A new species of *Nepenthes* (Nepenthaceae) from Thailand

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ABSTRACT
This paper describes and illustrates a new species of Nepenthaceae, *Nepenthes krabiensis*. The new species is closely related to *N. rosea* which has been found in the same habitat of the wildlife sanctuary of Krabi Province in Southern Thailand.

KEYWORDS: Thailand, Krabi, Peninsular Thailand, taxonomy.

Published online: 13 December 2016

DESCRIPTION

**Nepenthes krabiensis** Nuanlaong, Onsanit, Chusangrach & Suraninpong, sp. nov.

This species is closely related to *N. rosea* but differs in longer decurrent leaves (1.4–2 cm vs. 0.2–0.5 cm); inconspicuous brown hairs (vs. hairs white, 0.1 mm); indumentum specifically distributed on the tendril, outer pitcher, leaf axil, inflorescence but absent on the lamina (vs. covering the inflorescence and often leaf margins and midrib); larger lower pitcher (vs. 3–4.5 × 8–15 cm) with green to orange with red stripes outside and red blotches over the inner surface (vs. green to light pink with dark pink stripes outside and uniformly green to dark pink over the inner surface); broadly ovate lid (vs. orbicular to slightly ovate); larger lid (vs. 3–4.5 × 2.5–4.5 cm); two types of nectarioles (vs. one type); larger peristome in lower pitcher (vs. 0.2–0.5 cm); wings in upper pitcher absent (vs. wide 0.5 mm); longer male and female inflorescence (vs. 40–50 cm and 20–50 cm, respectively); longer pedicle and rachis (vs. 25–30 cm and 10–25 cm, respectively); numerous male flowers (vs. 25–90 flowers); longer androphore (vs. 2–3 mm); and tepals oval in male inflorescence (vs. elliptic). Type: Thailand, Krabi Province, Khlong Pra-Bang Khram Wildlife Sanctuary.

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Thom District, Mt Nor Ju Jee, 600–700 m, 7°54’1.50”N, 99°18’15.90”E, ♀ fl. lower and upper pitchers, 29 July 2015, Nuanlaong 01464 (holotype Herbarium of Walailak University; isotype BKF). Figs. 1, 2 & 3.

Dioecious, glossy climbing herb, stems terete, 1.5–2.5 m long, 3.5–5 mm diam.; internodes 1.7–2.7 cm long; axillary buds present in the upper part of plant; green as the upper and brown as the lower. **Indumentum** of brown hairs, 0.1–0.2 mm long, present on leaf axils, tendrils, outer surface of pitchers, peduncles, rachis, sepals, androphore, and ovary; more inconspicuous on midrib (only 0.02–0.06 mm long); absent on lamina. **Leaves** glossy light-green in a rosette when young, green when mature; emerging from an orange-brown triangle lateral bud at the base of the midrib near the leaf attachment; coriaceous, lanceolate, apex acute, clasping the stem by three quarters of its circumference, decurrent for 1.4–2 cm of its length; pseudo-petiolate, alternate, dilating at the node, 2.2–4.2 × 12.4–19.3 cm, projecting along the stem as wings; longitudinal nerves 2–3 on each side of the midrib in outer third of lamina, inconspicuous pinnate nerves; midrib conspicuous; tendrils straight, terete, 2.0–2.5 mm diam., 10.5–15 cm long in lower pitchers and 1.5–2.5 mm diam., 8.0–11.5 cm long in upper pitchers, coiling. **Lower pitchers** green to orange with red stripes outside, red blotches over the inside, absent in glandular zone; green to orange or red peristome; lid green to red on the upper surface, green to yellow or orange on the lower surface, ca 3.5–5.2 × 12.1–19.5 cm; 50 to 60% ovate at the lower with digestive glandular at the inner surface, narrowing at the upper; conspicuous midsection hip with two fringed wings as 3–6 mm long, serrate to double serrate, along the length of the pitcher, 4.5–11 cm or run down ventral exterior surface from mouth to tendril, fringe elements 6–9 mm long; oblique ovate pitcher mouth rising toward the lid; peristome cylindrical or flattened, 1.0–1.6 cm wide, inner edge

