

A New Species of *Cryptocoryne* (Araceae) from Borneo

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Abstract

Cryptocoryne zaidiana Ipor & Tawan, a noteworthy new species from Long Tran, Tinjar, Miri Division, Sarawak, is described and illustrated. This amphibious species grows on mudflats in sandy clay soil of the intertidal freshwater zone of Sungai Mering. Its leaf shape and texture are similar to those of *Cryptocoryne lingua* Engler but differ especially in its spathe characteristics. It has a strongly recurved ovate limb, the upper surface is distinctly covered with purplish and creamy protuberances and it has a distinct creamy collar.

Introduction

In Sarawak *Cryptocoryne* species occur in the inner tidal zone in rivers and streams, on riverbanks of slow and fast flowing rivers or streams and in ditches of swampy and flooded areas. In most places they are found in shaded locations. They are known as *kalakatai* (Iban - Sarawak); *kiambang batu* (Malay-Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia) and *tropong air* (Banjarmasin-Kalimantan).

The discovery of the new species *Cryptocoryne zaidiana* raises the current total number of *Cryptocoryne* species in Sarawak to fourteen. The eleven species reported by Jacobsen (1985) are *C. ciliata* (Roxburgh) Schott, *C. auriculata* Engler, *C. bullosa* Engler, *C. ferruginea* Engler, *C. keei* N. Jacobsen, *C. lingua* Engler, *C. longicauda* Engler, *C. pallidinervia* Engler, *C. striolata* Engler, *C. zonata* De Wit and *C. grabowskii* Engler. Jacobsen (2002) regards *C. zonata* as *C. cordata* Griffith var. *zonata* (De Wit) N.Jacobsen and *C. grabowskii* as *C. cordata* Griffith var. *grabowskii* (Engler) N.Jacobsen. Recently two other species have been described, viz. *C. uenoi* Y.Sasaki (2002) and *C. yujii* Bastmeijer (2002), which were collected from