

Two new records of *Syrrhopodon* in SE-Asia

97

Tropical Bryology 25: 97-99

Two new records of *Syrrhopodon* (Calymperaceae, Musci) in SE Asia.

Len Ellis

Department of Botany, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. E-mail: l.ellis@nhm.ac.uk

Abstract. *Syrrhopodon mammosus* Müll. Hal. is newly recorded for the Philippine moss flora, and *Syrrhopodon katemensis* (Zant.) L.T. Ellis is newly recorded for the moss flora of Borneo.

Syrrhopodon mammosus Müll. Hal. new for the Philippines

Ellis & Tan (1999) tentatively identified a collection from Sibuyan Island, Philippines, as possibly representing an undescribed variety of *Syrrhopodon prolifer* Schwaegr. Reconsideration of this specimen (Tan & Hernaez 87-507) has shown it to belong to *Syrrhopodon mammosus* Müll. Hal. This is a new addition to the moss flora of the Philippines.

The shoots of *S. mammosus* have small linear leaves with limbate margins. These features indicate an affinity of this species with taxa of the *Syrrhopodon trachyphyllus* and *Syrrhopodon prolifer* complexes (Ellis, 2003). In *Syrrhopodon mammosus* the leaves (Fig. 1a) are 3 to >4 mm long and straight to curved when dry. In the longest leaves the hyaline lamina

occupies a fifth to a sixth of the leaf length. The ventral surface of the costa is papillose (Fig. 1c, d) and the cells of the chlorophyllose lamina are ventrally protuberant, each with a multifid papilla projecting from both the dorsal and ventral surfaces (Fig. 1e, f). The leaf margin adjacent to the apex of the hyaline lamina is plane, and supports a few short spines (Fig. 1b). Other *Syrrhopodon trachyphyllus*-like species tend to possess shorter leaves, rarely exceeding 3.5 mm long, and lack the unique combination of features outlined above. In species associated with the *Syrrhopodon prolifer* complex the leaf margin adjacent to the apex of the hyaline lamina is usually recurved and entire.

A handful of collections account for the presence of *Syrrhopodon mammosus* in New Caledonia, Peninsular Malaysia (Mohamed & Reese, 1988),

Sabah and Sarawak (Reese, 1996). The collection from the Philippines, *Tan & Hernaez 87-507*, was found on a shaded tree trunk on an open rocky outcrop in montane forest below 1200 m alt. This habitat is not unusual for *Syrrhopodon mammillosus*, which has also been recorded on soil, rock, decaying logs and fallen branches.

Specimen examined. Philippines. Sibuyan Island, Magdiwang town, Tampayan Barangay, northern slope of Mt Giting-Giting, near Mayo's Peak, 22 May 1987, *Tan & Hernaez 87-507* (BM, FH)

Syrrhopodon katemensis (Zant.) L.T. Ellis new for Borneo.

A collection (*Alston 13389b*) in BM, found among specimens tentatively identified as *Syrrhopodon prolifer* Schwaegr. *sensu lato*, has been redetermined as *Syrrhopodon katemensis* (Zant.) L.T. Ellis and represents a new addition to the moss flora of Borneo.

Syrrhopodon katemensis has fragile, tiny shoots with ligulate, limbate leaves that could easily be mistaken for depauperate material of a more robust species of the *Syrrhopodon prolifer* complex. The leaves (Fig. 1g) are <1 to 2 mm long with a smooth costa. Small, densely papillose cells form the chlorophyllose lamina (Fig. 1h). In surface view these cells are mostly 5-10 x 5-7.5 μm , but are often obscured by the papillae. A narrow, largely entire marginal rib (stereome) is continuous from the leaf base to the apex. A rare tooth or two may occur at the leaf apex on the stereome or costa. This combination of features separates *S. katemensis* from all other *Syrrhopodon prolifer*-like species (Ellis, 2003).

S. katemensis is a rare and probably over-looked moss, previously known from Queensland and New Guinea (Ellis, 2003). This new record from Borneo is probably only the fourth collection of the species.

The specimen, *Alston 13389b*, was collected at 50 m alt. Further habitat data is unrecorded, but

within the specimen, shoots of *S. katemensis* occur scattered amongst other small mosses on thin bark. This is consistent with the other collections of the species, all of which occurred on tree trunks in lowland rainforest.

Specimen examined. Borneo. Kalimantan, Sampit River, Permantang, south of Kwala Kwajan, 27 January 1954, *Alston 13389b* (BM).

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Dr Benito C. Tan (SINU) and the curator at FH for the loan of specimens.

References

- Ellis, L.T. 2003. A revised synonymy for *Syrrhopodon trachyphyllus* (Calymperaceae, Musci) and some related Old World taxa. *Systematics and Biodiversity* 1 (2): 159-172.
- Ellis, L.T. & Tan, B.C. 1999. The moss family Calymperaceae (Musci) in the Philippines. *Bulletin of the Natural History Museum, London (Botany)* 29 (1): 1-46.
- Mohamed, H & Reese, W.D. 1988. *Syrrhopodon mammillosus* C. Muell. *Bryologist* 91: 51-52.
- Reese, W.D. 1996. Two notes on *Syrrhopodon* (Musci: Calymperaceae) of Borneo: 1. *S. mammillosus* new to Borneo. 2. Another find of *S. meijeri*. *Bryologist* 99: 326-327.

