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NOTES ON FIMBRIBAMBUSA WIDJAJA, WITH A NEW SPECIES FROM THE LESSER SUNDA ISLANDS

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ABSTRACT

WIDJAJA, E. A. 2020. Notes on Fimbribambusa Widjaja, with a new species from the Lesser Sunda Islands. Reinwardtia 19(1): 55‒59. ‒‒ A new species, Fimbribambusa rifaiana Widjaja from Alor Island (Lesser Sunda Islands), is described and F. soejatmiae Widjaja & Ervianti, previously described contrary to Art. 40.7 of the ICN (2018), is validated. An improved generic concept of Fimbribambusa and an identification key to the Indonesian species are presented.

Key words: Alor, Fimbribambusa rifaiana, Fimbribambusa soejatmiae, Indonesia, scrambling bamboos.

INTRODUCTION

Among the scrambling bamboos found in the Indonesian archipelago species of Fimbribambusa are overlooked or poorly documented. This genus was segregated from Bambusa in the wide sense due to its morphological distinctions, including well-developed patellas or fimbriae at the culm nodes (Widjaja, 1997). Besides that, there are also special characteristics of the inflorescence that make this genus distinctive from typical Bambusa. The discovery of Fimbribambusa in both South Sulawesi and Alor (Lesser Sunda Islands) now allows an improvement of its generic delimitation. Its closest relative could be Temburongia S.Dransf. & Wong (1996), which is, however, very distinctive from Fimbribambusa by the indeterminate inflorescences and 2–3 pseudospikelets per node. Fimbribambusa and Temburongia are now placed in the same tribe Temburongiinae (Wong et al., 2016). To further understand Fimbribambusa in the Malesian region, it may also possibly be included under Temburongia depending on the inflorescence morphology once that can be studied.

A New Species of Fimbribambusa From Alor Island

During an expedition to Alor Island in 2004, Widjaja (2005) reported that there were seven species of bamboo growing there. She mentioned that one of them could be a new species of Fimbribambusa. Further study has confirmed that this species is indeed new to science, so it is described here.

Fimbribambusa rifaiana Widjaja, spec. nov. — TYPE: INDONESIA, East Nusa Tenggara, Alor, near Kalabahi, Widjaja EAW 7583 (Holotype BO–1973651!; Isotype BO–1973652!, 1973653!, 1973654!, 1973655!, 1973656!, 1973657!, 1973658!, 1973659!, 1973660!, 1973661!, 1973662!, 1973663!, 1973664!, 1973665!). Fig. 1.

Resembling Fimbribambusa soejatmiae, but differing in its culm sheath auricles with few bristles (not glabrous), ligule with fine hairs (not glabrous), leaf sheath auricles that are small (not big) with many long bristles (not few and short bristles), and acuminate lemmas with long pointed apex (not mucronate).
Young culm shoot light green, covered by white wax. Culm scrambling with patella/knee developing at nodes, 2–3.5 mm wide. Branches typically one dominant primary axis bearing smaller higher-order branchlets. Culm sheath glabrous, covered by white wax when young, becoming smooth when older, sheath proper 12–15 cm long, apex horizontal; auricles horn-like, stiff, 3–5 mm high, with few bristles 7 mm long, on one or both sides; ligule with entire to irregular margin, 1.5–2 mm high with few short bristles; blade spreading to deflexed, lanceolate, 9 cm long, 2 cm wide near the base, narrowly attached for about 0.9–1.2 cm at the junction with the horizontal sheath apex. Leaves 24.5–30.5 × 4.5–8.5 cm, glabrous, apex acuminate, base somewhat rounded or short-tapering, asymmetric, petioles 3–8 mm long; leaf sheath auricles horn-like, stiff, 1–2 mm high, bristles 8 mm long; ligules entire, 1 mm high with short and very fine bristles. Inflorescence indeterminate, pseudospikelets 8–9 mm long, with 1 fertile proximal floret 6–9 mm long and 1 shorter sterile distal floret, rachilla 5–9 mm long; glumes 2, mucronate, 3–4 mm long; lemma 6–9 mm long, apical part usually hirsute on the back and margins, acuminate with a long-pointed apex; palea acute with a pointed apex, 4–5 mm long, glabrous; lodicules absent; style hairy; anthers yellowish, filaments free, 3–4 mm long; stigmas 3.

Habitat. On limestone rocks and hillslopes along the seashore, 20 m asl.

Etymology. This species is named after Prof. Dr. Mien A. Rifai, the mycologist at the Herbarium Bogoriense (BO) who described some fungal novelties on bamboos.

Specimens examined. Lesser Sunda Island, Nusa Tenggara Timur, Kalabahi, Widjaja EAW 7583 (BO).

**Fimbribambusa soejatmiae** Widjaja & Ervianti: A Correction

_Fimbribambusa soejatmiae_ Widjaja & Ervianti was described in Reinwardtia 18(2): 131–132. 2019. That name was invalidly published because it was contrary to Article 40.7 of the International Botanical Code (Turland et al., 2018), which states that the type specimen should be a single herbarium specimen. Ervianti et al. (2019) indicated two holotypes, which is not allowed. Here I provide valid publication of that species, as follows.

**Fimbribambusa soejatmiae** Widjaja & Ervianti, spec. nov. — TYPE: INDONESIA, Sulawesi, South Sulawesi. Maros, Bantimurung Subdistrict, Cagar Alam Karenta, Taman Nasional Bantimurung Bulusaraung, Widjaja EAW 4 (Holotype BO–19178841).

