

## A New Species of *Knema*

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*Knema meridionalis* J. Sinclair, sp. nov. Fig. 1.

*K. furfuraceae* (Hk. f. et Th.) Warb. similis sed foliis non cordatis, minoribus, nervis paucioribus, fructibus minoribus.

*Frutex* vel arbor parva 5–7 m. alta, dioicea. *Ramuli* foliaque novelli cum tomento stellato floccoso ferrugineo tecti, mox glabri. *Folia* adulta coriacea, lanceolata, supra viridissima, subtus albido-viridia, apice et basi acuta, circiter 18–19 cm. longa, circiter 5 cm. lata; petioli 7 mm.–1 cm. longi, pubescentes; nervi per pares 19–21 dispositi, curvati, in marginibus anastomosantes, omnes costaque elevati; reticulationes subtus praecipue in sicco visibiles, supra vix visibiles. *Flores masculi* 3–5, in tuberculis lignosis axillares vel in axillis foliorum delapsorum orti. *Pedicelli* 3–4 mm. longi, ferrugineo-tomentosi, bractea minuta truncata prope basin praediti. *Perianthii* segmenta 3–4, circiter 5 mm. longa, coriacea, ovato-rotunda, a basi conjuncta, extus ferrugineo-stellato-tomentosa, intus punicea, apice acutiuscula vel obtusa, erecta vel leviter incurva. *Discus staminalis* triangularis vel peltatus, stipite circiter 1 mm. longo rubro; anthera 11–12, brevissime stipitata, sub-erecta. *Flores feminei* sessiles, 7–10, in tuberculis lignosis axillaribus orti. *Perianthii* segmenta ut in masculo, sed magis coriacea et rigida. *Stigmata* viridia, infundibuliformia, apice multilobata. *Ovarium* hemisphericum, atro-fusco-stellato-pubes-cens, ovulo solitario. *Fructus* c. 1.7 cm. longus, obovatus, sessilis, ferrugineo-stellato-tomentosus, apice obtusus, ad basin sensim angustatus, pyriformis. *Semen* basale, carpellum implens, arillo pallido-aurantiaco apice laciniato tectum.

JOHORE: Sungei Sedili, Mawai, *Corner S.F.N. 29277*; Sungei Berassau, Mawai-Jemaluang Road, *Corner S.F.N. 28975*; 5½ mile, Kota Tinggi—Mawai Road, *Corner*, date 10: 5: 1935; 8th mile Kota Tinggi—Mawai Road, *Corner S.F.N. 28711*; 13½ mile Mawai-Jemaluang Road, *Corner S.F.N. 29420*; Sungei Tementang, Mawai-Jemaluang Road, *Corner S.F.N. 29290*; North of Gunong Blumut, *Holtum*



Fig. 1. *Knema meridionalis* J. Sinclair, sp. nov.  
 A, Portion with leaves and male flowers. B, Twig with female flowers. C and D  
 Female flowers top and side views. E and F, Male flowers top and side views  
 G, Fruit.

*S.F.N.* 10606; Bukit Tanah Alang, *Lake and Kelsall* 4012; Bukit Abu Bakar, *Nur and Kiah S.F.N.* 7757; Mt. Austin, *Ridley*, date 1906.

SINGAPORE: South side of MacRitchie Reservoir near golf course, *Sinclair S.F.N.* 38561; Maranta Avenue, Botanic Gardens, *Sinclair S.F.N.* 38914; Lawn 0, Botanic Gardens, *Sinclair S.F.N.* 38915; Bukit Timah, *Ngadiman S.F.N.* 34957; Chan Chu Kang, *Goodenough*, date 27: 11: 1890 and *Ridley* 6737; Kranji, *Ridley* 2543; Bukit Panjang, *Ridley* 12541; Sungei Morai, *Ridley* 6440.

This species appears to be confined to the south of the Peninsula. It is not uncommon in the MacRitchie Reservoir forest in Singapore. The description of the male flowers is taken from *Sinclair S.F.N.* 38914, the female from *Sinclair S.F.N.* 38915 and that of the fruit from *Sinclair S.F.N.* 38561. The midrib and the veins are red and they are conspicuously raised on the upper side of the leaf as well as the under. This species is near *K. furfuracea* (Hk. f. et Th.) Warb. but the latter has more veins, larger leaves and a larger fruit. The leaf base is never cordate in *meridionalis*. It is nearly always acute but occasionally slightly rounded.