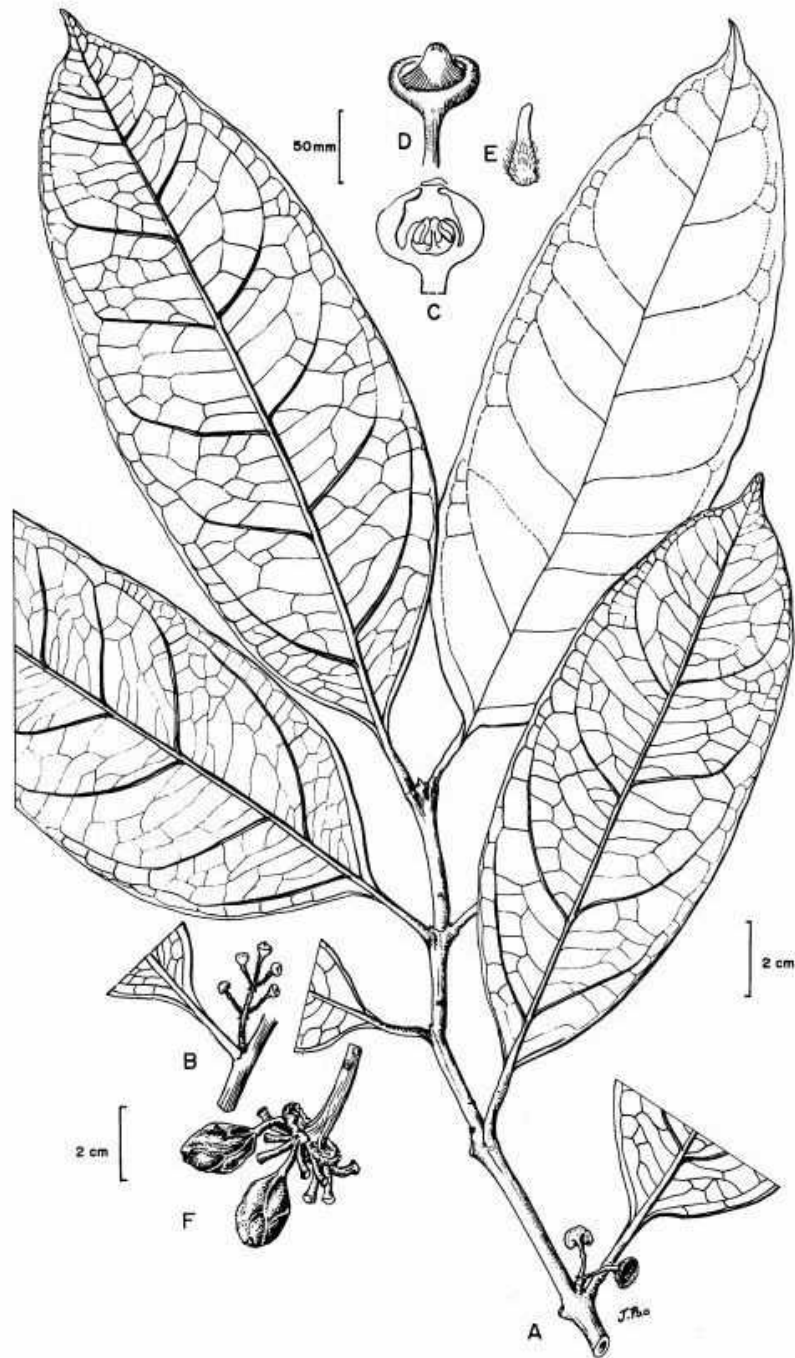
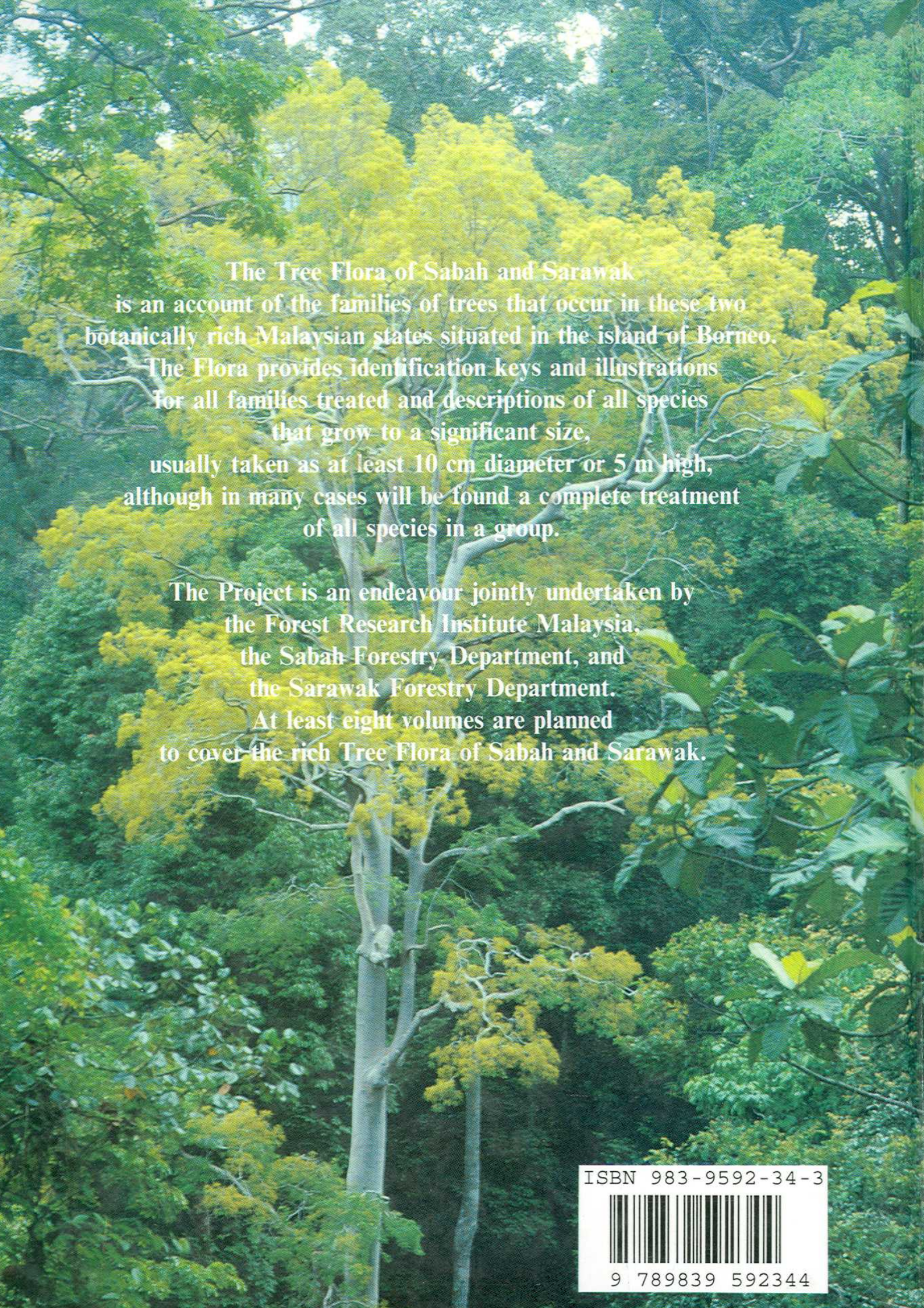


