

Merremia vitifolia (Burm. f.) Hall. f. (Convolvulaceae), a New Record for Taiwan.

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(Manuscript received 23 August 1995; accepted 24 August 1995)

ABSTRACT: *Merremia vitifolia* (Burm. f.) Hall. f. (Convolvulaceae) is reported for the first time from southern Taiwan. The species is easily distinguished from other Taiwanese *Merremia* by the hirsute stem, palmately lobed leaves and fresh yellow corolla. A description and illustration are provided.

KEY WORDS: *Merremia vitifolia*, Taiwan

The genus *Merremia* comprises about 80 species widely distributed in the tropics (Fang and Huang, 1979). The genus is characterized by contorted anthers, bilobed globular stigma and 4-valved or irregular dehiscent capsule. In Taiwan, the genus was first revised by Lu (1972) who recognized six species and one variety. His treatment was mostly adopted with little modification by Chang (1978) in the Flora of Taiwan. Recently, a collection made by the first author has resulted in the discovery of a new record, *Merremia vitifolia* (Burm. f.) Hall. f., in Taiwan.

Merremia vitifolia (Burm. f.) Hall. f. in Engl. Bot. Jahrb. 16:552, 1893; Merr. in Philip. J. Sci. Bot. 19:374, 1921; van Ooststr. in Blumea 3:329, 1939; R. C. Fang & S. H. Huang, Fl. Reip. Pop. Sin. 64(1):68, pl. 14:5-7, 1979. 掌葉菜欒藤 Fig. 1

Convolvulus vitifolius Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 45, t. 18, f. 1, 1768.

Ipomoea vitifolia (Burm. f.) Blume, Bijdr. 709, 1825.

A prostrate or twining vine. Stems, petioles, peduncles, pedicels and outer sepals densely closed with spreading, yellowish white trichomes or occasionally glabrous. Stems terete, the old becoming woody and often striate. Leaves orbicular in outline, 5-9 cm long and wide, palmately 5-7-lobed, sometimes 3-lobed, cordate at base; leaf segments broadly triangular or ovato-lanceolate, slightly narrowed toward the base, acute to acuminate and mucronate at apex, coarsely dentate on margin, canescent on both surfaces; petioles 1-3(-7) cm long, hirsute. Cymes axillary, 1-3- or several-flowered; peduncles 1-3 cm long; bract minute, subulate;

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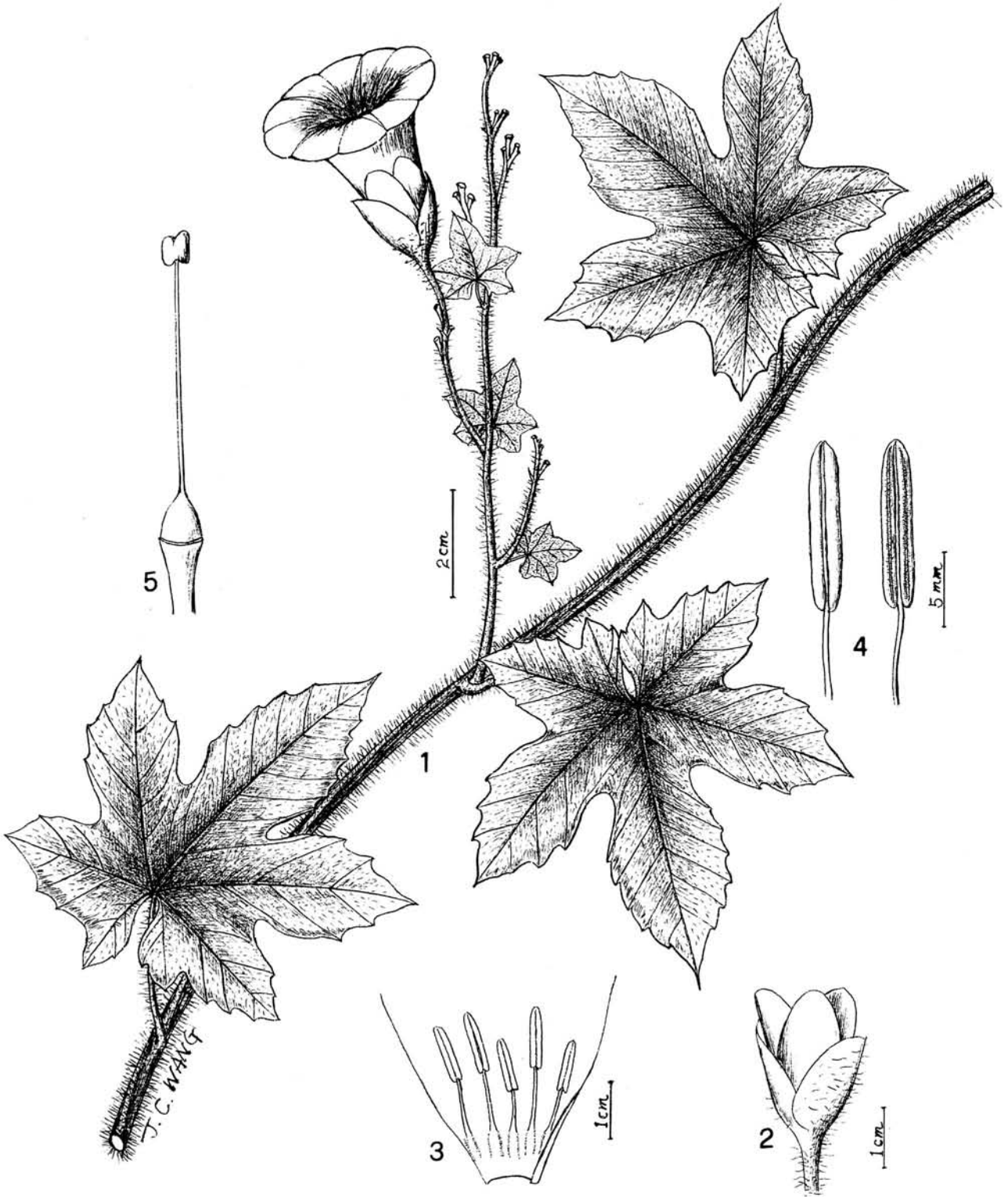


