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the Director, M.A.C.S. Poona-4 for laboratory facilities and to the Ministry of Education, Government of India for the award of S.R.T. to one of us (A.W.S.). This paper represents contribution no. 582 Irom department of Mycology and Plant Pathology.

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A NEW SPECIES OF BALANOPHORA FROM THE MALAY PENINSULA

GREGORI G. HAMBALI

Herbarium Bogoriense — LBN, Bogor, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

An illustrated description of *Balanophora hansenii* Hambali, *spec, nov.* is presented. The species belongs to sect. *Dibalaniella.*

ABSTRAK

Pertelaan bergambar jenis baru *Balanophora hansenii* Hambali disajikan. Jenis ini tergolong seksi *Dibalaniella.*

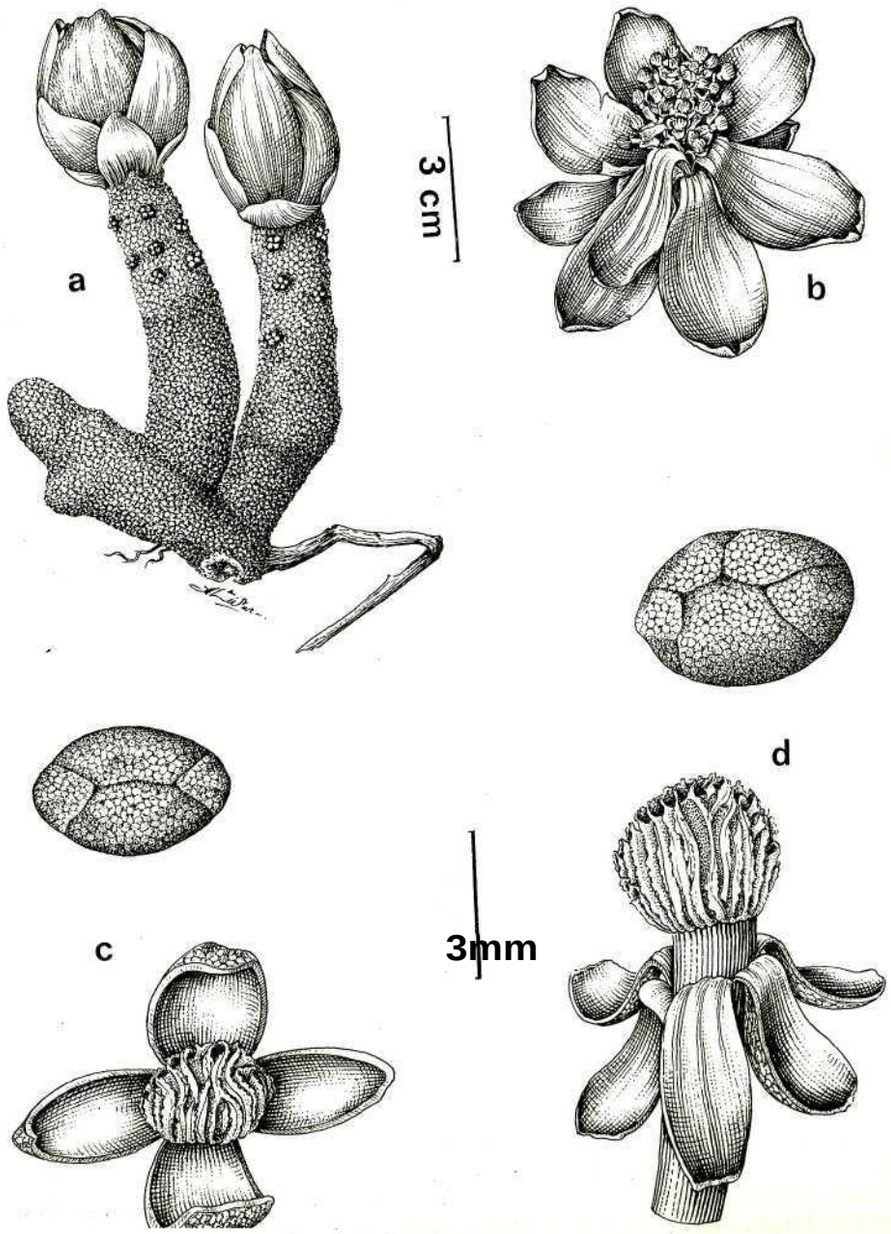
In his monograph on the genus *Balanophora* J.R. & G. Foster (Dansk Bot. Arkiv 28: 1-189. 1972) Dr. Bertel Hansen recognized 15 species. However, as a by product of a recent mistletoe-hunting trip with Drs. John and Soejatmi Dransfield in Malaya, one more species is to be included in this genus.

