

Curcuma thailandica (Zingiberaceae), a New Species from Thailand

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(Accepted on February 13, 2020)

Curcuma thailandica Boonma & Saensouk, a new species from Nakhon Sawan province in Thailand, is described, illustrated and photographed.

Keywords: *Curcuma*, *Curcuma thailandica*, new species, Thailand, Zingiberaceae.

The genus *Curcuma* L. is an important natural resource that provides many useful products and is one of the largest genera in the family Zingiberaceae, with about 130 species (Maknoi and Sirirugsa 2012). Thirty-eight *Curcuma* species are recognized in Thailand by Sirirugsa et al. (2007) and Maknoi and Sirirugsa (2012). Within the past twenty years, many new species of the genus *Curcuma* were described e.g., *C. rhabdota* Sirirugsa & M. F. Newman (Sirirugsa and Newman 2000), *C. larsenii* Maknoi & Jenjitt. (Maknoi and Jenjittikul 2006), *C. antinaia* Chaveer. & Tanee (Chaveerach et al. 2007), *C. sattayasaii* Chaveer. & Sudmoon., *C. zedoaroides* Chaveer. & Tanee (Chaveerach et al. 2008), *C. bella* Maknoi, Sirirugsa & K. Larsen (Maknoi et al. 2011), *C. woodii* N. H. Xia & Juan Chen (Chen et al. 2015). We present a further new species here.

In the deciduous forests of the mountains in Nakhon Sawan province and northern Lop Buri (Lopuburi) province of Thailand, an undescribed species of *Curcuma* was found in the area 50–250 m above sea level, on sandy

loam soil. Some spots have pebbles and rocks. The undescribed species was called “Oum-Nong” or “Krachiew-Lueng” by the villagers who live close to the habitat area. This species is here described and illustrated under the name of *C. thailandica* Boonma & Saensouk. The morphology of *C. thailandica* is similar to *C. flaviflora* S. Q. Tong, *C. pambrosima* Škorničk. & N. S. Lý and *C. rhomba* Mood & K. Larsen. Characteristics and distinction of the species are summarized in Table 1.

Taxonomic treatment

Curcuma thailandica Boonma & Saensouk,
sp. nov. [Figs. 1, 2]

Type: THAILAND. Nakhon Sawan Province, Takfah District, 19 July 2018, Boonma T. no.1 (BKF!–holotype; BK!, KKU!, QBG!–isotypes).

Curcuma thailandica is similar to *C. flaviflora*, *C. pambrosima* and *C. rhomba* in some characters but differs in its inflorescence emerging from the lateral side of the pseudostems, yellow flowers, lateral staminodes

Bot. 3(2): 121–124.

Sirirugsa P., Larsen K. and Maknoi C. 2007. The genus *Curcuma* L. (*Zingiberaceae*) distribution and classification with reference to species diversity in

Thailand. Gard. Bull. Singapore 59(1, 2): 203–220.

Sirirugsa P. and Newman M. F. 2000. *Curcuma rhabdota*, a new species of *Curcuma* L. (*Zingiberaceae*) from S. E. Asia. New Plantsman 7(4):196–199.

T. Boonma^a, S. Saensouk^b: タイ産ウコン属 (ショウガ科) の 1 新種, *Curcuma thailandica*

ウコン属 *Curcuma* はショウガ科で最大の属の 1 つで、熱帯アジアを中心に約 130 種が知られている。タイには 38 種が認められてきたが、最近の研究でその数は増加している。本稿では、タイ北部・中部に産する未記載種を *Curcuma thailandica* Boonma & Saensouk と命名・

記載し、近縁種と比較し (Table 1) 生態写真と形態的特徴を図示した。

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