

A New Variety of *Cnesmone javanica* Bl. from South Andaman Island, India.

by

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Summary

A new variety *Cnesmone javanica* Bl. var. *glabriuscula* Balakr. & N. G. Nair (EUPHORBIACEAE) is described with illustrations, from South Andaman Island of Bay of Bengal in India.

***Cnesmone javanica* Bl. var. *glabriuscula* Balakr. & N. G. Nair var. nov. Fig. 1.**

Differt a var. *javanica* planta subglabra, gracili; internodiis stipulis et petioliis longioribus; foliis regulatum et minute dentatis; dentibus positibus distantibus; bracteis femineis longioribus; calycibus femineis glabris vel minute disperse puberulis.

Differs from var. *javanica* in being subglabrous slender plant; internodes, stipules and petioles longer; leaves regularly and minutely dentate; teeth distantly placed; female bracts longer; female calyx lobes glabrous or with very minute scattered hairs.

Twining herbs; internodes 15-30 cm long, \pm 4 mm thick, puberulous. *Leaves* oblong-ovate, 6-15 cm long, 4-12 cm broad, cordate at base, acuminate at apex, minutely toothed at margins, with scattered stiff hairs on nerves above, glabrous and light green below; petioles 8-12 cm long, \pm 2 mm thick, puberulous; stipules ovate-elliptic, 12-15 mm long, 4-6 mm broad, cordate at base, acuminate at apex. *Flowers* in leaf-opposed androgynous racemes, apetalous; male flowers superior in the raceme, female flowers inferior; lowest bracts ovate-lanceolate, 12-13 mm long, 8-9 mm wide; upper bracts successively narrower, linear-lanceolate. 2-4 mm long, 1-3 mm broad. *Male-flowers*:— pedicels 3-4 mm long, puberulous; calyx 3-partite, ovate-deltoid, \pm 5 mm long, \pm 8 mm wide; stamens 3, \pm 2 mm long, connective with long aristate and arcuate appendage at apex; anthers oblong, truncate, yellow, longitudinally dehiscing. *Female flowers*:— Calyx 3, imbricate, ovate, acute at apex, cuneate to subobtusate at base, \pm 12 mm long, \pm 8 mm broad, enlarging in fruits; ovary 3-celled, \pm 3 mm diam., covered densely with long stiff white hairs; styles 3, united at base, oblong-ovoid, fleshy, \pm 6 mm long, \pm 3 mm thick; stigmatic surface many-papillose, greenish or rarely pinkish, fleshy; fruiting calyx 12-15 mm long, 8-10 mm broad; fruiting pedicels 3-5 mm long; fruits sparsely white hairy, 3-lobed, \pm 2 cm across, \pm 1 cm high; seeds globose, 6-8 mm in diam., white, smooth.

SOUTH ANDAMAN ISLAND: Guptapara, 23 Nov. 1973, *Balakrishnan* 641 A (HOLOTYPUS in CAL); *ibid.* 641 B-E (ISOTYPI in PBL*); *ibid.* 641 F (ISOTYPI in K); Guptapara, 22 Oct. 1975, *Balakrishnan & Nair* 2287 (PARATYPI in PBL, CAL, K, L, SING).

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* Andaman-Nicobar Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair.

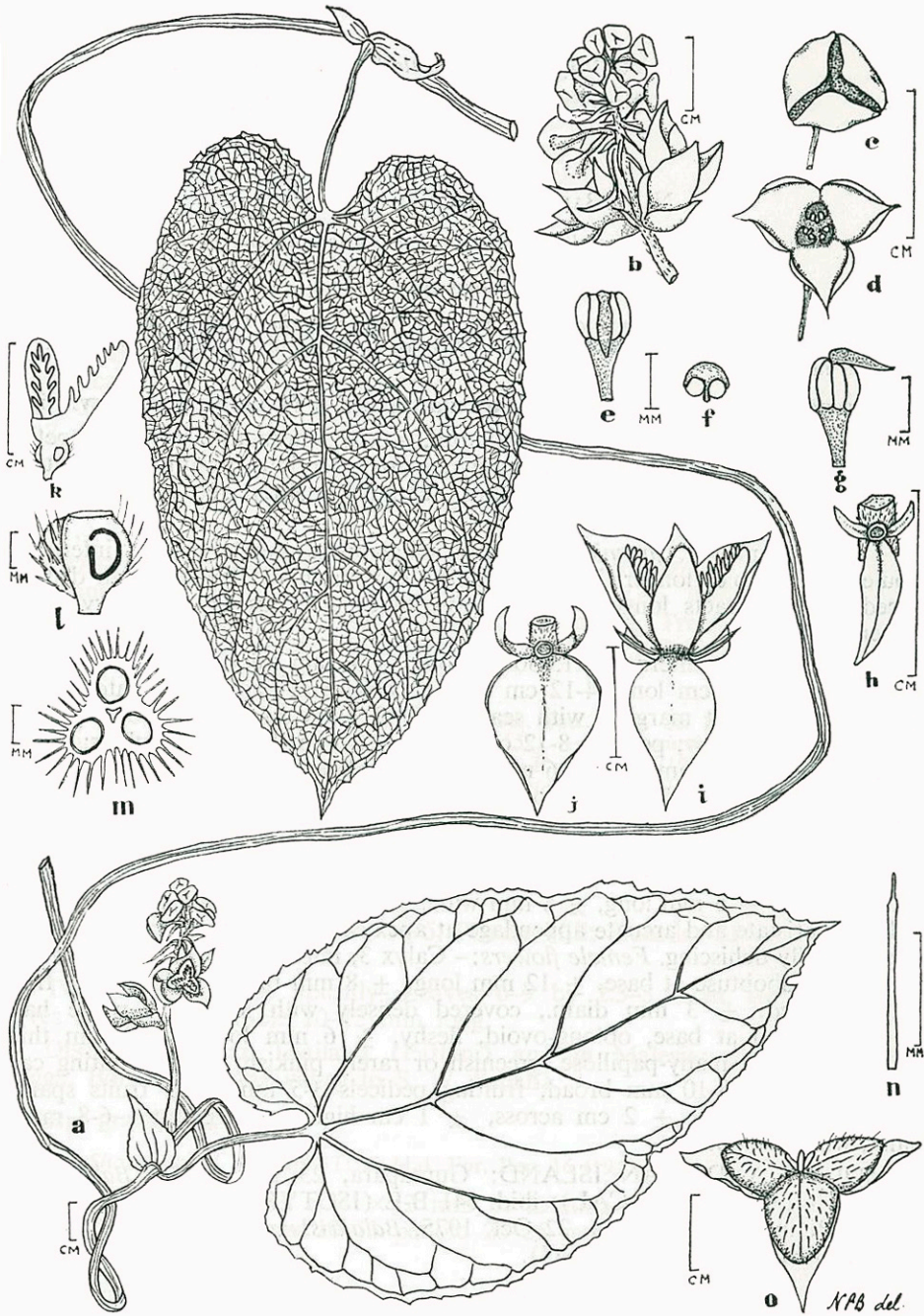


Fig. 1. *Cnesmone javanica* Bl. var. *glabriuscula* Balakr. & N. G. Nair. a. branch; b. inflorescence; c. male flower with closed tepals; d. male flower with open tepals; e. stamens with appendage in normal position; f. anther, top view; g. stamen with appendage lifted up; h. bracts of male flower; i. female flower; j. bracts of female flower; k. ovary, showing stigmatic lobes; l. l.s. of ovary; m. t.s. of ovary; n. hair of ovary; o. fruit with persistent tepals.