

Chloranthus henryi Hemsl. (Chloranthaceae), a New Record to the Flora of Taiwan

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ABSTRACT: *Chloranthus*, a genus of the Chloranthaceae, comprises about 18 species in the world. In addition to the previously recorded *C. oldhami* in Taiwan, *C. henryi* is a new addition to the flora. It is easy to distinguish *C. oldhami* from *C. henryi* by the shape of stamen apices, and the existence or absence of styles. In the present work, a key to distinguish the genus *Chloranthus* in Taiwan, a line drawing, photographs, and distribution of *C. henryi* are provided.

KEY WORDS: Chloranthaceae, *Chloranthus henryi*, New record, Taiwan, Taxonomy.

INTRODUCTION

Chloranthus Swartz, a genus of the Chloranthaceae comprising about 18 species in the world, is distributed in the subtropical and tropical Asia (Todzia, 1993; Mabberley, 1997). Previously, there is only one species, i.e., *C. oldhami* Solms., recorded in Taiwan (Liu, 1976, 1996). In the course of our botanical inventory, *C. henryi* Hemsl. was found as a new record. In contrast to the widespread *C. oldhami*, *C. henryi* is restrictedly distributed in the eastern part of the island. The newly recorded species can be easily distinguished from *C. oldhami* by the acute stamen apices and the absence of styles. On the contrary, conspicuous styles and obtuse stamen apices characterize *C. henryi*. Moreover, all of the four sporangia lie closely in *C. henryi*, while two pairs sporangia are slightly separated in *C. oldhami*. This study provides a key to distinguish the genus *Chloranthus* in Taiwan.

Key to the species of *Chloranthus* in Taiwan

1. Style conspicuous; stamen apex obtuse *C. oldhami*
1. Style absent; stamen apex acute *C. henryi*

Chloranthus henryi Hemsl., J. Linn. Soc. Bot. 26: 367. 1891; Wu, Fl. Reip. Pop. Sin. 20(1): 92. pl. 28: 9-13. 1982. 寬葉金粟蘭 Figs. 1-3

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Fig. 1. *Chloranthus henryi* Hemsley. A: Habit. B: Branch. C: Inflorescence.