

PSEUDOPHEGOPTERIS AURITA (HOOK.) CHING, A THELYPTEROID FERN NEW TO TAIWAN

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Pseudophegopteris aurita (Hook.) Ching in Act. Phytotax. Sinica 8: 314 1963; Holttum & Roy in Blumea 13: 131. 1965; Holttum in Blumea 17: 13. 1969. —*Gymnogramme aurita* Hook., Ic. Pl. t. 974, 989. 1854; A Cent. Ferns t. 74. 1854; Spec. Fil. 5: 141. 1864; Hook. & Bak., Syn. Fil. 377. 1867. —*Grammitis aurita* (Hook.) Moore, Gard. Chron. 1856: 389. 1856. —*Phegopteris aurita* (Hook.) J. Sm., Cat. Cult. Ferns 17. 1857. —*Polypodium auritum* (Hook.) Lowe, Ferns Brit. & Exot. 2: t. 51. 1858. —*Leptogramma aurita* (Hook.) Bedd., Handb. Ferns Brit. Ind. 377. 1883. —*Dryopteris aurita* (Hook.) C. Chr., Ind. Fil. 253. 1905; Copel. in Philip. Journ. Sci. 56: 473. 1935. —*Nephrodium auritum* (Hook.) Hand.-Mazz., Symb. Sin. 6: 176. 1929. —*Thelypteris aurita* (Hook.) Ching in Bull. Fan Mem. Inst. Biol. Bot. 6: 266. 1936; Iwatsuki in Hara, Fl. E. Himal. 482. 1966; 2: 213. 1971; 3: 192. 1975. 耳狀紫柄蕨

Specimen examined: Y. C. Jeng 2375 (TAI), Nov. 16, 1977, collected between Tatachia and Paiyun Hostel, Chiayi Co., Taiwan, alt. 3200 m., on wet, mossy and rocky slope.

Distribution: NE. India, N. Burma, SW. China, Taiwan, N. Vietnam, Sabah, New Guinea. The epithet *Aspidium auritum* or *Dryopteris aurita* used by previous authors concerning Taiwan are referred to *Pseudophegopteris subaurita*, the details have been thoroughly discussed by Tagawa (in Act. Phytotax. Geobot. 1: 157. 1932).

Our specimen seems quite young and when compared with the description given by Dr. Holttum (1969) and is a much smaller plant, the stipe being only 8 cm long, blade only 18 cm in length and pinnules not lobed at all, but all the other important features, such as setose sporangia, elongate sori, short, stiff, simple hairs on lower surface, basal pinnules longest, long-creeping rhizome and upper pinnae adnate to rachis, fit the description of *Pseudophegopteris aurita* very well.

Pseudophegopteris is found only on Taiwan proper, and not on the off-shore islets. Three species of this genus are recognized in Taiwan, namely: *P. subaurita* grows on mountains of lower elevations, mostly on dry, open slopes, *P. aurita* and *P. hirtirachis* grow at higher elevations with high humidity and cooler temperatures.

Key to the species of *Pseudophegopteris* in Taiwan

1. Stem a slender, long-creeping rhizome; leaves far apart.....*P. aurita*
1. Stem short, erect or suberect; leaves tufted.....2
2. Lowest basicopic pinnules conspicuously longer than next; sporangia glabrous; plants of lower elevations.....*P. subaurita*
2. Lowest basicopic pinnules not conspicuously longer than next; sporangia setose; plants of higher elevations.....*P. hirtirachis*

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