Eurya luchunensis, a New Species of Theaceae from Yunnan, China

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ABSTRACT. Eurya luchunensis J. H. Wang & H. Wang, a new species of Theaceae from Luchun County in southern Yunnan, China, is described and illustrated. It was collected in a tropical broadleaved secondary forest or montane rain forest on Mt. Huanglian-shan. This species is very similar to Eurya pseudocerasifera Kobuski, from which it differs by having lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate leaves, 20- to 24-locellate anthers, and the first-year branches, as well as the pedicels, bracteoles, and sepals, being glabrous or subglabrous.

Key words: China, Eurya luchunensis, Theaceae, Yunnan.

Established in 1783 by Thunberg, Eurya is a genus of evergreen shrubs or small trees, rarely larger trees to 2–5 m tall. There are over 130 species distributed primarily in eastern and southeastern Asia, Indo-Malesia, and islands in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. There are 81 known species for China, among which approximately 41 occur in Yunnan (Ming & Bartholomew, in press; Ling, 1998).

During our study of all specimens of the genus Eurya deposited in the KUN herbarium, we found collections from Luchun County, southern Yunnan, that were rather similar to E. pseudocerasifera Kobuski, which is distributed in southwestern to northwestern Yunnan and southeastern Xizang in China. These specimens have 20- to 24-locellate anthers, are glabrous or subglabrous in the firstyear branches, pedicels, bracteoles, and sepals, and have lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate leaves. However, the anthers are 5- to 10-locellate in E. pseudocerasifera, which further differs by being pubescent in the first-year branches, pedicels, bracteoles, and sepals, as well as having leaves that are oblong-elliptic. The Luchun specimens represent a new species.

Eurya luchunensis J. H. Wang & H. Wang, sp. nov. TYPE: China. Yunnan: Luchun County, Mt. Huanglian-shan, 1700 m, 19 Oct. 1973, D. D. Tao 1101 (holotype, KUN). Figure 1.

Euryae pseudocerasiferae valde affinis, sed foliis anguste oblongo-lanceolatis vel lanceolatis, (9–)11–18 cm longis, 2–4 cm latis, apice falcato- vel caudato-acuminatis 2–3 cm longis, subtus secus costam adpresso-pilosis, postremo saepe glabrescentibus, nervis lateralibus reticulatisque utrinque prominentibus, petiolis 1–1.3 cm longis, bracteolis sepalisque glabris, thecis antherarum 20 to 24 loculatis, ovariis glabris differt.

Shrubs or small trees, 2-5 m tall; first-year branches brown, terete, glabrous, or sparsely pubescent at the apex; terminal buds pubescent. Leaf blades leathery, narrowly oblong to lanceolate, (9- $)11-18 \times 2-4$ cm, apex long-acuminate with an acumen 2-3 cm long, base widely cuneate, margin entire or sparsely serrate near apex, dark green above, shiny, glabrous, light green below, midribs impressed above and prominent below, sparsely appressed pubescent along the midribs, becoming glabrescent later, drying purple, secondary veins 11 to 13 on each side of midrib, prominent on both sides together with the reticulate veins; petioles 1-1.3 cm long, deeply impressed above, sparsely pubescent or glabrescent below. Inflorescence of solitary axillary flowers or 2 to 4 in a cluster; pedicels 4-6 mm, sparsely pubescent or glabrescent; staminate flowers: with bracteoles 2 or 3, broadly ovate or orbicular, 1.5-2 mm, glabrous, margin ciliolate; calyx with 5 sepals, orbicular, ca. 4 mm diam., apex rounded and with a retuse tip, outside glabrous, sparsely pubesecent, margin ciliolate; corolla with 5 petals, not fully open; stamens ca. 16 to 18, anthers ca. 2.5 mm long, 20- to 24-locellate; pistilloid ovaries ca. 1.5 mm long, glabrous; pistillate flowers: with bracteoles 1-1.5 mm long, calvx with 5 sepals, sepals ca. 2.5 mm diam. and corolla with 5 petals, only immature seen; ovary globose, ca. 2 mm diam., glabrous, style 3-parted. Fruit ovoid, 5.5-6.5 mm long, 5-6 mm diam., glabrous, with persistent styles ca. 4 mm long, apex 3-parted.

Distrbution and habitat. Eurya luchunensis occurs in a tropical broad-leaved secondary forest or montane rain forest, from 840 to 1900 m. So far the new species is only known from its type locality, on Mt. Huanglian-shan, Luchun County, southern

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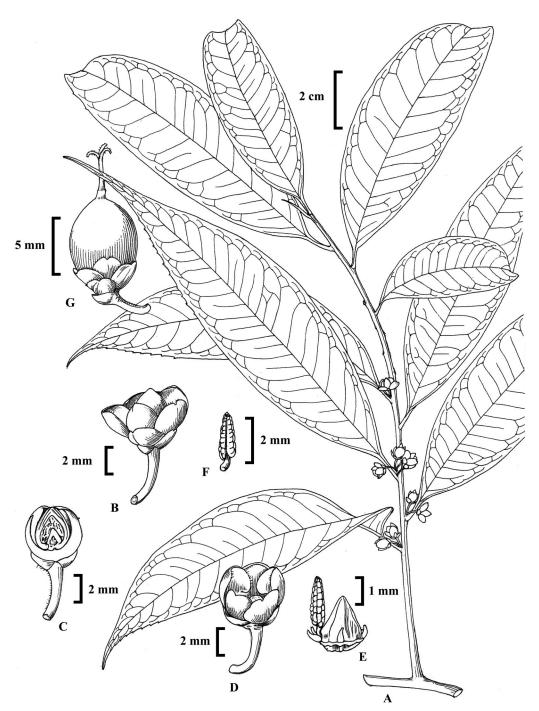


Figure 1. Eurya luchunensis J. H. Wang & H. Wang. —A. Flowering branch. —B. Pistillate or staminate flower, showing bracteoles, calyx, and corolla. —C. Detail of pistillate flower showing longitudinal section. —D. Pistillate or staminate flower, showing bracteoles and calyx. —E. Detail of degraded pistil and single stamen and filaments of other stamens with anthers removed. —F. Stamen. —G. Fruit. Drawn from the holotype, D. D. Tao 1101 (KUN).

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Yunnan, China. According to the collector's note, it is easy to find this species just above this area.

Phenology. Flowering middle October to early December, fruiting probably in later May (of the following year).

Paratypes. CHINA. Yunnan Prov.: Luchun County, Mt. Huanglian-shan, 1750 m, 5 Nov. 1974, Luchun Exp. 690 (KUN); Mt. Huanglian-shan, 1700–1900 m, 15 Oct. 1995, S. K. Wu et al. 049 (KUN); Mt. Huanglian-shan, 1700–1900 m, 19 Oct. 1995, S. K. Wu et al. 548 (KUN); Mt. Huanglian-shan, 1700–1900 m, 23 Oct. 1995, S. K. Wu et al. 648 (MO); Mt. Huanglian-shan, 840–1300 m, 30 Oct. 1995, S. K. Wu et al. 2101 (KUN); Mt. Huanglian-shan, 1700–1900 m, 22 Oct. 1995, S. K. Wu et al. 3208 (KUN).

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