Fig. 1. *Merremia vitifolia* (Burm. f.) Hall. f. 1. flowering branch; 2. calyx; 3. dissected flower; 4. stamens; 5. pistil. (J. C. Wang & H. T. Hung 9053).

pedicels 0.8-1 cm long; sepals ovate-oblong to oblong, apex obtuse to acute, subcoriaceous, the inner glabrous, 1.5-2 cm long, longer than outer ones, the outer more or less hirsute, 1.2-1.5 cm long; corolla fresh yellow, funnel-shaped, 4-5 cm long, glabrous, obtusely 5-lobed; stamens 5, filament ca. 1 cm long, anther contorted when dry or mature; ovary glabrous.

Distribution: India, Burma, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and SW China (Yunnan, Guangxi, Guangdong and Hainan).

Specimens examined:

TAITUNG: Tawu Hsiang, Jia-la-ban-shi (加拉板溪), *J. C. Wang & H. T. Hung 9053* (TNU).

The new record is found along the riverside of Jia-la-ban-shi River, a branch of Ta-wu-shi River (大武溪), about 6 km west of Ta-wu (大武), where a small patch of this species grows under broadleaved forest and climbs over the undergrowth. The broadleaved forest is dominated by *Ficus* spp., *Lagerstroemia subcostata* Koehne, *Machilus japonica* Sieb. & Zucc. var. *kusanoi* (Hayata) Liao and *Bischofia javanica* Blume. Other associates include *Diospyros eriantha* Champ. ex Benth., *Psychotria rubra* (Lour.) Poir., *Glochidion zeylanicum* (Gaertn.) A. Juss., *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* (L.) Vahl., etc. The present species is easily recognized and distinguished from other Taiwanese *Merremia* by its hirsute stem, palmately lobed leaves and fresh yellow corolla. This species was previously known from India eastward to southern China and south to Indonesia. Now its distribution extends eastward to the southern part of Taiwan.

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台灣新記錄植物—掌葉菜欒藤

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(收稿日期：1995年8月23日；接受日期：1995年8月24日)

摘 要

本文報導在台灣南部發現之新記錄植物—掌葉菜欒藤，此種植物以其掌狀之葉片、全株密被毛及鮮黃色之花冠等特徵而易與省產同屬其餘種類區分。台灣為此種植物地理分佈之東緣。本文並提供種之描述及繪圖。

關鍵詞：掌葉菜欒藤、台灣。

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