

Merremia vitifolia (Burm. f.) Hall. f. (Convolvulaceae), a New Record for Taiwan.

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ABSTRACT: *Merremia vitifolia* (Burm. f.) Hall. f. (Convolvulaceae) is reported for the first time from southern Taiwan. The species is easily distinguished from other Taiwanese *Merremia* by the hirsute stem, palmately lobed leaves and fresh yellow corolla. A description and illustration are provided.

KEY WORDS: *Merremia vitifolia*, Taiwan

The genus *Merremia* comprises about 80 species widely distributed in the tropics (Fang and Huang, 1979). The genus is characterized by contorted anthers, bilobed globular stigma and 4-valved or irregular dehiscent capsule. In Taiwan, the genus was first revised by Lu (1972) who recognized six species and one variety. His treatment was mostly adopted with little modification by Chang (1978) in the Flora of Taiwan. Recently, a collection made by the first author has resulted in the discovery of a new record, *Merremia vitifolia* (Burm. f.) Hall. f., in Taiwan.

Merremia vitifolia (Burm. f.) Hall. f. in Engl. Bot. Jahrb. 16:552, 1893; Merr. in Philip. J. Sci. Bot. 19:374, 1921; van Ooststr. in Blumea 3:329, 1939; R. C. Fang & S. H. Huang, Fl. Reip. Pop. Sin. 64(1):68, pl. 14:5-7, 1979. 掌葉菜纒藤 Fig. 1

Convolvulus vitifolius Burm. f., Fl. Ind. 45, t.18, f.1, 1768.

Ipomoea vitifolia (Burm. f.) Blume, Bijdr. 709, 1825.

A prostrate or twining vine. Stems, petioles, peduncles, pedicels and outer sepals densely covered with spreading, yellowish white trichomes or occasionally glabrous. Stems terete, the old becoming woody and often striate. Leaves orbicular in outline, 5-9 cm long and wide, palmately 5-7-lobed, sometimes 3-lobed, cordate at base; leaf segments broadly triangular or ovato-lanceolate, slightly narrowed toward the base, acute to acuminate and mucronate at apex, coarsely dentate on margin, canescent on both surfaces; petioles 1-3(-7) cm long, hirsute. Cymes axillary, 1-3- or several-flowered; peduncles 1-3 cm long; bract minute, subulate;

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