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Botany. — “*On Distylium Stellare O. K. and Aporosa Campanulata J. J. S.*” By J. J. SMITH. (Communicated by Prof. F. A. F. C. WENT).

In the “Verslag van de gewone vergadering der Wis- en Natuurkundige Afdeeling der Koninklijke Akademie van Wetenschappen te Amsterdam van Vrijdag 23 April 1909” (These Proc. May 1909) Dr. S. H. KOORDERS published a note entitled: “Plantae Junghuhnianae ineditae III. Einige pflanzengeographische Bemerkungen über eine im Java’schen Hochgebirge wildwachsende Art von der Hamamelidaceen-Gattung *Distylium* Sieb. und Zucc.”

This paper gives me occasion for the following remarks.

Dr. KOORDERS’s note is partly based on the supposition, that I had described in *Icones bogorienses* III (1907), t. CCXXIX (not t. 209, as Dr. K. cites) a *Mallotus campanulatus*; however I described l. c. an *Aporosa campanulata*.

In the said “Verslag” p. 954 Dr. KOORDERS further writes:

“Im Jahre 1907 wurde dieselbe Art (viz. *Distylium stellare* O. K. von Herrn SMITH unter Benutzung der von BOERLAGE gemachten Bestimmung als *Mallotus* spec. nov.) als neue Art der Euphorbiaceengattung *Mallotus*, nämlich als *M. campanulatus* J. J. S. nov. spec. beschrieben und abgebildet. Aus der zitierten Publikation von Herrn J. J. SMITH geht hervor, dass man in Buitenzorg damals (1907) die von OTTO KUNTZE im Jahre 1891 publizierte, sehr gute Speciesdiagnose dieser Art, nämlich *Distylium stellare* O. KUNTZE (Revisio gen. pl. I, 233) übersehen hat, wie auch früher bei der in 1895 ausgegebenen Bearbeitung der *Hamamelidaceae* für die Koord. en VALETON Bijdrage Boomsoorten Java II, 202, von meinem Collaborateur Herrn Dr. TH. VALETON und mir die erwähnte, in 1891 von O. KUNTZE publizierte Speciesbeschreibung übersehen worden war. Indessen kann ich auf Grund meiner vergleichenden Untersuchung der Leidener, Berliner und Kew-Originalspecimina mit Sicherheit erklären, dass die erwähnte, von Herrn J. J. SMITH als neue Art der *Euphorbiaceae* im Jahre 1907 beschriebene und die von O. KUNTZE in 1891 als neue Art der *Hamamelidaceae* beschriebene javanische Waldbaum-species vollkommen identisch sind.”

I regret, that I cannot share Dr. KOORDERS’ opinion. When we compare the description and the plate of *Aporosa campanulata* with the characteristics of the genus *Distylium* the result is, that the former cannot possibly belong to this genus. Even the defective description of *Distylium stellare* O. K. suffices to prove, that the two plants in question are totally different, though they may show a

superficial resemblance in the form of their leaves. So the stamens are very differently shaped (in the description of *Aporosa campanulata* Ic. bog. III, 72, a line is missing, but the delineation is very clear), the ovarycells in *Distylium* contain only one, those in *Aporosa* two ovules, and the style in the two genera is distinct. Moreover the inflorescence and leaves (nervation, hairiness, leafstalk etc.) are unlike in both plants.

Distylium stellare O. K. in Herb. Kds. only is represented by ♀ specimens. However I think, that O. KUNTZE placed the plant in the right family and genus.

Aporosa campanulata J. J. S. is a true *Euphorbiaceae* and doubtless an *Aporosa*. (The plant probably belongs to the Philippine *A. sphaeridophora* Merr.).

Distylium stellare O. K. in Herb. Kds. is represented from the following places:

"Wildhoutaanplant" near pasanggrahan Pengalengan, 1400 m. above sealevel, afd. Bandoeng, res. Preanger. Therefore probably not of spontaneous growth here.

Forest Bentjana on G. Slamat, 1360—1500 m. above sealevel, afd. and res. Tegal.

Near pasanggrahan Simpar on the northslope of G. Slamat, res. Tegal.

Forest near the summit of G. Prahoe, 2200—2550 m. above sealevel, Dieng-plateau, res. Bagelen. On one of the sheets from this habitat "Dieng-kultuur" is noted.

Forest Mantren, afd. Magelang, res. Kedoe.

"Wildhoutkultuur" on G. Sindoro, Myrica near Kledoeng, 1405 m. above sealevel, res. Kedoe.

The plant was first (1891) designated by Dr. KOORDERS as *Flacourtia* sp. and *Flacourtia* n. sp., the specimen from Pengalengan as? *Aporosa*? Later most of the specimens were labelled *Mallotus* sp. (n. 11), while finally (in 1899) all specimens were named *Aporosa*? *aurita* Baill. The sheet from Mantren bears a label, written in 1898: ? *Euphorbiaceae* (? ? Genus dubium BOERL. et Kds.).

All these labels are in the handwriting of Dr. KOORDERS.

Aporosa Campanulata J. J. S. is represented in Herb. Kds. from: Takoka, 1200 m. above sealevel, afd. Tjiandjoer, res. Preanger. Tjigenting, 1450 m. above sealevel, afd. Bandoeng, res. Preanger. Forest Grendjeng, near Bringombo, 1800 m. above sealevel, afd. Bandjarnegara, res. Banjoemas.

Dr. KOORDERS determinated the plant rightly as an *Aporosa*,