

## Abstract

*Hibiscus asper* Hook. f. (Malvaceae), a native to tropical Africa, has recently been found in abandoned lands of central Taiwan. The species is distinguishable by its stems with sparse pricks, the calyx with dense bristles and red protuberances, light yellow flowers with a red-purple center, and the hilum of seed surrounded by hairs. Line-drawing, photographs and a distribution map of this newly naturalized species are provided to aid its identification.

## 摘要

糙葉木槿原產於熱帶非洲，近期於臺灣中部廢耕地發現。本種辨識特徵為莖具稀疏的刺毛，花萼密生刺毛與紅色突起，花淡黃色中央為紫紅色，種臍周圍生有毛。本文提供該種植物的手繪圖、彩色照片及分布地點供識別之用。

**Key words:** *Hibiscus asper* Hook. f., Malvaceae, newly naturalized, Taiwan

**關鍵詞：**糙葉木槿、錦葵科、新歸化、臺灣

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## Introduction

The genus *Hibiscus* Linnaeus belongs to the family Malvaceae. It comprises about 200 species distributed in tropical and subtropical areas (Tang *et al.* 2007). Most species of this genus are of economic importance as fibers, ornamentals, medicine, victuals and cosmetic products (Holland 1918, Ayanbamiji *et al.* 2012). According to records, only seven species have been recorded in Taiwan (Chang 1993, Yeh 2005). Recently in 2013, two newly naturalized

species of this genus have been added (Liu *et al.* 2013, Wang and Li 2013). Besides the nine species recorded, another newly naturalized species *Hibiscus asper* Hook. f. was also found in central Taiwan during our field research.

*H. asper* was described in 1849 by J. D. Hooker from the specimen collected in Sierra Leone (Sprague 1913). Later, *H. asper* was reduced along with other species to *H. cannabinus* by Masters in 1868 (Sprague 1913). Hochreutiner in 1900 progressed further more in extending the category of *H. cannabinus*, which