

Nepenthes andamana M. Catal. sp. nov.

Nepenthi bokorensis Mey similis sed pedicellis bracteolatis, foliis supernis versus basin et apicem indumento caduco, foliis angustioribus, peristomio ascidii tenuiore differt.

Typus: Catalano 013395 (BCU), Thailand, province of Phang-nga, Takuapa, sea level, 2009.

Terrestrial climber to 3 m tall. Stem terete, 5 mm in diameter, internodes 2.5-3.5 cm long. **Leaves** coriaceous, 0.5 mm thick, lamina linear to lanceolate, 15-30 cm long, 2-3.5 cm wide, apex acute to narrowly acuminate, base attenuate and sessile, clasping the stem by three quarters of its circumference; longitudinal veins 3 on each side of the midrib in distal quarter of the lamina, pinnate veins arising obliquely from midrib; tendrils terete, 8-18 cm long, 1.5-2.5 mm in diameter, coiling in upper pitchers. **Lower pitchers** 10-16 x 3.5-5 cm, ovate in the lower half and narrowing above, hip at the mid-section; two alae, 4-6 mm wide, run down ventral exterior surface from mouth to tendril, fringed with narrow filaments; pitcher mouth oblique, oval; peristome cylindrical, 4-10 mm wide, teeth 0.5-1 mm long; lid orbicular to broadly ovate, 3-4.5 x 3-4.5 cm, larger than the mouth, often vaulted or bent towards the mouth, base cordate, lower surface without appendages, crateriform glands densely arranged and numerous, to 0.5-1 mm in diameter along the midrib; spur 5-7 mm long, simple, rarely branched; longitudinal veins 4-6 on each side of midrib. **Upper pitchers** 10-16 x 2.5-3 cm, tubulose or narrowly infundibular; alae 0-1 mm wide; pitcher mouth oblique, orbicular or broadly ovate; peristome as for lower pitchers but with outer margin often slightly lobed; lid as for lower pitchers. **Male inflorescence** a raceme, to 110 cm, peduncle 45-65 cm long, rachis 20-45 cm long with ca. 40-190 solitary flowers borne on pedicels 3-6 mm long, occasionally on 2-flowered partial peduncles, androphore to 1 mm; tepals elliptic, green when young, then red, 3-4 x 2-2.5 mm; a bract, to 2 mm long, is often present at the base or on the lower half of the pedicel. **Female inflorescence** as for male inflorescence, but rachis 17-22 cm long, with solitary flowers borne on pedicels 5-15 mm long; tepals elliptic, green, 4 x 1.5 mm; bracts absent or greatly reduced in size and number. **Indumentum** of orange or brown hairs, 0.1-0.8 mm long, covering the inflorescence and the bases, tips, margins and midrib of the leaves; stem glabrous; leaf indumentum caducous, absent in the lower part of plant. **Colour:** leaves light green, often with a reddish hue; stem, midrib and tendril green to red; lower pitchers green to orange with red stripes or completely red, with red blotches over the inner, non-glandular zone, peristome green or white to orange or red, lid orange to red, marked by fine red stripes; upper pitchers yellow to white, with or without red blotches over the inner, non-glandular zone, peristome white, lid green to white or yellow.

Distribution: Southern Thailand, coastal Phang-nga Province, in sandy soil, on open savannahs and grasslands, at sea level.

Specimens examined: Catalano 013395 (BCU), Thailand, province of Phang-nga, Takuapa, sea level, 2009.

Putative relatives: *Nepenthes andamana* is closely related to *N. kongkandana*, *N. bokorensis*, *N. kerrii* and *N. suratensis*. It differs from *N. kongkandana* in having linear to lanceolate leaves (vs. obovate) and a caducous indumentum limited to the tips and bases of upper stem leaves (vs. a persistent indumentum covering the whole plant).

It differs from *N. bokorensis* in having bracteate pedicels (vs. abradate), a caducous indumentum limited to the tips and bases of upper stem leaves (vs. a persistent indumentum of variable distribution), narrower leaves (2-3.5 cm vs. 7-8 cm) and peristome (10 mm vs. 20 mm).

It differs from *N. kerrii* in having linear to lanceolate leaves (vs. obovate) and a caducous indumentum limited to the tips and bases of upper stem leaves (vs. a persistent indumentum limited to leaf axils).

It differs from *N. suratensis* in having red flowers (vs. green with red margins), a shorter androphore (1 mm vs. 3 mm), flower bracts that are bent outwards (vs. bracts that are bent inwards), a caducous indumentum, 0.8 mm long, limited to the tips and bases of the upper stem leaves (vs. caducous indumentum, 0.3 mm long, covering the whole upper part of plant), less variable glandular zone (1/2 vs. 1/3 to 2/3 of pitcher length), narrower wings in upper pitchers (0-1 mm vs. 0-3 mm) and lower pitchers (up to 6 mm vs. up to 12 mm), orbicular to broadly ovate lids larger than the mouth, with flat margins and without depression (vs. broadly to narrowly ovate lids smaller than mouth, with wavy margins and with a small depression under the tip), a longer spur (5-7 mm vs. 3-5 mm), an ovate mouth, as large as 1/4 of the lower pitcher (vs. triangular mouth, as large as 1/3-1/2 of the lower pitcher), whitish upper pitchers with peristome slightly lobed on outer margin (vs. greenish upper pitchers without a lobed peristome) and a cylindrical peristome (vs. flattened).

Thanks to Andreas Fleischmann for the Latin translation and to Alastair Robinson for reviewing the description.

On the next page: 1. Lids, 2. Leaves, 3. Detail of lid's tip, 4. Detail of male inflorescence, 5. Male inflorescence, 6. Pitchers.