Resembling _Fimbribambusa microcephala_, but differing in its horizontal culm sheath apex (not recessed), 1 fertile floret (not 2–3 florets), partly hairy (not glabrous) lemmas and lack of (as opposed to having) lodicules. Fig. 10 in Reinwardtia 18(2): 131. 2019

Culm scrambling with patella/knee developing at the nodes, 3–5 mm wide. Branches one lateral dominant axis with smaller higher-order branches. Culm sheath glabrous, sheath proper 16.2–21.8 × 6.8–10.1 cm, apex horizontal, 1.4–2.1 cm wide; auricles horn like, stiff, 2–5 mm high, glabrous; ligules entire, 1–2 mm high, glabrous; blade deflexed, lanceolate, base ovate, 17–19.5 cm long, 2–2.7 cm wide near the base, about 0.5–0.6 cm wide at the junction with the sheath. Leaves 5.8–32.5 × 1.2–10.1 cm, glabrous, apex acuminate, base somewhat rounded and briefly constricted to truncate, petiole 2–5 mm long; leaf sheath auricles horn-like, stiff, 3–5 mm high, bristles up to 6 mm long; ligules irregularly dentate, 1 mm high without bristles. Inflorescence indeterminate, pseudospikelets, 6–7 mm long, fertile floret 1 and sterile floret 1, rachilla 1 mm long, floret 5–6 mm long; glumes 2, mucronate, 2–2.5 mm long; lemma 5–5.5 mm long, hairy, mucronate; palea two-keeled, 5.5–6 mm long, apex bifid, glabrous; lodicules absent; style hairy; anthers yellowish, filaments free, 2–3 mm long; stigmas 3.

Habitat. On limestone rocks, 20 m asl.

Etymology. Dr. Soejatmi Dransfield is a bambusologist based at the Royal Botanical Gardens Kew, much dedicated to studying the bamboos of Madagascar, Malesia and Thailand.

Vernacular name. Bambu nana (Maros).

Specimens examined. South Sulawesi. Maros, Tompok Balang, 27 September 1975, Soejatmi Soenarko 319 (BO); Sw Peninsula, NE of Makassar within 54–60 km on the road, 4 July 1976, Meijer 10821 (BO, L, US); Maros, Bantimurung Subdistrict, Cagar Alam Karenta, Taman Nasional Bantimurung Bulusaraung, Widjaja EAW 4 (BO); Maros, Bantimurung Subdistrict, Patunuan Asue Village, Along the road after Biseang Labboro Bridge, 22 June 2010, Widjaja EAW 9015 (BO, K, L).
Fig. 1. *Fimbribambusa rifaiana* Widjaja, *spec. nov*. A. Culm sheath of young shoot, B. Leafy branch. C. Leaf sheath apex, D. Inflorescence (1. Pseudospikelet, 2. Floret, 3. Glume, dorsal view, 4. Lemma, ventral view, 5. Palea, ventral view). From *Widjaja 7583* (BO), drawing by Anne Kusumawaty.
An Improved Generic Concept of *Fimbribambusa*

The generic delimitation of *Fimbribambusa* was published in Reinwardtia 11(2): 80. 1997 and originally consisted of two species, *F. horsfieldii* (Munro) Widjaja and *F. microcephala* (Pilger) Widjaja. In the present publication, two more species are added from South Sulawesi and Alor Island. We take this opportunity to provide an updated generic delimitation here.

**FIMBRIBAMBUSA**

*Fimbribambusa* Widjaja, Reinwardtia 11: 81. 1997. TYPE SPECIES: *Fimbribambusa horsfieldii* (Munro) Widjaja.

Scrambling, loosely tufted bamboo, rhizomes sympodial. *Shoots* pale to dark green, glabrous, with a dense white waxy covering. *Culms* green with white wax and erect when young, when older and taller the culm tips and branches scrambling over adjacent trees, to more than 10 m long, nodes developing a narrow to wide patella or fimbriae, branches with one dominant axis that elongates when the main culm is cut or damaged, with several smaller higher-order branches. *Culm sheath* auricles horn–like; glabrous or with short to long bristles, apex horizontal or recessed; blades spreading to reflexed. *Leaves* glabrous, broadly lanceolate, pseudopetiole short; *leaf sheath* auricles horn–like, with short to long bristles sometimes developing on one side only or caducous; ligule entire, with short to fine hairs or glabrous. *Inflorescences* terminating leafy branches, indeterminate, each node with one sessile pseudospikelet and 2–3 short-pedicellate pseudospikelets. Pseudospikelet of two prophylls, 1–3 fertile florets and 1 sterile floret; lemma hirsute or glabrous; palea two-keeled, margins glabrous or hairy, apex shortly bifid; lodicules 2–3 or absent, membranaceous, entire, glabrous or slightly ciliate; stamens 6, yellow, filaments free; ovary ovoid, glabrous or hairy, not thickened at the apex; style apical, long, hairy; stigmas 3, plumose, white.

**Distribution.** East Java, South Sulawesi, Papua, Papua New Guinea, Alor.

**Habitat.** Dry soils, lowland to 950 m asl.

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I would like to thank Dr. Helen Hartley (K) who is the content editor for the International Plant Names Index who alerted us that the new species *F. soejatmiae* Widjaja & Ervianti was not validly published. I also like to thank the Director of the Herbarium Bogoriense (BO) for her permission to use my old collections for describing *F. rifaiana*. I sincerely thank the reviewers who kindly provided constructive criticisms of this paper. Thanks are due to Anne Kusumawaty who made the drawing for this publication.

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