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Hideaki OHBA: **A New Intersectional Hybrid of *Cerasus* (*Rosaceae*) Found in Japan**

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Summary: A new putative hybrid, *Cerasus ×shikamae*, is described based on morphological differences. The hybrid was found in Yamagata Prefecture, northern Honshu, Japan, by Setsuo Shikama. The putative parents are *Cerasus maximowiczii* (Rupr.) Kom. in sect. *Phyllomahaleb* and *C. leveilleana* (Koehne) H. Ohba in sect. *Serrulatae*. This is the first intersectional hybrid between the species in the sections *Phyllomahaleb* and *Serrulatae*. *Cerasus ×shikamae* differs from *C. maximowiczii* in having relatively large bright green leaves with acuminate apex and single serrations, pedicels and petioles with dense spreading hairs, and relatively large flowers and petals with emarginate apex, while from *C. leveilleana* it differs by the racemose inflorescences with conspicuous bracts up to 8 × 7 mm, the inconspicuous glands at the base of blades, and the flowers 1.7–2.2 cm across.

Mr. Setsuo Shikama, curator of the Yasôen (a public wild flower park), Yamagata City, Yamagata Prefecture, northern Honshu, Japan, sent me a specimen of a curious flowering cherry growing naturally in the park in 2007. The cherry is significant since it shares some features with species of sect. *Phyllomahaleb* and others with those of sect. *Serrulatae*.

The cherry is presumed to be a natural hybrid between *Cerasus maximowiczii* (Rupr.) Kom. (sect. *Phyllomahaleb*) and *C. leveilleana* (Koehne) H. Ohba (sect. *Serrulatae*) (Ohba 2001, 2007, 2010). *Cerasus maximowiczii* is rare in and around the park at an elevation of ca. 550 m, but occurs on mountain slopes behind the park at approximately 800 m; *C. leveilleana* is rather common there. The hybrid flowers at least one week earlier than *Cerasus leveilleana* and *C. maximowiczii*.

The hybrid is represented by only a single tree estimated to be more than 30 years old. It is approximately 8 m tall and 25 cm across at the base. The bark, sporadically fissured longitudinally, is pale purplish gray and has many lenticels arranged transversely side by side like those in both putative parents.

The racemose inflorescences and large conspicuous persistent bracts characterize the species of sect. *Phyllomahaleb*, which is represented solely by *Cerasus maximowiczii* in Japan. The relatively large bright green leaves with acuminate apex and single serrations, pedicels and petiole with dense, spreading, white hairs, and the relatively large flowers 1.7–2.2 cm across in the hybrid indicate its similarity to *Cerasus leveilleana* of sect. *Serrulatae*.

I name this hybrid *Cerasus ×shikamae*. The epithet is dedicated to Mr. Setsuo Shikama, who noticed it and made an effort to conserve it in the park.

Cerasus maximowiczii is distinguishable from *C. ×shikamae* by the coaetaneous flowers, bracts with serrulate margins, leaves with double serrations, clawed widely elliptic petals with rounded apex and widely cuneate or rounded base.

Cerasus leveilleana differs from *C. ×shikamae* by the corymbose inflorescence with 1 to 3 flowers, the interpetiolar glands, and triangular obovate bracts less than 4 mm long with serrulate margins (Fig. 1a, b).

Cerasus ×shikamae resembles *C. katonis*, also found in Yamagata Prefecture, but differs

Fig. 1. *Cerasus* ×*shikamae* H. Ohba. a. Branches with flowers and leaves. b. Inflorescences, showing conspicuous bracts and spreading hairy pedicels and flowers with white petals.

