

A Note on the Genus *Reevesia*, Lindl. in Java.

BY

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Since the appearance of a paper on the genus *Reevesia*, Lindl. in these Notes* my attention has been drawn by Dr. K. W. Dammerman of the Botanic Gardens, Buitenzorg, Java, to the occurrence of this genus in that island. To him I am indebted for a specimen collected in the East of the Island and for a reference to gatherings by Koorders in 1894, in the west; further that No. 627 collected by Forbes belongs to the same species. This number however is not quoted in the Enumeration† of Forbes' Malayan Plants, nor can the specimens be traced. A description of the specimens from Java follows.

I desire to express my thanks to Dr. Dammerman, to the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for the loan of Herbarium sheets and to Professor W. Wright Smith for facilities for study.

Reevesia thyrsoidea, var. *latifolia*, Anth., var. nov.

R. Wallichii, Koorders et Valetton in *Additamenta arboreae Javanicae* II (1895), p. 177, non R. Br.

A typo foliis multo majoribus late ovatis vel ellipticis subtus nervis pubescentibus, ramulis hornotinis stellato-pubescentibus divergit.

"Tree in primary forest. Petals white with a yellow spot on the top of the narrow part. Androgynophore growing for some time after the flower has opened. Strong odour. Besochi, Blawan, Java." In flower, 21-6-1918. Beumée No. A51! In flower, 1894. Koorders 7917 β! 7919 β!

These specimens from Java are closely allied to *R. thyrsoidea*, Lindl. From it they differ in having very much larger leaves which are broadly ovate or elliptical in shape. The veins on the underside of the leaves are covered with stellate hairs, a feature which was observed in a very slight degree only in abnormal specimens of *R. thyrsoidea*. A further point of distinction from that species is that the branchlets of the current year are densely clothed with stellate hairs. In this latter character the Javan specimens agree with *R. formosana*, Sprague but differ from it amongst other things in the

* Notes, Roy. Bot. Gard. Edin., xv (1926), p. 121.

† Supplement, Journal of Botany 1924-26.

shape and size of the leaves. The view taken in the previous paper,* however, was that *R. formosana*, Sprague might ultimately be found to be only a variety of *R. thyrsoides*, Lindl. with pubescent branchlets. This same feature appears to be constant in the Javan material examined which has been gathered in localities both in the East and West of the Island.

The *Reevesia* specimens from the West of Java, Koorders 7917 β , 7919 β , have been referred to *R. Wallichii*, R. Br. by Koorders and Valetton.† They state, however, that they had no opportunity of comparing them with authentic material, and note that there are several differences from Masters' description. *R. Wallichii* is, however, readily distinguished from all the other species of the genus by the dense stellate pubescence of a characteristic type which covers the underside of the leaf.‡ The Javan specimens, in common with *R. thyrsoides*, and *R. formosana*, have normally glabrous leaves.

This comparison with the allied species of the genus shows that the affinity of the Javan specimens is undoubtedly with *R. thyrsoides*, Lindl. It is therefore, included with it as a variety.

* Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edin., xv (Feb. 1926), p. 123.

† Additamenta arboreae Javanicae, II (1895), p. 177.

‡ Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edin., xv (Feb. 1926), p. 124.