

## A New Species of *Acer* from the Ryukyus

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A new species of *Acer*, *A. amamiense* is described from Isl. Amamiyohshima, the Ryukyus. This species resembles *A. diabolicum* Blume, but differs from the latter in having glabrous petioles and under surface of leaves, and fruits covered with sparse short hairs without bristle hairs.

**Key words:** *Acer*, Aceraceae, new species, the Ryukyus

I had studied an *Acer* species which was found by Hiroshi Yamashita in Isl. Amamiyohshima, the Ryukyus. This species resembles *A. diabolicum* Blume distributed in Honshu, Shikoku, and North and Central Kyushu. This plant has glabrous petioles and undersurface of leaves except at base of main nerves (Fig. 1a), and shortly soft-pubescent fruits without bristle hairs (Fig. 2a). *Acer diabolicum* has pubescent petioles and under surface of leaves (Fig. 1b), and fruits with long bristle hairs (Fig. 2b). Distribution of this plant distinctly separates from *A. diabolicum*. In spite of general resemblance with *A. diabolicum*, the plant seems to be adequate that it is a new species.

***Acer amamiense* Yamazaki, sp. nov.**

[Figs. 1a, 2a, 3]

Deciduous suffrutex ca. 4 m altus. Rami rubrofusci, glabri. Folia opposita, petiolis gracilibus, 4–12 cm longis, basi connatis, margine sparse pubescentibus, ceteris glabris, laminis papyraceis, obovate-orbiculatis, basi truncatis vel late cuneatis, 5–10 cm longis, 7–12 cm latis, (3–) 5-lobatis, prominente (3–) 5-nervatis, utrinque glabris, ad basem pubescentis, lobis triangularibus, acutis, integris vel unidentatis. Racemi masculi ca. 5 cm longi, 2 cm lati, flores masculos multas et bisexuales paucis gerentes. Flores masculi,

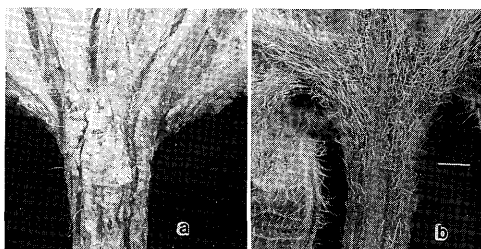


Fig. 1. Undersurface of leaves. a, *Acer amamiense*. b, *A. diabolicum*. Bar: 1 mm.

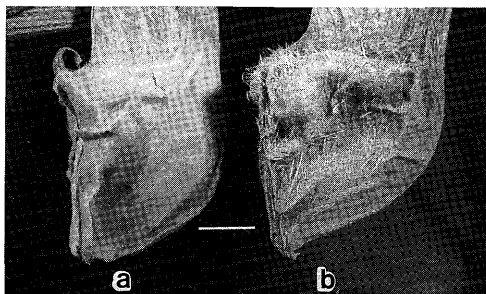


Fig. 2. Fruits. a, *Acer amamiense*. b, *A. diabolicum*. Bar: 2 mm.



Fig. 3. *Acer amamiense* Yamazaki (Photo by H. Yamashita. Aug. 21, 1999).

pedicelis 5–15 mm longis, dense pubescentibus, sepalis 6, viridis, oblongis, obtusis, ca. 3 mm longis, 1.5 mm latis, glabris, staminibus 12, ca. 10 mm longis. Racemi femini 4–5 cm longi, ca. 2 cm lati. Flores femini, pedicelis 5–10 mm longis, dense pubescentibus, sepalis 6, viridis, oblongis, obtusis, ca. 3 mm longis, 1.5 mm latis, glabris, ovariis dense adpresse breviter pilosis. Racemi fructiferi 8–10 cm longi, fructibus 5–12, pedunculis sparse pubescentibus, pedicelis

7–12 mm longis, glabris. Samara nuculis compressis horizontalibus, ca. 7 mm longis, 5 mm latis, beriter pubescentibus, alis ascendentibus, extus rectis, intus leviter falcatis, 17–25 mm longis, 7–10 mm latis, sapsre breviter pubescentibus.

Holotypus: Isl. Amamiohshima, Kinsakubaru 金作原 ca. 300 m alt., along the edge of evergreen forest. (Jun. 29, 1999, T. Yamazaki no.4162, TI).

#### 山崎 敬：琉球からのカエデ属の1新種

1999年6月、奄美大島に行った際、地元の山下弘氏から未知のカエデの生育場所に案内されて、その調査を依頼された。常緑樹林脇の斜面にはえていて、高さ4 m程の木本で、丁度果実が多数ついていた。調べたところ、カジカエデ *Acer diabolicum* Blume によく似ていた。しかし、カジカエデは九州では熊本県、宮崎県以北に分布し、鹿児島県には知られておらず、奄美大島では飛び離れた分布になる。詳細に比較するとカジカエデの葉柄や葉の裏には多数の毛が生えているのに、奄美のものは殆ど無毛である。またカジカエデの果実には短い軟毛がある他に、長い剛毛が生えて

いて、これがカジカエデの大きな特徴であるが、奄美のものは短い軟毛だけで、剛毛はなく、ルーペで見なければ無毛のように見える。カジカエデに良く似ているが、分化の程度の弱い別の種類として扱うのが妥当と考える。これをアマミカジカエデ *Acer amamiense* Yamazaki と名付ける。6本ほど見つかっていると言う。現地でも希少な植物である。

現地を案内され、また花の時期の標本を送って下さった山下氏に深謝します。

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