

A New Subspecies of *Lysionotus metuoensis* (*Gesneriaceae*) from Arunachal Pradesh, India

Krishna CHOWLU¹ and Gopal KRISHNA^{2,*}

¹Botanical Survey of India, Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre,
Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, 791111 INDIA;

²Headquarters, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata, West Bengal, 7000064 INDIA

*Corresponding author: gopal_bsi@yahoo.co.in

(Accepted on December 15, 2021)

Lysionotus metuoensis W.T.Wang subsp. *arunachalensis* Chowlu & G.Krishna is described and illustrated here from Pakke-Kessang district of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The new subspecies is morphologically similar to the typical *L. metuoensis* but differs by having longer leaves (2–8 cm vs. 2.4–3.5 cm), 3–6-flowered inflorescences (vs. 1-flowered), longer corolla (up to 6 cm vs. up to 5 cm) and 5-lobed disk (vs. entire). This new subspecies is confined to two different localities in the Pakke-Kessang district of Arunachal Pradesh, in a small population comprising 35–40 individuals.

Key words: *Gesneriaceae*, India, *Lysionotus metuoensis* subsp. *arunachalensis*, new subspecies.

The genus *Lysionotus* D.Don (*Gesneriaceae*) is mostly epiphytic, sometimes climbing or terrestrial evergreen subshrubs and distinguished from other genera by its opposite or 3-whorled, and isophyllous or anisophyllous leaves, margins entire to crenate-serrate; calyx lobes nearly free to base, rarely fused halfway and lanceolate in shape; corolla tubular to infundibuliform with an inflated upper half, limb slightly 2-lipped; stamens two, included; filaments flattened and curved; connivent, anthers with or without connective appendages and seeds with appendages (Don 1822, Clarke 1883, Weber 2004, Möller et al. 2017). The genus is mainly distributed from Himalaya to Japan and Indo-China and is represented by 31 species, 10 of which are in India (Sinha and Datta 2016, Möller et al. 2017, Akhil et al. 2019, Tian et al.

2020, POWO 2021).

During floristic studies in Arunachal Pradesh, India, the first author collected a few interesting specimens of *Lysionotus* from Pakke-Kessang district in 2020 and 2021. The collected plant looked like *L. metuoensis* W.T.Wang in Tibet but differed in various morphological characters by having pendulous branches, longer elliptic-lanceolate, densely hairy leaves and 3–6-flowered, shortly peduncled inflorescences. In careful investigations of morphological characters, relevant literature (Clarke 1883, Wang 1979, 1983, Hilliard and Burt 1995, Wang et al. 1998, Burt 1999, Hilliard 2001, Sinha and Datta 2016, Joe et al. 2017, Akhil et al. 2019, Taram et al. 2019, Tian et al. 2020), herbarium specimens housed in ARUN, ASSAM, BM, CAL and

- generic concepts and new family classification. *Rheedea* **27**(1): 23–41.
- POWO 2021. Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.plantsoftheworldonline.org/> Retrieved 13 November 2021.
- Sinha B.K. and Datta S. 2016. Taxonomic account on the family *Gesneriaceae* in Northeast India. *Nelumbo* **58**: 1–43.
- Taram M., Das A.P. and Tag H. 2019. *Lysionotus chatungii*—a new species of *Gesneriaceae* from Arunachal Pradesh in North-Eastern India. *Pleione* **13**(2): 399–402.
- Tian J., Zhang C.-F., Peng S., Wang J.-J., Wang Y., Hu G.-W. and Wang Q.-F. 2020. *Lysionotus coccinus* (*Gesneriaceae*), a new species from southwestern Yunnan, China. *Nordic J. Bot.* **2020**: e02912. doi: 10.1111/njb.02912
- Wang W.T. 1979. Taxa nova *Gesneriacearum* e flora Tibetica. *Acta Phytotax. Sin.* **17**(1): 110–111.
- Wang W.T. 1983. Revision of *Lysionotus* in China. *Guihaia* **3**(4): 249–284.
- Wang W.T., Pan K.Y., Li Z.Y., Weitzman A.L. and Skog L.E. 1998. *Gesneriaceae*. In: Wu Z.Y. and Raven P.H. (eds.), *Flora of China* **18**: 244–401. Science Press, Beijing and Missouri Botanical Gardens Press, St. Louis.
- Weber A. 2004. *Gesneriaceae*. In: Kubitzki K. and Kadereit J.W. (eds.), *The Families and Genera of Vascular Plants. Flowering Plants. Dicotyledons. Lamiales (except Acanthaceae, including Avicenniaceae)*. **7**: 63–158. Springer, Berlin.

K.Chowlu¹, G.Krishna²: インド (アルナチャル・プラデシュ州) 産シシンラン属 (イワタバコ科) *Lysionotus metuoensis* の1新亜種

インドのアルナチャル・プラデシュ州 Pakke-Kessang 地方から、イワタバコ科シシンラン属の1新亜種 *Lysionotus metuoensis* W.T.Wang subsp. *arunachalensis* Chowlu & G.Krishna を記載した。この新亜種は基本亜種から、葉がより長いこと、1花序に3–6花を付けること、花冠がより長いこと、及び花盤が5裂することで区別される。この新亜種はアルナチャル・プラデシュ州の2ヶ所に分

布するが、いずれも35–40個体から成る小さな集団に過ぎない。

(¹インド・Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Botanical Survey of India, ²インド・Headquarters, Botanical Survey of India)