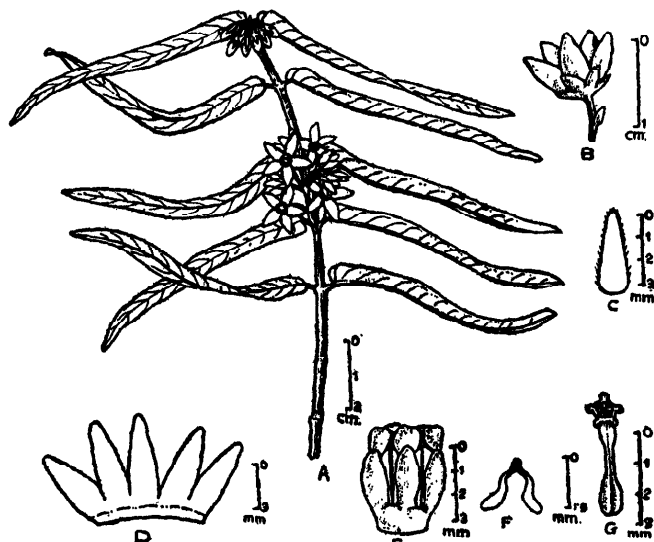


glabrous or thinly hairy without. *Corolla* 5-partite near to the base, campanulate in outline rotate, tube



Pentabothra nana Hook. f.,
A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Sepals. D. Petals. E. Corona.
F. Pollinia. G. Carpel.

1-1.5 mm long, segments 6-7 × 3.5-4 mm, broadly oblong, obtuse-rounded, imbricate (overlapping wide

Hooker), fleshy, adnate to the corona at base. *Corona* 7-8 mm long, single, adnate to the base of corolla-tube, inserted on the staminal tube, of 5 laterally compressed, fleshy, 3 mm long scales which are adnate to the filaments, and of 5 pouch-like folds at base of the column alternating with the anthers; stamens 5, filaments connate; anthers with round incurved 1 mm long membranous appendages; translator inverted Y-shaped 1 mm long, corpusculum minute, dark-brown, retinacula minute, pollinia solitary in each cell, clavate. *Ovary* of 2 carpels, style linear, free, 2 mm long; stigma 5-gonal, 1 mm across, with a slightly raised surface; disk small. Fruits not seen.

INDIA: West Bengal, Darjeeling, Sevoke Forest, 16.5.1966. D. Das 37 (Cal.).

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A NOTE ON *DERRIS SCANDENS* (ROXB.) BENTH.

Pittier in his monograph (1917) on the Middle American species of *Lonchocarpus* changed the nomenclature of *Derris scandens* (Roxb.) Benth. to *D. timoriensis* (DC.) Pittier, basing on *Dalbergia timoriensis* DC. (1825). He argued that the name *Dalbergia scandens* Roxb. (1805) upon which *Derris scandens* was erected (Benth., 1860), has been antedated by the existence of an earlier name *Deguelia scandens* Aubl. (1775) for a distinct species of present day *Derris* from Guiana. According to him the Guiana plant (*Deguelia scandens*) should be rightly called *Derris scandens* (Aubl.) Pittier and the name of the Asiatic plant in question (*Derris scandens* Benth.) should be changed to *Derris timoriensis* (DC.) Pittier, basing upon the next available epithet *Dalbergia timoriensis* DC. (1825).

The author too at first concurred with Pittier's argument in recognising (Thothathri, 1972) *Derris timoriensis* (DC.) Pittier as the correct name for the Asiatic plant (*Derris scandens* Benth.) and described a new variety 'saharanpurensis' under the changed nomenclature. Later a critical analysis of Pittier's argument revealed that he was not justified in making the above name changes. Though *Deguelia*

scandens Aubl. was earlier to *Dalbergia scandens* Roxb., yet the specific epithet *scandens* in the genus *Derris* was occupied (1860) when Pittier (1917) proposed the name *Derris scandens* (Aubl.) for the Guiana plant which is therefore illegitimate. Consequently the new combination *Derris timoriensis* (DC.) Pittier for the Asiatic species is also not valid.

Derris timoriensis (DC.) Pittier var. *saharanpurensis* Thoth., a new variety, described by the author (1972) should be changed as follows:

***Derris scandens* (Roxb.) Benth. var. *saharanpurensis* (Thoth.) Thoth. comb. nov. *D. timoriensis* (DC.) Pittier var. *saharanpurensis* Thoth. in Bull. bot. Surv. India 12: 105. 1972.**

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