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Momang TARAM^a and Dipankar BORAH^{a,b,*}: *Aeschynanthus lineatus* (*Gesneriaceae*) — A New Record for the Flora of India

^aDepartment of Botany, Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh, 791112 INDIA;

^bDepartment of Botany, Goalpara College, Goalpara, Assam, 783101 INDIA

*Corresponding author: dipankar.borah@rgu.ac.in

(Accepted on July 20, 2020)

Summary: *Aeschynanthus lineatus* Craib, previously known from Southern China, Myanmar and Thailand, is reported for the first time from India.

Aeschynanthus Jack is one of the largest genera in *Gesneriaceae*, comprising ca. 160 species distributed from Sri Lanka and India to

southern China, Southeast Asia, New Guinea and the Solomon Islands (Weber 2004). The genus was recently revised for continental Southeast Asia by Middleton (2007, 2009, 2016). Bhattacharyya and Goel (2014) worked on the genus in India and recognized a total of 26 species, of which many have since been

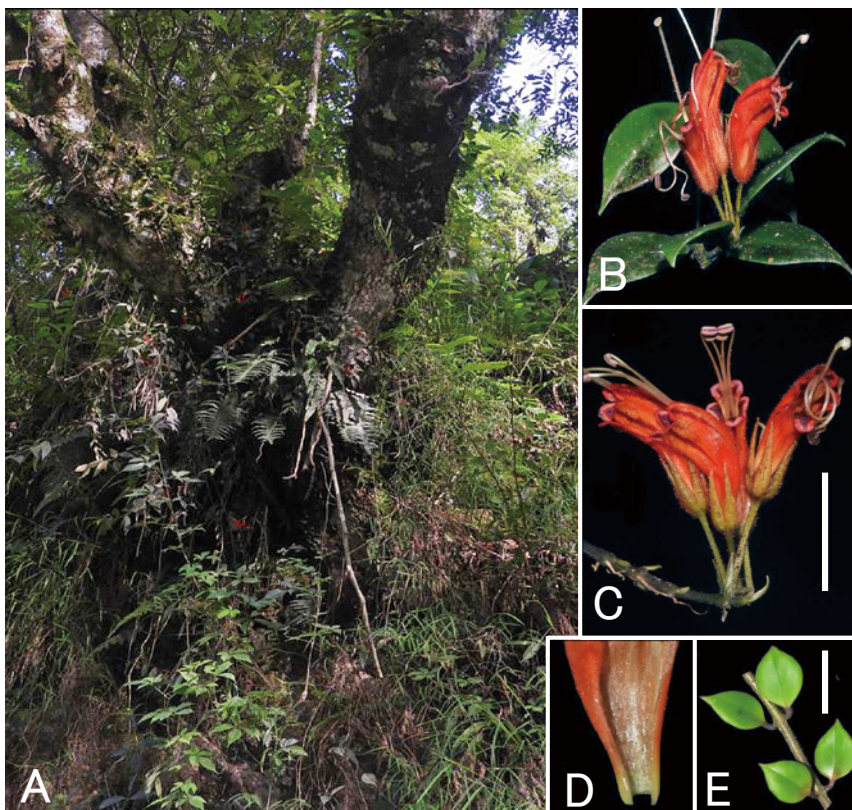


Fig. 1. *Aeschynanthus lineatus*. A. Natural habitat. B. Flowering twig. C. Flowers showing calyx and bracts. D. Corolla showing its glabrous interior portion. E. Leaves. Scale bars: 2 cm (C, E). Photographs by Momang Taram. Ziro valley, Lower Subansiri, Arunachal Pradesh, India, on 18 July 2019.

synonymized, accounting for a total of 16 species (Möller et al. 2017, Sinha and Datta 2016).

Whilst conducting floristic studies in Ziro Valley, Lower Subansiri District of Arunachal Pradesh, India, the authors collected an interesting specimen of *Aeschynanthus*. Later, after consulting relevant literature (Clarke 1884, Middleton 2007, 2009, 2016, Mukherjee et al. 2008, Bhattacharyya and Goel 2014, Datta et al. 2016, Sinha and Datta 2016, Möller et al. 2017) and different herbaria (ASSAM, ARUN, CAL, CALI, K, RBGH), it was identified as *Aeschynanthus lineatus* Craib, which is previously reported from Southern China, Myanmar and Thailand. The collection from the Ziro Valley is the first record of *A. lineatus* from India.

Aeschynanthus lineatus Craib in Bull. Misc. Inform. **6**: 201 (1913). [Fig. 1]

Flowering: July.

Distribution: Southern China, Myanmar, Thailand, India (Arunachal Pradesh).

Specimen examined: **INDIA**. Arunachal Pradesh, Lower Subansiri, Ziro valley, 1600 m, 18 July 2019, M. Taram & D. Borah183 (ASSAM).

Aeschynanthus lineatus Craib is most similar to *A. parviflorus* (G. Don) Spreng., widespread from the Himalayas and southern China to Thailand and Vietnam, in its habit, oppositely arranged leaves and bright red corolla with dark markings, but differs from the latter in having the calyx lobes free to the base rather than united into a tube for at least the lower quarter. *Aeschynanthus lineatus* grows in epiphytic as well as lithophytic conditions in association

with *Rubia cordifolia* L., *Asplenium nidus* L. and *Nephrolepis cordifolia* (L.) C. Presl.

The authors are thankful to D.J. Middleton for confirming the species identity and checking the MS, and to Mr. Ojar Taku for his help and cooperation in the field. The second author is also thankful to his parents, teachers and friends for their support and guidance.

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M.Taram^a, D.Borah^{a,b}: インド新産の *Aeschynanthus lineatus* (イワタバコ科)

イワタバコ科ナガミカズラ属の1種, *Aeschynanthus lineatus* Craib をインド, アルナチャル・プラデシュ州 Lower Subansiri で記録した. 本種はこれまで中国南部, ミャンマー, タイでのみ知られていたもので, インドか

らは初めての報告となる.

(^aインド・Rajiv Gandhi University, Department of Botany,

^bインド・Goalpara College, Department of Botany)