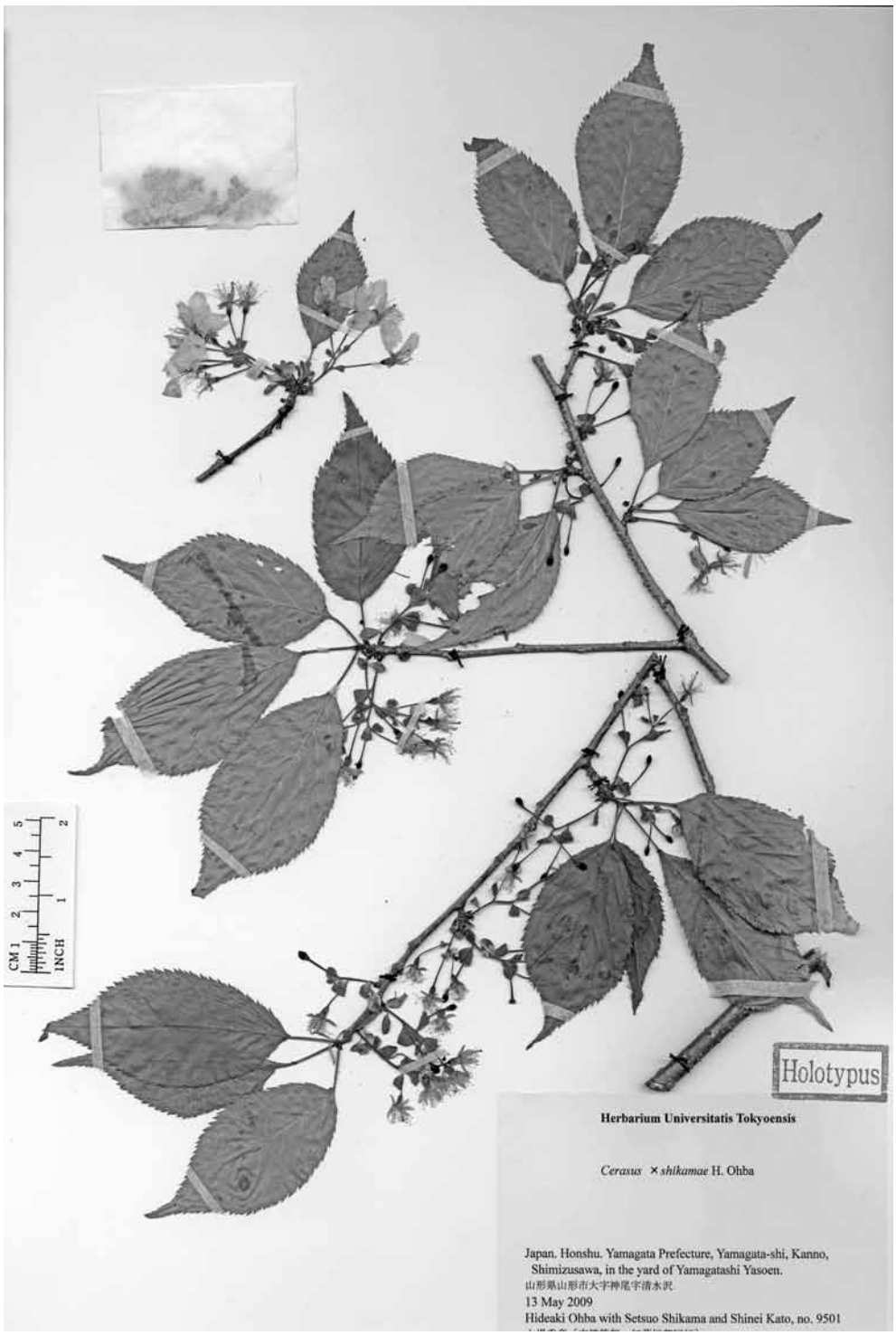

Fig. 2. *Cerasus* ×*shikamae* H. Ohba, the holotype specimen deposited in TI.

in having a racemose inflorescence with conspicuous, large, widely obovate bracts to 8 × 7 mm, and petals with a claw-like base. *Cerasus katonis* has a corymbose inflorescence with 2 to 4 flowers, widely triangular obovate bracts 5 × 3 mm, and petals with a truncate base.

