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Studies on the *Alocasia* Schott (Araceae) of Borneo III: *Alocasia puncakborneensis*, a new species belonging to the Princeps Complex

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Abstract. *Alocasia puncakborneensis* is described and illustrated as a new species of the *Alocasia* Princeps Complex from upper hill forest on the extremely hard Paleogene sandstones of the Penrissen range, SW Sarawak. *Alocasia puncakborneensis* occurs at the highest altitude of any of the locally-restricted /geologically obligated species yet described for the Princeps Complex.

Keywords: *Alocasia* Princeps Complex, Sarawak, Penrissen Range.

INTRODUCTION

Alocasia Schott was last revised for Borneo by Hay (1998), recognizing 20 species of which eight were then described as new, while one probable novelty was left as incompletely known. Since then the incompletely known species was described (Hay 2000), and four entirely new species have been published (Boyce 2007; Kurniawan and Boyce 2011; Wong and Boyce 2016). Presently the *Alocasia* flora for Borneo stands at 24 described species, of which three – *Alocasia longiloba* Miq., *A. princeps* W.Bull, and *A. scabriuscula* N.E.Br. are largely each treated as taxonomically intractable species complexes, with the *A. princeps* and *A. scabriuscula* complexes seemingly related and treated by Hay (1998) together as forming the *A. scariuscula* Group. During the course of fieldwork since 2004 the authors have become aware of at least a further 10 undescribed *Alocasia* species occurring on Borneo but in many instances have yet to encounter the plants in a condition suitable to permit description while herbarium material, where it exists, is wholly inadequate. Occasionally, however, we encounter a new species flowering in habitat permitting formal description.

Here we describe one such novelty occurring on the extremely hard Paleogene sandstones of the Penrissen Range of SW Sarawak where it is