

Mycetia hirta Hutch. (Rubiaceae), a new record for the flora of Vietnam

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Abstract:

A newly recorded species, *Mycetia hirta* Hutch. (Rubiaceae) was reported from Muong Phang district, Dien Bien province in northern Vietnam. It is distinguished from the closely related species, *M. longifolia*, by its hairy stem and leaf blades, much shorter corolla tube and hirtellous calyx and corolla. Morphological description and color photographs of *M. hirta* Hutch. are provided.

Keywords: *Mycetia*, *Mycetia hirta*, new record, Rubiaceae, Vietnam.

Classification number: 3.4

Introduction

The genus *Mycetia*, comprising approximately 45 species, is distributed in tropical to subtropical Asia. 15 species are recorded from China [1], and four species from Laos [2]. The genus has been taxonomically studied by several authors [3, 4] and currently known with two species distributed in Vietnam.

During a recent fieldwork to Muong Phang district, Dien Bien province in northern Vietnam, the first and the third author found an unrecorded species of *Mycetia* in Vietnam and collected specimens. This species is similar to *M. longifolia* (Wall.) Kuntze, but can be differentiated by its hairy stem and leaf blades, much shorter corolla tube and hirtellous calyx and corolla. After referring to related literature and type specimens, we found that this species should be *M. hirta* Hutch. and never recorded from Vietnam. The detailed comparison of *M. hirta* and *M. longifolia* was given in Table 1.

Table 1. Morphological comparison of *M. hirta* with *M. longifolia*.

Morphological characters	<i>M. hirta</i>	<i>M. longifolia</i>
Height	1-1.5 m tall	to 2 m tall
Leaf blade	oblong-elliptic to elliptic sometimes ovate, 8-23×4-8.5 cm, both surfaces moderately to densely hispidulous	elliptic-lanceolate or elliptic, 5-18(-35)×3-7(-10) cm, adaxially sparsely strigillose, hispidulous, or glabrous
Peduncle	0.7-3.3 cm; branched portion 2-8×2.3-9 cm	0.5-1.5 cm, branched portion 3-4×5-6 cm
Calyx	densely hirtellous, hypanthium ca. 2 mm long	glabrous; hypanthium ca. 1.5-2 mm long
Corolla	outside sparsely to densely villosulous or hirtellous, tube 5-6.2 mm	outside glabrous to villosulous, tube 10-14 mm

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Results and discussion

M. hirta Hutch. is here described as a new record in Vietnam.

Mycetia hirta Hutch. in Sargent, Pl. Wilson. 3: 410. 1916. Type: China, Yunnan, Simao, A. Henry 12299 (holotype, K photo!, isotype, US photo!).

Shrubs, 1-1.5 m tall; stem hairy. Petiole 0.8-3.5 cm, densely villosulous to hirtellous; blade drying papery, oblong-elliptic to elliptic, 8-23×4-8.5 cm, both surfaces moderately to densely hispidulous, base obtuse to acute, apex acute; secondary veins 12-23 pairs; stipules usually persistent with leaves, oblong-lanceolate to ovate, 1-1.5 cm. Inflorescences terminal, several to many flowered, densely villosulous or hirtellous; peduncle 0.7-3.3 cm; branched portion 2-8×2.3-9 cm; bracts ovate, lanceolate, suborbicular, reniform, 2-9 mm, often marginally sparsely to densely stipitate-glandular; pedicels 1.5-4 mm. Flowers pedicellate. Calyx densely hirtellous, hypanthium ca. 2.3 mm; limb deeply lobed; lobes broadly triangular, 2-2.6 mm, marginally densely stipitate-glandular and sometimes

appearing lacerate, glands 0.3-0.6 mm. Corolla yellow, tubular, outside sparsely to densely villosulous or hirtellous; tube 5-6.2 mm, sparsely villous inside; lobes triangular, 1-1.8 mm.

Distribution: northern Vietnam (Dien Bien), China (Hainan, Yunnan).

Ecology and habitat: the species grows in shade of secondary forests at 400-600 m alt.

Specimen examined: northern Vietnam, Dien Bien province, Muong Phang District, 5 June 2005, Nguyen Quoc Binh VN 1542 [HN]; 10 July 2006, Nguyen Quoc Binh QB 521 [VNMN] (Figs. 1 and 2).

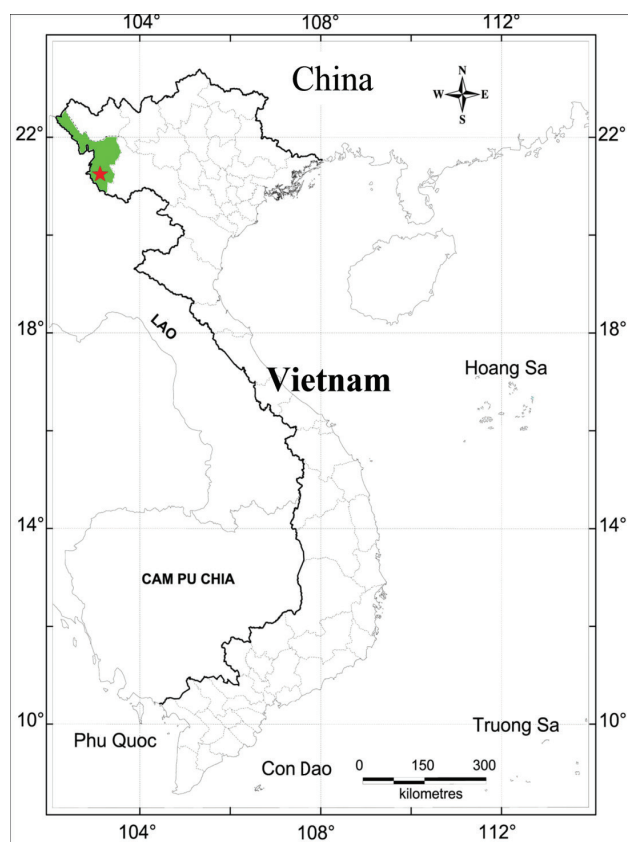


Fig. 1. Map showing the location of *M. hirta* Hutch. in Vietnam (indicated by the red star).

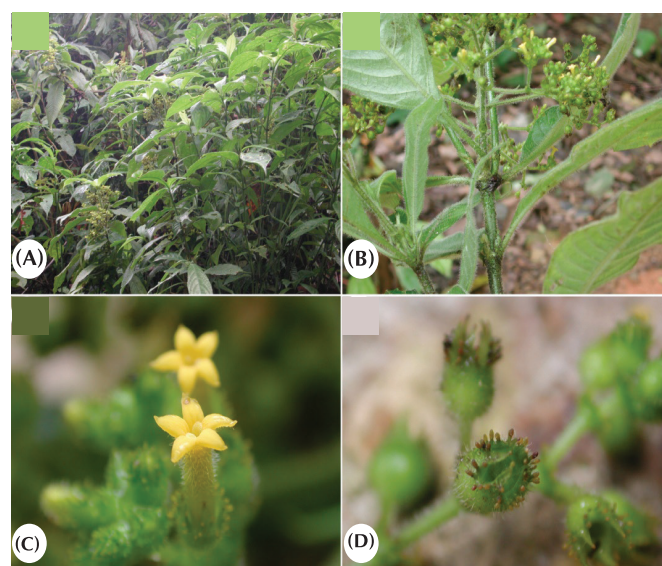


Fig. 2. *M. hirta* Hutch. (A) Habit, (B) Inflorescence, (C) Flower, (D) Fruit (photographed by Nguyen Quoc Binh from Dien Bien province).

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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