Studies on Schismatoglottideae (Araceae) of Borneo XXIII: *Piptospatha colata* and *P. deceptrix*, taxonomic novelties from Borneo

P.C. Boyce[1] and S.Y. Wong[2]

[1]Pusat Pengajian Sains Kajihayat (School of Biological Sciences)
Universiti Sains Malaysia 11800 USM, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia
phymatarum@gmail.com
[2]Department of Plant Science & Environmental Ecology,
Faculty of Resource Science & Technology,
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak,
94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia
sywong@frst.unimas.my

ABSTRACT. *Piptospatha colata* P.C.Boyce & S.Y.Wong and *P. deceptrix* P.C.Boyce & S.Y.Wong are newly described, respectively from Kalimantan Barat and Kalimantan Utara, Indonesian Borneo. Recognition of these novelties takes to 13 the number of described, accepted species of *Piptospatha*. An updated key to the genus is provided and both species are illustrated, along with those species that are most similar.

***Keywords*.** Aroid, Indonesian Borneo, Kalimantan Barat, Kalimantan Utara, *Piptospatha*

Introduction

Since the last full revision of *Piptospatha* (Bogner & Hay 2000) a combination of molecular and morphological research has resulted in generic changes, and recognition of a number of new taxa (Okada & Tsukaya 2010; Wong & Boyce 2010, 2012, in press; Wong et al. 2009, 2011).

Major herbaria with significant tropical Asian collections (e.g., BO, L, SAR, SING) abound in specimens of unnamed rheophytic aroids. These, however, frequently defy attempts at identification owing to their incomplete nature, and frequently inadequate preparation prior to preservation. Failing attempts to recollect at original localities or, in the case of older material the distinct possibility that such localities no longer support an indigenous ecology, such material will quite likely forever remain undetermined. Given this situation, it is ironic that fieldwork and subsequent cultivation of plants from Borneo continues to reveal numerous taxonomically novel rheophytic aroid species, which should come as no great surprise given that, has been noted on numerous occasions, many aroids are highly localised.

Where possible, attempts are made to match cultivated novelties with pre-existing herbarium specimens. However, often this not practicable owing to the

problems highlighted above. Two such 'unmatchable' novelties belonging to the genus *Piptospatha* N.E.Br. are here described.

Key to *Piptospatha*

1a. Sterile, staminodial interstice between pistillate and staminate flower zones well-defined 2
b. Sterile interstice absent, or at most defined by one or two staminodes 5

2a. Stem long, repent. (N Kalimantan Tengah) ..... *P. repens*
b. Stem short, erect 3

3a. Pistillate flowers green; spathe terminus slightly beaked but not pileate, glossy deep pink 4
b. Pistillate flowers pinkish grey; spathe limb strongly pileate, deep magenta-purple. (Shales; N Kalimantan Utara) ..... *P. pileata*

4a. Staminodes rounded, convex, white. Leaf blades with primary lateral veins hardly visible abaxially. (NE Sarawak at Miri, Limbang; Brunei; W Sabah) ..... *P. burbidgei*
b. Staminodes prismatic, truncate, yellow. Leaf with primary lateral veins impressed. Granite. Indonesian Borneo (Kalimantan Barat: Nanga Taman) ..... *P. colata*

5a. Connective extended into a pronounced elongate central beak. (? NE Sarawak) ..... *P. insignis*
b. Connective not raised centrally above the thecae, or at most shortly elevated and obtuse 6

6a. Staminate flowers pubescent 7
b. Staminate flowers glabrous 10

7a. Connective of stamen swollen (dome-shaped). (Peninsular Malaysia) ..... *P. ridleyi*
b. Connective not swollen 8

8a. Spathe white at anthesis; stamen in closely-appressed, regularly-arranged pairs; leaf blades abaxially with conspicuously tessellate 2-order veins. (Malay Peninsula and southern peninsular Thailand) ..... *P. perakensis*
b. Spathe pink; stamens irregularly arranged; leaf blades abaxially with 2-order veins not conspicuously tessellate, or only very faintly so. (Borneo 9