Cerasus* ×*shikamae H. Ohba, hybrid. nov. [Figs. 1, 2]

Cerasus inter *C. maximowiczii* (Rupr.) Kom. in sectione *Phyllomahaleb* et *C. leveilleana* (Koehne) H. Ohba in sectione *Serrulatae*, quasi intermedia versimiliterque ex hybridatione harum specierum orta; ab *C. maximowiczii* floribus coaetaneis (non proteranthis), petalis emarginatis (nec routundatis), foliis margine singulariter serrulatis (nec duplicato-serrulatis) ab *C. leveilleana* floribus in racemis (nec corymbosis), inflorescentia conspicuque bracteatis persistentibus (nec bracteis inconspicis) bene diagnoscenda.

Type: **JAPAN**. Honshu: Yamagata Pref., Yamagata-shi, Kanno, Shimizusawa, on the grounds of Yamagata-shi Yasoen. Elevation ca. 150 m. (Hideaki Ohba with Setsuo Shikama and Shin'ei Kato, no. 9501, 13 May 2009, TI–holo [Fig. 2], iso; TNS–iso).

Deciduous tree to 8 m tall; trunk base 25 cm broad, bark pale purplish gray, sporadically fissured longitudinally, with lenticels arranged transversely side by side; hornotinous branches often reddish, slender, lustrous, glabrous. Leaves petiolate; petiole 1.6–2.4 cm long, densely hairy with white, spreading hairs ca. 0.5 mm long; blade narrowly obovate or narrowly oblong-obovate, (4.5–)7–9(–10) cm long, (2.5–)3–4(–4.5) cm wide, base attenuate, margins serrulate with single but sometimes double teeth with 1 or 2 small projections, apex acuminate; upper surface sparsely pilose, lower surface pale, glabrous except sparsely hairy along main and secondary veins; glands at base of blade inconspicuous. Inflorescences racemose, consisting of 4 or 5 flowers; axis usually 2.5–3.5 cm long, with dense white spreading hairs; bracts green, conspicuous, widely obovate, 6–8 mm long, 4–7 mm wide, apex rounded, margins usually entire, sometimes with few serrations, persistent after flowering. Flowers coaetaneous, 1.7–2.2 cm across; pedicels (1–)1.4–2.2 cm long, with dense spreading white hairs. Calyx green shaded red, with tubular base; tube 3–4 mm long, hairy; lobes approximately as long as tube, subulate. Petals white, widely oblong to oblong, 1–1.4 mm long, 5–8 mm wide, apex emarginate, base claw-like, spreading at flowering. Stamens 32–40; filament white, tinged with red in upper portion, erect at flowering; anther dull red, probably abortive. Pistil reduced. Fruits and seeds not seen.

I express my thanks to Mr. Setsuo Shikama for giving me this opportunity to describe this new hybrid. Dr. David E. Boufford, the Harvard University Herbaria, read the manuscript, to whom I am indebted. Thanks are also due to Mr. Shin'ei Kato, Tsuruoka City, Yamagata Prefecture for his courtesy and for encouraging my studies on the Yamagata flora.

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大場秀章：**ミヤマザクラとカスミザクラの種間雑種**

サクラ属のミヤマザクラ節に分類されるミヤマザクラとヤマザクラ節に分類されるカスミザクラとの種間雑種と推定されるサクラが山形市野草園内で見い出された．これはその地に自生していた個体で，同園の志鎌節郎によって発見された．樹高はおよそ 8 m あり，樹

齢は30年ほどと推定される．花は開葉してから咲くミヤマザクラとは異なり，開葉と同時に咲く．花序はミヤマザクラに似て総状で，目立つ苞葉があるが，縁はほぼ全縁でミヤマザクラにある重鋸歯はまれである．花弁は先が円形のミヤマザクラと異なり2裂する．上記等にみられるミヤマザクラとの相違は片親と推定されるカスミザクラに由来するものと推察する．発見者の貢献を讃え，*Cerasus* ×*shikamae* の学名を提唱した．ミヤマカスミザクラの和名を提案する．

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