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FROM EAST AFRICA

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STUDIES IN THE GESNERIACEAE OF THE OLD WORLD XXXVIII:
A NEW SPECIES OF STREPTOCARPUS FROM EAST AFRICA

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ABSTRACT. A new species of *Streptocarpus* is described from Tanzania: *S. thysanotus* Hilliard & Burtt.

When seed of a *Streptocarpus* collected near Kimboza, Morogoro Distr., Tanzania, was received from Dr T. Pócs in 1971, it was naturally expected that it would prove to be *S. kimbozanus* B. L. Burtt, a species known from only one herbarium collection. On flowering the plant, though clearly of this affinity, showed a number of discrepancies with the description of the published species. Dr Pócs then made further search in the Kimboza Forest Reserve and was successful in finding another plant of which he sent seed to Edinburgh. This flowered in 1972 and proved to match well with the description and type of *S. kimbozanus* and put our knowledge of that species on a firm footing.

The plant sent first was clearly an undescribed species, now named *S. thysanotus*. In corolla-form this plant forms a small group with *S. kimbozanus*, *S. gonjaënsis* Engl. and the West African *S. elongatus* Engl. and this group is of particular interest in the genus just because it provides a link between the species of east and west Africa.

The characteristic feature of this quartet is the forward directed lower lip and the reduced erect upper lip of the corolla (see fig. 1). All are annual species with sappy stems and long-pedunculate axillary inflorescences: an indumentum of long-stalked glandular hairs on the pedicels is a feature of *S. elongatus*, *S. gonjaënsis* and *S. thysanotus* but hairs on *S. kimbozanus* are eglandular and short.

S. thysanotus appears to be the strongest growing species of this small group, reaching a height of 75 cm. It is also characterized by its light purple flowers and by the fringe of hairs around the mouth of the corolla-tube: both *S. kimbozanus* and *S. gonjaënsis* are white-flowered and in *S. elongatus* the corolla is white with 2 yellow marks on the palate.

The new species may be inserted in the enumeration (Hilliard & Burtt, *Streptocarpus: an African Plant Study*, 1971) as No. 102/A between *S. kimbozanus* and *S. gonjaënsis*. The specific epithet refers to the conspicuous fringe of hairs around the corolla-mouth.

***Streptocarpus thysanotus* Hilliard & Burtt, species nova ex affinitate *S. gonjaënsis* Engl. a qua habitu robustiore, foliis latioribus, floribus violaceis palato labii inferioris majore, lobis labii superioris brevioribus semilunatis, filamentis et staminodiis papillois facile distinguitur. *S. elongatus* Engl. etiam affinis sed foliis superioribus haud orbicularibus subsessilibus, corollae coloris, tubo ventricoso, labio inferiore profundius lobato differt.**

Herba annua usque ad 75 cm alta, ramis paucis ex axillis inferioribus orientibus; caulis basi ad 2.5 cm diam., carnosus, viridis partibus vetus-