Fig. 2. *Matthaea sancta*. A, leafy twig with female inflorescence; B, male inflorescence; C, male flower in longitudinal section; D, female flower before anthesis; E, carpel; F, fruits. (From Steven 261.)

lip-like perianth-lobes; *stamens* 4. **Female flowers** similar to males but much larger, *c.* 10 mm across, on 1–4 pedicels arising in clusters of 3–5 from short peduncles; without any apical pore or gap but the upper half abscissing as a calyptra at anthesis to reveal numerous sessile carpels which are closely packed on a dish-like receptacle. **Fruit** a drupe, ellipsoid, *c.* 2.5 x 1.5 cm, with thin bony endocarp, ripening blue or purple, attached in clusters of up to 18 to an enlarged orange receptacle. **Seed** coat light brown when dried.

Distribution. Sumatra, Peninsular Malaysia, Anambas Is., Borneo, Philippines, and Celebes. Uncommon in Sabah but widespread in Sarawak.

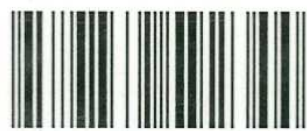
Ecology. Lowland rain forests, including limestone hill and mixed dipterocarp forests on clay-rich soils, and lower montane forest, from sea-level to 1400 m.



The Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak
is an account of the families of trees that occur in these two
botanically rich Malaysian states situated in the island of Borneo.
The Flora provides identification keys and illustrations
for all families treated and descriptions of all species
that grow to a significant size,
usually taken as at least 10 cm diameter or 5 m high,
although in many cases will be found a complete treatment
of all species in a group.

The Project is an endeavour jointly undertaken by
the Forest Research Institute Malaysia,
the Sabah Forestry Department, and
the Sarawak Forestry Department.
At least eight volumes are planned
to cover the rich Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

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