Schismatoglottis guabatuensis is described and illustrated as a new species of the Calyptrata clade restricted to the limestone of Batu Caves, Selangor, Malaysia. It is compared with the three other described species of the Calyptrata clade present in Peninsula Malaysia.

Keywords: Batu Caves, Schismatoglottis Calyptrata clade, Selangor, Silurian limestone, taxonomy

Introduction

The Schismatoglottis Calyptrata-clade (Wong et al. 2016, Hoe et al. 2018) is represented in Peninsular Malaysia by three described species: Schismatoglottis cordifolia Ridl. (Ridley 1911, p. 112), S. lowiae S.Y. Wong & P.C. Boyce (Wong and Boyce 2017, p. 31), and S. wallichii Hook.f. (Hooker 1893, p. 537). Accounts for the Peninsula have hitherto included Schismatoglottis calyptrata (Roxb.) Zoll. & Moritzi (Ridley 1907, Hay 1996, Hay and Yuzammi 2000, Mashhor et al. 2011), although Henderson (1939) treated the record as doubtful. Recent research has presented compelling evidence that S. calyptrata is absent west of Huxley’s modification of Wallace’s Line (Low 2016, Wong et al. 2018, Hoe et al. 2018). Plants in Peninsular Malaysia hitherto assigned to S. calyptrata include S. cordifolia described from Temengor, Hulu Perak and several new species, most still imperfectly known.

Here we describe a fourth Peninsula species belonging in the Calyptata clade, remarkable for being restricted to the karst limestone of the Batu Caves about 17 km from the city of Kuala Lumpur, and an area that has been the focus of botanical exploration since the mid-19th century (Henderson 1939, Wycherley 1972, Kiew 2014). Geological occurrences in this paper are verified with Tate et al. (2008).

Schismatoglottis guabatuensis S. Y. Wong & P. C. Boyce sp. nov. (Fig. 1, 2)

Type: Malaysia, Selangor, Gombak, 3°14′51.00″N, 101°41′12.12″E, 100 m a.s.l. 20 Mar 2020, Ong Poh Teck and Tan Pei-Chih, Joanne FRI 96409 (holotype: KEP).

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