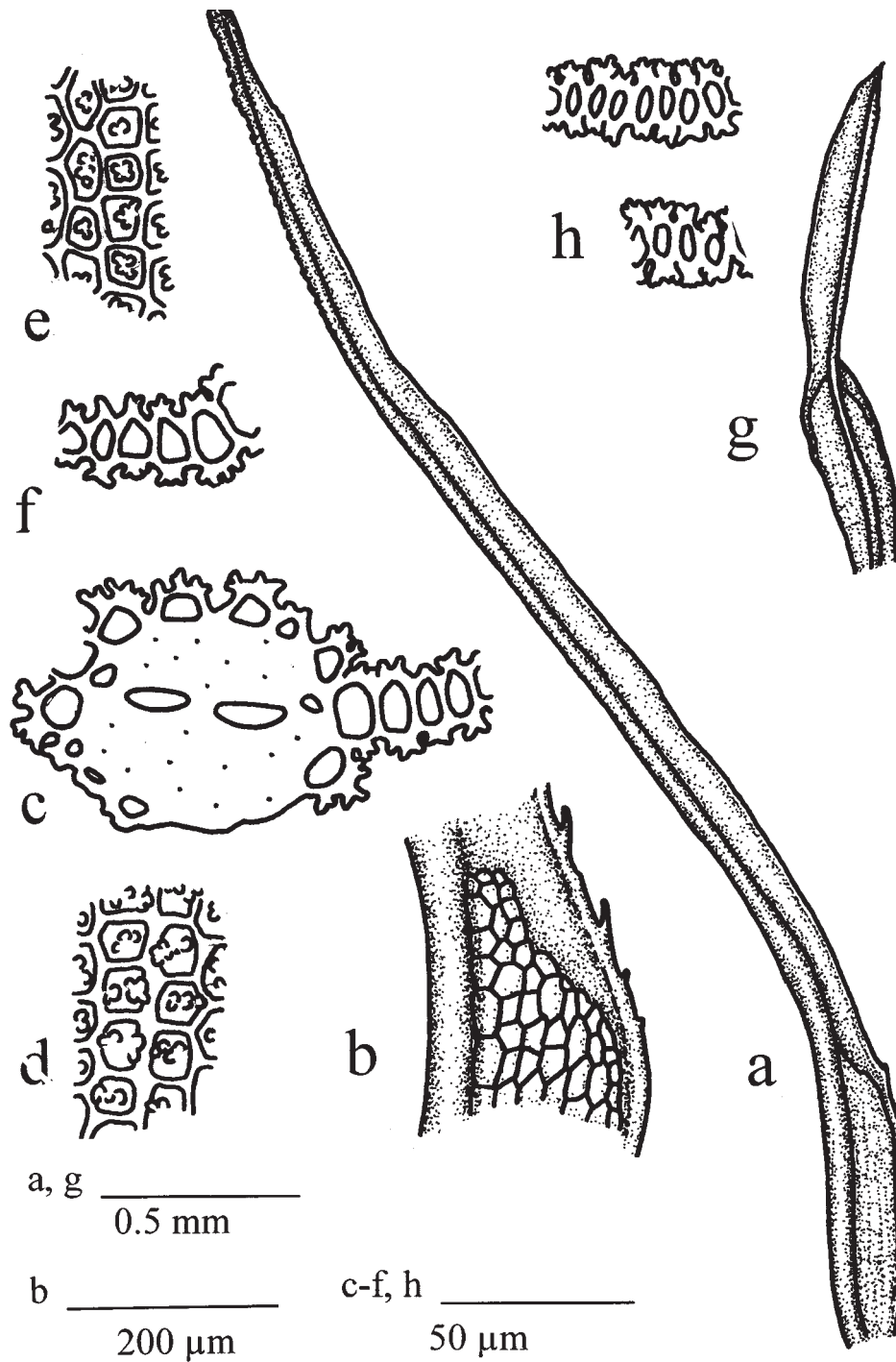


Fig. 1. a-f. *Syrrhopodon mammillosum* Müll. Hal. a, b: leaf (a: in dorsal-lateral view, b: detail of distal hyaline lamina); c, d: costa (c: ventral surface, d: in cross-section); e, f: chlorophyllose lamina (e: in surface view, f: in cross-section). g-h. *Syrrhopodon katemensis* (Zant.) L.T. Ellis g: leaf in dorsal-lateral view, h: chlorophyllose lamina in cross-section. a-f, Drawn from Philippines, *Tan & Hernaez 87-507* (BM). g, h, Drawn from Borneo, *Alston 13389b* (BM).

