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PLANT SOCIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY*

# REINWARDTIA

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## COELACHNE GHATICA NAIK, SP. NOV.

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## ABSTRACT

*Coelachne ghatiea* Naik, a new species of grass is described from Western Ghats, India.

## ABSTRAK

Suatu jenis baru rumput *Coelachne ghatiea* Naik dipertelakan berdasarkan koleksi dari Ghats Barat di India.

*Coelachne ghatiea* Naik, *sp. nov.* — Fig. 1.

*C. simpliciuscula* (Wt. & Arn.) Munro ex Benth. similissime, differt in glumis pubescentibus, minoribus, 0.5—1 mm longis, pedicellis longioribus, 1.5—2 mm longis (terminalibus in ambo plerumque longioribus exceptis), ergo paniculis effusioribus.

HOLOTYPUS: *Naik 1300a* in Herb. MU Aurangabad.

Perennial grass with long creeping stem rooting at nodes. Culms 8—15 cm long, hairy at nodes. Leaves sheaths 5—8 mm long, pubescent with few long hairs; blades lanceolate, 6—30 x 3—4 mm, rounded or sub-cordate at base, many-nerved, hirsute on the nerves above, glabrescent beneath, acute at apex; ligule a ring of short hairs. Panicles effuse, 3—8 cm long; rhachis grooved, branches spreading 5—15 mm long. Spikelets globose or broadly ovoid, 1—1.25 mm long on slender pedicels about 1.5—2 mm long. Florets two, the lower sessile and hermaphrodite, the upper pedicelled and hermaphrodite or female. The rhachilla well-developed between the lower and the upper lemma. Lower glume broadly ovate, 0.5 mm long, 3-nerved, pubescent on the back. Upper glume ovate-oblong, about 1 mm long, concave, 5-nerved, pubescent on the back. Lower lemma ovate-oblong, slightly longer than the upper glume, 5-nerved, pubescent on the back, its palea shorter, nerveless. Callus of the upper floret 0. Upper lemma ovate-oblong, 1.25 mm long, 5-nerved, pubescent on the back, its palea slightly shorter, 2-keeled. Stamens 2 or 3, about 1 mm long. Grain ovoid, filling 2/3 of the lemma.

ECOLOGY: Gregarious on wet rocky soil of open grassland in association with *Utricularia reticulata* Sm., *Erwcauton* spp. and other grasses.

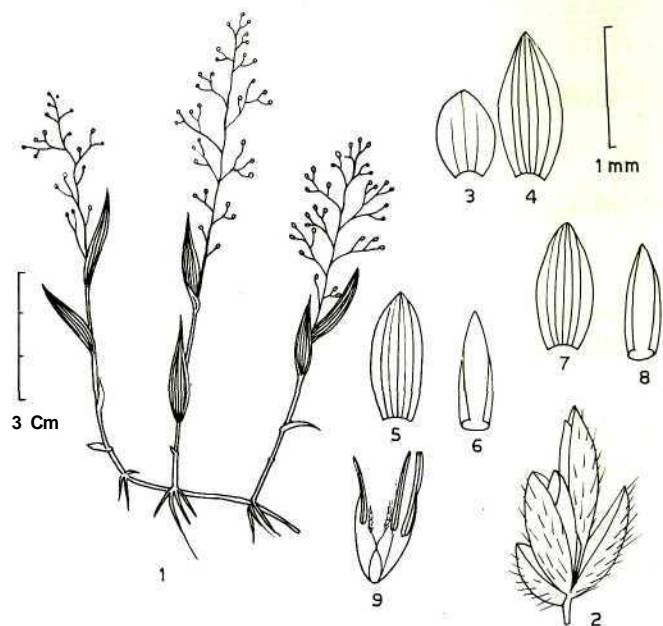


FIG. 1. *Coelachne ghatica* Naik  
glume, 5 & 6. Lower lemma and

9 Spikelet, 3 & 4. Lower and upper  
Upper lemma and its palea and 9.  
Stamens and ovary.

This species is similar to *C. simpliciusctda* (Wt. & Am.) Munro ex Benth., but panicles are more effuse with long-pedicelled spikelets and shorter pubescent glumes.

WESTERN GHATS. Amboli hill station, 13 September 1971, Naik 1300a (holotype and Naik ISOOb, c isotypes).

I wish to express my grateful thanks to Dr. J.F. Veldkamp of Rijks-herbarium, Leiden, for valuable suggestions and latin diagnosis. I am thankful to Prof. K.B. Deshpande of this Department, for facilities.

## THE CORRECT NAME FOR THE ACER OF MALESIA

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### ABSTRACT

It is shown that the legitimate and proper name for the maple of Malesia is *Acer laurinum* Hasskarl.

### ABSTRAK

Diperlihatkan bahwa nama yang sah dan tepat untuk ki Kanada yang ada di Malesia adalah *Acer laurinum* Hasskarl.

For quite some time the name to be used for the entire-leaved, ever-green species of *Acer* which occurs in Malesia was a matter for question, with *A. javanicum* Jungh., *A. niveum* BL, *A. laurinum* Hassk., *A. curranii* Merr., *A. philippinum* Merr., and *A. cassiaefolium* Bl. being applied by several authors dealing with that flora. When populations in South-east Asia and Hainan are considered as belonging to the Malesian taxon, another six epithets come under consideration. In the *Flora Malesiana*, *A. niveum* is the name indicated by Bloembergen (1948), but this was corrected to *A. laurinum* by van Steenis (1954). Murray (1969) also concluded that the oldest legitimate name is *A. laurinum*, and de Jong (1976) (who also recognizes *A. garrettii* Craib and *A. machilifolium* Hu & Cheng for mainland populations) concurs.

In 1965, in a publication apparently overlooked by the above monographers, Kostermans pointed out that *Laurus caesia* Reinwardt ex Blume (1826) from Indonesia is in fact an *Acer* and, further, that it represents the same taxon hitherto known as *A. laurinum*! He therefore published the new combination *Acer caesium*, (Reinwardt ex Blume) Kostermans, and indicated that it was the earliest available name. To date, *A. caesium* (Reinwardt ex Blume) Kostermans is hardly known in the botanical literature, having been adopted only by Whitmore (1973) in his *Tree Flora of Malaya*.

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