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NOTES ON NEW GUINEA PLANTS—IV*

Saccopetalum koolsii Kostermans, sp. nov. (Annonaceae)

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During the exploration of the Momi-Ransiki region, about 80 km south of Manokwari on the west coast of the Geelvink Bay in Netherlands New Guinea in 1948, our party collected several specimens of a rather common, although scattered Annonaceous tree, which was locally called mies (pronounce: meece). I was lucky to find one tree in flower in the neighbourhood of the Warnapi (war = river), north of Ransiki. After examination the species appeared to belong to the genus *Saccopetalum* Benn., hitherto unknown from New Guinea.

In honour of Dr. J. Kools, at that time in charge of the Division of Planning (nowadays Professor at the State Agricultural University of Wageningen, The Netherlands), who took a lively interest in the exploration of this area, this species is called:

Saccopetalum koolsii Kostermans, spec. nov.—Fig. 1.

Simillima est S. longipes Vidal, species Philippinarum Insularum, sed nova species basi acuta folii, apice acuminato haud submucronulato, nervis primariis paucioribus et foliis ramulisque glabris differt. Petala paenissime glabra, alabastra autem pilosa.

Tree up to 32 m high with straight, up to 25 m long, clear bole of 40 cm diameter. Bark brown; living bark yellowish in cross section. Buttresses wanting. Branches grey, rough, ridged longitudinally; branchlets glossy, sulcate, slender, glabrous (in newly developed branchlets scattered, minute hairs are present), grey-brown. Leaf bud acute, silky-pilose. Leaves alternate, papery, glossy, concolorous, lanceolate to lanceolate-elliptical, 4—18 X 1.5—7 cm, usually about 9 X 3 cm; top acute; base acutish. Midrib flattened above, prominent below; primary nerves (6—7 on each side) slender, arcuate, slightly elevated on both surfaces; secondary veins laxly reticulate, prominulous. Petioles thick, 2—4 mm long, transversally fissured. Inflorescences on youngest, newly developed branchlets or on those of the preceding period, 1—2-flowered; peduncles filiform, usually

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FIG. 1

not more than 5 mm long, minutely pilose. Pedicels up to 40 mm long, filiform, glabrous or nearly so. Flower buds pilose. Flowers about 7 mm long. Sepals ovate, 1 mm long, pilose, obtusish. Outer petals lanceolate, acute, 2—3 mm long, patent, pilose; inner petals about 7 mm long, fleshy, erect, ovate-obtusish, glabrous inside, the margin papillose-hairy, the outside glabrous or with a few scattered, minute hairs, the base pocket-shaped. Anthers many, sessile, oblong, 0.5—0.75 mm long. Carpels many, pilose, with sessile stigma. Fruit unknown.

TYPE. — Kostermans 430.

DISTRIBUTION. — Thus far only known from the Momi-Ransiki region, New Guinea, growing on rather dry and stony hills.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. — NEW GUINEA. Netherlands New Guinea. "Vogelkop": Momi, about 80 km south of Manokwari, alt. 10 m, sandy, stony soil, ster., Aug., tree of 30 m with 21 m clear bole of 40 cm diam., *Kostermans* 227 = *bb.33432*; Ransiki, 10 km north of Momi, ster., July, tree of 32 m with 25 m clear bole of 40 cm diam., *Suhandu & Ilham* 17 = *bb.33265*; Warnapi, 8 km north of Ransiki, flowers pale green, Sept., tree of 22 m with 14 m clear bole of 30 cm diam., *Kostermans* U30 (*type*).

The genus is now represented in the Indonesian Archipelago by two species. It may be easily distinguished from *Saccopetalum horsfieldii* Benn. by its long and slender pedicels and its smaller flowers.

The timber is not very durable (class 4—5); its specific gravity varies between 0.83 and 0.89 (data communicated by Mr. Oey Djoeng Seng of the Forest Research Institute, Bogor).

EXPLANATION TO FIGURE 1

FIG. 1. *Saccopetalum koolsii* Kosterm.; a, branchlet with inflorescens and young leaves, X 0.7; b, branchlet with mature leaves, X 0.7; c, flower with foremost petal removed, X 4.2. — Drawing after the collection Kostermans 430.