

A critical study of the authentic specimens of the above taxon [*G. Mann* 599 (CAL), *G. Mann* 65 (CAL), *G. Mann* s.n. (CAL)] shows that it may be justified to maintain this as a distinct species; its densely pubescent fruiting cupules with well spaced prominent concentric rings of small conical protuberances well distinguish it from the glabrescent cupules with faint concentric rings without conical protuberances of *Castanopsis roxburghiana* S. N. Biswas.

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A NOTE ON *CLEMATIS FULVICOMA* REHDER ET WILSON

*Clematis fulvicoma* was described by Rehder & Wilson (1913) from Mengtze, Yunnan, who recorded its occurrence in the Chinese provinces of Kiangsi, Hupeh, Western Szech'uan and Yunnan. Later Eichler (1958), while revising the Malaysian Ranunculaceae, came across more sheets of this species as lying in the herbaria of British Museum, Kew, Leiden and Paris. All the sheets examined by Eichler were cited by him in his monograph of the Malaysian Ranunculaceae, a publication in German. This extended the range of distribution of the species over Annam, Laos, Thailand, Burma and as far east as Khasi Hills of Assam in India.

This simple leaved species closely resembles *Clematis smilacifolia* Wall. and infact has often been mixed up with the same; atleast in Indian herbaria, all the sheets that were examined by the writer were found kept as *C. smilacifolia*. However, *C. fulvicoma* can be easily distinguished from *C. smilacifolia* in having shining and reticulately veined leaves and the pale brown feathery tails of the achenes, besides the inner surface of the tepals being softly golden hairy throughout.

Eichler (1958) only briefly referred to the characteristic features of the species, for *C. fulvicoma* occurred outside the territorial limits of his monograph. The original description which so far is the only other source for identifying the species needs to be supplemented.

The present paper describes and illustrates *C. fulvicoma* in detail. The sheets examined by the writer are cited to bring on record more localities of the region of Assam and Burma whence it has been collected in the past. This will facilitate collection of more material, particularly fully mature fruits which remain undescribed. Amongst the cited sheets is a specimen collected by Simons

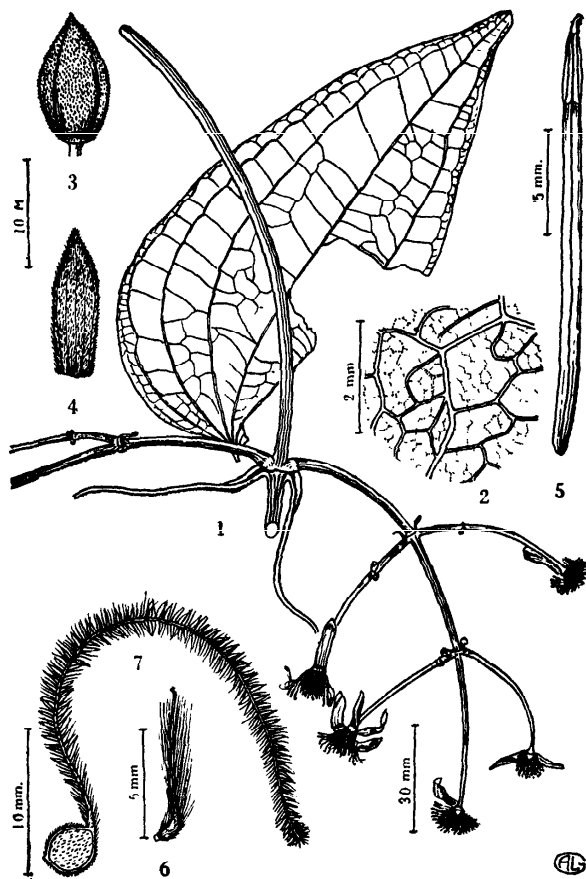
from Mikir Hills, which incidentally adds to the Indian localities known so far. It is quite likely that *C. fulvicoma* may be occurring at many more localities in the region of Assam, whence it may be collected in future if properly looked for.

***Clematis fulvicoma*** Rehder et Wilson in *Plantae Wilsonianae*, 1(3): 327-28, 1913; Eichler *Bibl. bot. Stuttgart*, 124: 49-50. 1958.

