

# Miscellaneous notes on New Guinea *Leguminosae*: *Archidendron* and *Mucuna*

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*Summary.* A new species of *Archidendron* and a new subspecies of *Mucuna gigantea* are described and a new name proposed in *Archidendron*. These are needed in connection with a forthcoming account of the Leguminosae of New Guinea.

***Archidendron vandersijdei*** Verdc. sp. nov. affinis *A. calycini* Pulle et *A. sessilis* (Scheff.) De Wit, a quibus pinnis folii 3-jugis, floribus breviter pedicellatis, ovario solitario differt. Typus: New Guinea, *van der Sijde* in BW 4173 (holotypus L).

*Arbor* parva, circiter 2.5 m alta, ramulis glabris. *Folia* bipinnata, petiolo 12.5 cm longo puberulo; glandula petioli basalis, elevata, crateriformis, rotundata vel  $\pm$  rhomboidea, margine incrassata; pinnae 3-jugatae; rhachis usque 27 cm longa, puberula; rhachides pinnarum usque 15 cm longae, inter paria foliorum glandulis illi petioli similibus praeditae; foveolae foliiferae rhachidis glandulis similis triadem formantes; foliola 2-3-juga, sessilia, in siccitate prasina, ovata usque elliptica, 6.5-15 cm longa, 4.5-7.8 cm lata, apice longe acuminata, basi cuneata, tenuia, glabra praeter costam et nervos laterales pilis minutis obtectos. *Inflorescentiae* breves, rhachidi  $\pm$  1.5 cm longa, ramis  $\pm$  1 cm latis insidentes; pedicelli pallidi, 3 mm longi. *Calyx* pallide viridis, gracilis, forte longitudinaliter costatus, pilis perpaucis obtectus, 2 mm latus, 8 mm longus lobis oblongis 2 mm longis leviter ciliatis inclusus. *Corolla* alba, gracilis, 2 cm longa lobis brevibus inclusis. *Stamina* 3.3 cm longa. *Pistillum* vestigiale 5 mm longum, disco (?) lobulato cinctum. *Fructus* ignotus.

NEW GUINEA. West Irian. Djajapura District: Djajapura ('Polimac'), primary forest on sloping ground, on sandy-clay soil, 100 m, 25 Jan. 1957, *van der Sijde* BW 4173 (L, holotype):—small treelet to 2.5 m with white flowers.

Mohlenbrock annotated this as *Pithecellobium sijdei* but clearly did not include it in his monograph of *Archidendron* (which he considered a subgenus of *Pithecellobium*) because of the solitary ovary. The material is rather imperfect, none of the many available flowers being well preserved. The curious triad of margined pits at the nodes of the pinnae formed by the gland and the sockets into which each of the pair of leaflets fits show a close similarity to the same structures in the two species mentioned in the diagnosis. The possibility of it being a male specimen of *A. sessile* seems precluded by the lack of similarity to an isotype (admittedly foliage only) preserved at Kew. The ovary is surrounded by what appears to be a lobulate disc but it may represent aborted ovaries since the specimen may be functionally male. The style may be broken off.

**Archidendron kanehirae** Verdc. nom. nov.

*Pithecellobium megaphyllum* Kanehira & Hatusima in Bot. Mag. Tokyo 56: 360, fig. 4 (1942). Type: New Guinea, West Irian, Waren, *Kanehira* & *Hatusima* 12980 (FU, holotype, not seen).

The taxonomy of the large-seeded species of *Archidendron* is at present insoluble due to inadequate material; it is possible that *A. kanehirae* will prove to be a synonym of *A. bellum* Harms. Kanehira & Hatusima's epithet may not be used under *Archidendron*, the resulting name being preoccupied by *A. megaphyllum* Merr. & Perry (1942). Mohlenbrock, who considers *Archidendron* to be a subgenus of *Pithecellobium*, had to rename Merrill & Perry's species, *Pithecellobium brassii*.

**Mucuna gigantea** (Willd.) DC., Prodr. 2: 405 (1825).

subsp. **plurisemina** Verdc. subsp. nov. a subsp. *gigantea* fructibus 5-6-seminatis 15 cm longis, 3.5 cm latis margine anguste alatis (alis 5 mm latis) differt.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA. Central District: km 27 on Port Moresby-Sogeri road, secondary forest by river in savanna, 60 m, 11 May 1971, *Streimann* & *Kairo* in LAE 51631 (LAE, holotype; A, BO, BRI, CANB, L, K, NSW, SING, isotypes):—climber with red sap in stem, flowers cream.