![Figure 1](image_url)
Figure 3. *Nepenthes krabiensis*. A. habitat and habit, B. male inflorescence (left) and female inflorescence (right), C. lower pitcher, D. upper pitcher.
with teeth 0.5–1 mm, ridges 0.05 mm apart; broadly ovate lid, 3.6–5.3 × 3.7–6 cm, larger than mouth, sometime vaulted or bent towards the mouth, base cordate 2–4 mm, may or may not have appendage as a lower surface (14% vs. 86%, respectively); nectar glands numerous, elliptic, 0.25 mm diam. along the midrib, and with crateriform glands 0.13 mm diam. scattered over the lower surface of the lid; spur filiform, 3–8 mm long, with no branches. Upper pitchers light green, with red blotches over the inner surface, absent in glandular zone; peristome white, green to white or light green; lid light green; tendrils coiled; tubulose or narrowly to infundibular, 12–19 × 2–3 cm; hip comprising one third of the lower part; wings absent but with two conspicuous ribs from the mouth toward the tendrils; pitcher mouth ovate, less oblique than lower pitcher; peristome cylindrical to flattened, slightly raised at the front to form a triangular point, 0.5–1 cm wide, inner edge with teeth 0.5–1 mm, ridges 0.05 mm apart; lid broadly ovate, 3.6–5.3 × 3.7–6 cm, base cordate 2–4 mm, appendages absent; nectar glands similar to the lower pitcher; spur filiform, 1.5–5 mm long, no branches. Male inflorescences racemose, 58.6–62 cm long; petals green when young, red when old; peduncle 32–37 cm long, 2–4 mm diam., rachis 26.5–30 cm long; flowers 97–130, singly arranged, occasionally with 2-flowered partial peduncles, pedicels 0.9–1 cm long; bracts 3–4 mm long, present at the base or on the lower half of pedicels; flowers actinomorphic; tepals 4, ovate, 2.0–2.5 × 3.0–3.5 mm, cruciferous, valvate, densely covered with circular to elliptic nectarioles 0.01–0.02 mm diam.; androphore 4 mm long, anthers basifixed, anther head globular, 1.5–2.5 mm diam., anthers with 15–22 cells, dehiscence longitudinal; pollen in tetrads. Female inflorescences racemose, 47–63 cm long; petals green when young, green to yellow when old; peduncle 35.5–52 cm long, 2.5–4 mm diam., rachis 11.5–27.5 cm long; solitary flowers ca. 28–56 arise on pedicels, 0.7–1.2 cm long; bract absent; actinomorphic flower, tepals as males except: elliptic, 1.5–2 × 3.0–3.5 mm, nectarioles 0.01–0.03 mm diam.; stigma 2.0–2.5 mm diam.; ovary oblong, 4.5–6 mm long, superior with four syncarpous carpels; placentation axile. Infructescence similar to female inflorescence; sepals persistent; four valves, 1.4–2 cm long with septical capsule; seeds narrowly ovate, 3–5 mm long; 87–118 seeds per fruit.

Distribution.— Southern Thailand, founded only at Khao Pra-Bang Kram Wildlife Sanctuary, Krabi Province, Thailand.

Ecology.— On summit areas, in sandy or mool soil, often growing in limestone rock crevices, at 600–700 m above sea level.

Etymology.— The species is named after Krabi Province, to which it is endemic.

Phenology.— Flowering June to August.

Proposed IUCN conservation outlook assessment (2012).— Nepenthes krabiensis is assessed as Critically Endangered [CR B2ab (ii)]. It distributed in an area of 500 m² and only on a single site on the summit of Mt Nor Ju Jee.

Notes.— Nepenthes krabiensis is similar to N. rosea which grows in the same province and also on limestone mountains. The species share lanceolate, pseudo-petiolate and decurrent leaves, but N. krabiensis differs from N. rosea in the conspicuous coloration of the lower pitchers: being orange with red stripes, with red blotches over the inner surface and absent in the glandular zone, the green to orange or red peristome, the green to red lid upper surface, and the green to yellow or orange lid lower surface. The lower pitchers of N. rosea are green to light pink with dark pink stripes outside, and uniformly green to dark pink over the inner surface.

KEY TO N. KRABIENSIS AND RELATED SPECIES

The key below is developed from Mey (2010) and Mey et al. (2010)

1. Inflorescences racemose with flowers all arranged singly (a 1-flowered 'pedicel')
   2. Leaves obovate
   2. Leaves linear to lanceolate
   3. Plants with hairs on leaf axils, tendril and pitchers; tendrils long than pitcher; lower pitchers ovate in the lower third, narrowing above; cylindrical peristome
      N. kerrii
   N. kampotiana
   3. Plants entirely covered with hairs; lower pitchers ovate to narrowly ovate in the lower half, narrowing above, cylindrical or flattened peristome

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was supported by Walailak University. We especially thank Asst.Prof. Dr. Maruay Mekanawakul, School of Science, Walailak University and Mrs Raumporn Ketsarapong, Walailak Botanic Garden for their valuable suggestions; and the reviewers made useful comments for additions and changes. Special thanks are given to Dr. Pimpan Pimonrat, Mr Napon Klamkloaw, Ms Supunsiri Phosap and Mr Chayan Yodthammarat, School of Agricultural Technology, Walailak University for their assistances in the field and photographs.

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