A tall climbing shrub. Branches sulcate, glabrous or with few scattered hairs on the internodes, may or may not be puberulus or pubescent at and near the nodes. Leaves opposite, simple, up to 30.0 cm long; lamina broad-ovate to elongate-ovate, obtuse or acute, 7-to 9-nerved from a nearly truncate or shallowly or deeply cordate or subcuneate or nearly subpeltate base, 9.9-18.9 cm × 6.8-18.0 cm entire, subcoriaceous, veins and veinlets finely raised on both the surfaces but more prominently raised beneath, somewhat shining and glabrous on both the surfaces; petioles 4.5-16.2 cm long, twining, ribbed, glabrous, flattened at the base.

Inflorescences 3- to several-flowered or only with 1 mature flower and a number of undeveloped buds (in several flowered panicles also, a number of buds often remain undeveloped), shorter or longer than the leaves; bracts usually linear and minute, sometimes elliptic-lanceolate and larger; pedicels 2.2-5.0 cm long, densely pubescent with deep reddish brown indumentum; peduncles ribbed and puberulus or pubescent. Adult flower buds elliptic, acute, densely villo-tomentose with deep reddish brown indumentum. Tepals 4 or 5, spreading or reflexed from the very base, oblong or oblong-lanceolate, acute or nearly obtuse 0.7-1.8 cm × 0.2-0.6 cm, velvety villo-tomentose outside with a densely villous border, villi and tomentum deep

reddish brown, densely sericeo-villous inside with golden-brown villi. Filaments linear though broadening towards the base or the apex, 0.1-1.0 cm



*Clematis fulvicoma* Rehder & Wilson

Figs. 1-7: 1. Flowering twig. 2. Part of leaf. 3. Flower bud. 4. Tepal—inner face. 5. Stamen. 6. Pistil. 7. Fruit—not fully mature.

long, flat, glabrous; anthers 0.1- nearly 0.3 cm long, may or may not be twisted; connective .05-0.1 cm produced beyond the thecae. Fully mature achenes not seen; not fully mature achenes almost rounded or broad-ovate, compressed, margined, hairy, provided with up to 3.7 cm long. pale brown feathery tails.

**Flowers:** September to January; **fruits:** February to May. [The sheets cited by Rehder & Wilson (1913) in the protologue indicate that it flowers in China from May to October].

**Distribution:** Assam, Burma, Thailand, Laos and China; altitude 300-2000 m.

**Sheets examined:** Assam (India): Mahadev, Khasia, 914 m, 22.10.1871. fl., C. B. Clarke 15624J, sh. no. 166 (CAL); K. Hills, Assam, Oct.

1848, imm. fr., Simons s.n. (DD); Mikir Hills. Jan. 1848, ster., Simons s.n., sh. no. 167—a flowering branch mounted on this sheet belongs to *C. anderssonii* (CAL).

**BURMA:** Peinneagon Yegyaung, 1097 m, 6.12. 1924, fl., Mg Kan 595, sh. no. 135, "Flower white scented. Vern. Thawkagy" (CAL); Maymyo Plateau, Burma, 1067 m, 8.9.1912, fl. & fl. bud, J. H. Lace 5955, sh. no. 169 (CAL); Near Maymyo, Burma 914 m, 17.9.1918, fl. & fl. bud, A. Rodger 907, sh. no. 137 (CAL); Kachin Hills, Burma, March 1898, imm. fr., Shaik Mokim s.n. sh. nos. 128 & 129 (CAL); Yongmaw, near Salween River, Burma, 1219 m, 19.2.1903, imm. fr., Lt. H. Wood s.n., sh. no. 126, "in open jungle near water" (CAL); Near Kaw Ngaw Stream, Amherst Distt., Burma, 914 m, 30.1.1912, fl., J. H. Lace 5650, sh. no. 127 (CAL); duplicate, fl., sh. no. 3881 (DD).

**CHINA:** Yunnan, Mengtse, S. mts., imm. fr., A. Henry 9377 "Large climber"—holotype (A).

The following sheets have been cited by Eichler (1958) from the region of Assam and Burma:—*Clarke* 15623: BM: Khasia, Mahader, 3000. —*Lace* 5650: K: Amherst, near Kaw Ngaw stream, 3000 ft. 30.1.1912.—*Maung Po Khant* 16399: K: Burma, Distt. Maymyo: Kyundeing-ywa. 8.9.1938."

(The names of the herbaria are abbreviated according to Lanjouw & Stafleu, 1964).

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