Balanophora hansenii Hambali, *spec. nov.* — Fig. 1.

A ceteris speciebus sectionis Dibalaniellae tuberibus inflorescentias ferentibus cylindricis, inflorescentia foliis aggregatis occulata differt.

HOLOTYPUS: *Hambali s.n.* (BO).

Dioecious plants, dirty to bright coral red, with a pale yellow inflorescence. Tubers branched, elongate, those bearing inflorescences distinctly cylindrical, 4—6 cm by 1.5 cm with apical part ca. 1 cm wide, surface fine granular, minutely puberulous, with scattered white stellate warts. Leaves 1.5—3.8 cm by 1.1—1.9 cm, appearing verticillate on a very short stem of 1 cm long, 3-merous, in 3—4 whorls, slightly cucullate, appressed to and completely concealing the inflorescence, forming a compact oval head, during anthesis rather loosely arranged; longitudinal nerves 5—8, visible only in wet translucent material, median nerves occasionally branched at the middle. Male inflorescence ca. 2 cm by 1.8 cm; flower — bearing bracts 2.5 mm by 4—5.5 mm, truncate, non flower — bearing bracts 3—4 mm by 3—4 mm, spathulate to acute. Flower 19—20, (3-), 4-, (5-) merous, zygomorphic, dimensions of basal flowers larger than those of the apical; pedicels ca. 2—7 mm; lateral



Balanophora hansenii Hambali. — a. Habit sketch, b. Inflorescence (the leaves are forcibly opened), c. Unopen and open 4-petaled flower, d. Unopen and open 5 petaled flower. — After the holotype.

tepals obtuse to acute, 2—4 mm by 1—3 mm, median tepals truncate, 2.5—4 mm by 2—3.5 mm; synandrium 0.5—2.5 mm long, semicircular in cross-section with diameters 1—3.5 x 0.8—2 mm, elevated on a torus, 1—1.5 mm long; anthers stretching from base to apex of synandrium, crossing the apex in many places, synandrium in cross section consisting of ca. 20 cells; pollen grains, triporate, sphaeroidal, in polar view sub-triangular to subcircular, with exine granular at the equatorial region, grains completely bald at the polar regions. No. female plants were observed.

This new species, named after Dr. Bertel Hansen in appreciation for his interesting monograph, belongs to the section *Dibalaniella* Tiegh., of which three other closely-related species, i.e. *B. elongata* Bl., *B. papuana* Schlecht. and *B. lowii* Hook.f., are already known. The compact head-like arrangement of the leaves which completely conceals the inflorescence, and the distinctly cylindrical inflorescence-bearing tubers are two features which make it easily distinguishable from the other members of this section. Despite the superficial verticillate appearance, the leaves are actually arranged in a subtle compact spiral.

This new species was featured under the name of *Balanophora papuana* in Nature Malaysiana **3(1)** : **24. 1978.**

MALAY PENINSULA. Selangor/Pahang border, Gunung Ulu Kali, dwarf forest on a ridge in the vicinity of Genting Highlands recreation resort, alt. ca. IIOO m, parasitic on the root of *Pentaphylax euryoides* Gardn. & Champ. (Pentaphylacaceae), 31 December 1977, *Hambali s.n.*, preserved in spirit, provided with a colour transparency (BO). One inflorescence was at anthesis at the time of collecting (about noon). The flowers emitted a faint, disagreeable smell, reminiscent of that of *Laurentia longiflora* (L.) Peterm.

I should like to express my warm gratitude to Drs. John and Soejatmi Dransfield, who enabled me to make the most of my stay in Malaya. My gratitude is also extended to my parents who helped finance the trip, to the Kadarsan family for their hospitality, and Sdr. M. Anwar for **the** drawing. I thank Dr. J. Dransfield further for preparing the latin diagnosis.

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