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## Studies on *Schismatoglottideae* (Araceae) of Borneo XXVI – *Schismatoglottis scintillans*, a new species with horticultural potential from Sabah, Malaysian Borneo

### Abstract

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*Schismatoglottis scintillans* Scherberich & P. C. Boyce sp. nov., a taxonomic novelty with horticultural potential, is described from Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. *Schismatoglottis scintillans* belongs to the Calyptrata Group by the presence of hapaxanthic shoot modules, but differs from all species hitherto described for this Group by the combination of refractive variegated leaf blades, a pistillate flower zone extensively adnate to the spathe, a staminate flower zone only half exerted from the lower spathe portion, and a bullet-shaped appendix basally abruptly wider than the adjacent top of the staminate flower zone. The new species is keyed out and illustrated from living plants.

Additional key words: Calyptrata Group

### Introduction

Hay & Yuzammi (2000) provide an excellent overview of *Schismatoglottis* that has proved to be an invaluable basis for the extended research now active, especially on Borneo, and through which it has become apparent that a significant quantity of *Schismatoglottis* species still remains to be formally described.

A hindrance facing herbarium-based taxonomists attempting to work on aroids is that herbarium material, and especially historical specimens, is often depauperate and degraded, frequently compounded by the absence of properly prepared and pressed and, critically, liquid-preserved inflorescences. An additional problem with physically larger species, especially those with extensive hypogean stems, is that they are habitually sampled from the smallest portions that will fit conveniently in a stand-

ard plant-press, or can be mounted on a single, standard herbarium sheet. Combined with often inadequate field notes, and almost always lacking associated images, it is little wonder that herbarium holdings of *Schismatoglottis* are so frequently incorrectly identified, or left undetermined.

The Calyptrata Group of *Schismatoglottis* (sensu Hay & Yuzammi 2000) remains one of the most poorly understood informal groups of the genus. Apart from the difficulties noted above, species of this group are mostly not popular horticultural subjects owing to their large size and often extensively colonial habit, which combined renders them difficult to maintain in pots, and makes them invasive in the open ground where the climate permits outdoor cultivation. Consequently, in addition to the difficulties of interpreting preserved material, there is also a dearth of available fresh material from which to attempt

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