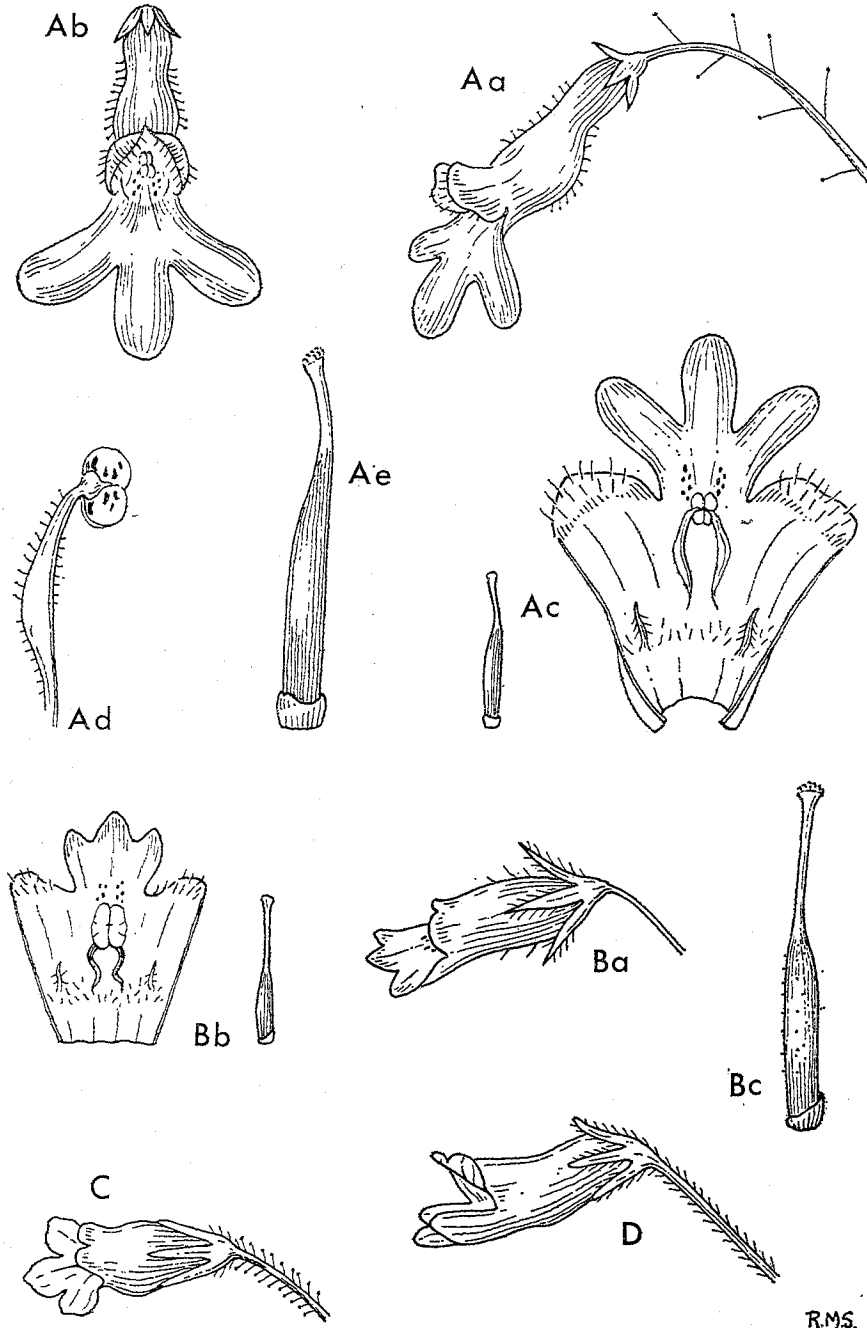


FIG. 1. A, *Streptocarpus thysanotus*: Aa, Ab, flower $\times 3$; Ac, corolla dissected $\times 3$; Ad, stamen $\times 6$; Ae, gynoecium $\times 6$. B, *S. kimbozanus*: Ba, flower $\times 3$; Bb, corolla dissected $\times 3$; Bc, gynoecium $\times 6$. C, *S. gonjaënsis*: flower $\times 3$ (from Bot. Jahrb. 57:210, fig. 1). D, *S. elongatus*: flower $\times 3$.

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tioribus rufo-brunneis, gregibus stomatum conspicuis ellipticis albis area rufo-brunnea circumcinctis, pilis parcis patentibus glanduloso-capitatis indutus. *Folia* ovata vel ovato-lanceolata, usque ad 12 × 9 cm, apice subacuta, basi subcordata interdum obliqua, marginibus integris ciliatis et hydathodis conspicuis praeditis, nervis lateralibus utrinsecus c. 10 curvatis ascendentibus, pagina superiore nitida pilis brevibus scabris et aliis parcis longioribus glandulosis induta, pagina inferiore minute pubescente pilis glandulosis et eglandulosis intermixtis; petioli inferiores ad 12 cm longi, summi 1 cm, caulibus similes. *Inflorescentiae* solitariae, axillares; pedunculi nudi ad 12 cm longi, ramulis floriferis ad 15 cm; pedicelli usque ad 1.5 cm; omnes pilis parcis sed conspicuis glanduloso-capitatis ad superficiem superiorem fere restrictis. *Calycis* segmenta lanceolata, 2.5 × 0.75 mm, viridia brunneo-maculata, glabra vel pilis acutis appressis paucis praedita. *Corollae* tubus 7.5 × 4.5 mm, ventricosus, inferne albus, superne pallide violaceus, extra glandulosus, intus minute glandulosus et circulo pilorum sub staminibus praeditus; labium superius erectus leviter bilobum, pallide violaceum, ore pilis unicellularibus barbatum; labium inferius 8 × 12 mm, lobis ellipticis, c. 6 × 3 mm, pallide violaceis, superne glabris, inferne glandulosis, palato albo carinis duobus papillatis retrorsum in faucem currentibus praedito et ibi saturate purpureo-maculato. *Stamina* e medio tubo orientia; filamenta 4 mm longa, supra medium incrassata, papillosa, apice glandulosa, alba violaceo-maculata; antherae 1.5 mm diam., pallide flavae violaceo-maculatae. *Staminodia* tria, lateralia c. 1.5 mm longa, papillosa, posticum minutum. *Discus* oblique cupularis, virescens violaceo-suffusus. *Ovarium* c. 4.5 mm longum in stylum 3 mm longum gradatim transiens, viride, glandulis sessilibus praeditum; stylus albus, glaber; stigma capitatum. *Capsula* tenuis ad 25 mm longa stylo excluso. *Semina* minus quam 0.5 mm longitudinaliter costata et transverse muriculata.

TANZANIA. Morogoro distr., Uluguru Mts., eastern slopes, seed coll. T. Pócs, cult. R.B.G. Edinb. 1971, C. 8094 (holo. E).