

NOTES ON *SONERILA CELEBICA* (MELASTOMATACEAE)

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Abdulrokhman Kartonegoro. 2011. Catatan mengenai *Sonerila celebica* (Melastomataceae). *Floribunda* 4 (3): 63–64. — Berdasarkan analisis karakter morfologi, *Sonerila celebica* dan *S. froidevilleana* merupakan satu jenis yang sama. Oleh karena itu *S. froidevilleana* dimasukkan ke dalam sinonim dari *S. celebica*.

Kata kunci: Karakter morfologi, *S. celebica*, *S. froidevilleana*.

Abdulrokhman Kartonegoro. 2011. Notes on *Sonerila celebica* (Melastomataceae). *Floribunda* 4(3): 63–64. — Based on analysis of morphological characters, *Sonerila celebica* and *S. froidevilleana* are recognized as conspecific. Consequently, *S. froidevilleana* is sunk as a synonym of *S. celebica*.

Keywords: Morphological characters, *S. celebica*, *S. froidevilleana*.

Sonerila is the only trimerous genus in the family of *Melastomataceae*. It has one or less often two whorls of stamens in the flowers. The inflorescence is usually a scorpioid cyme or a contracted thyrse, sometimes solitary flowers occurs. The pollen sacs often diverge at the base and the connective is not prolonged and lacks appendages. The fruit is a capsule with a triangular pyramidal, obconical, or campanulate shape (Cellinese 1997).

Bakhuizen van den Brink f. (1945) proposed two species of *Sonerila* from Sulawesi namely *S. celebica* Bakh. f. based on a specimen collected by Monod de Froideville (number 202) in Mount Rante Karoa, and *S. froidevilleana* Bakh. f. based on an additional collection by Monod de Froideville (number 171) from Mount Mambulilin. He distinguished both species by the characters listed in Table 1.

Upon field observation in Sulawesi and further examination with morphological characters analysis of the type specimens with some additional collections in BO, it is shown that both species have similar and some intermediate characters. The indumentum on the stem and petioles shows variation from subglabrous to densely hairy; the leaf pairs are anisophyllous, densely hairy and ciliate in the lamina and leaf margins. All specimens show terminal umbelliform, thyrsoid inflorescences in 3–4 flower aggregates, and the anthers are 2-pored.

Based on these observations, I recommend these two taxa be merged into one species. I totally agree with notes written by J. Ohwi in 1945 on the type specimen labels stored in BO, where he states that Monod de Froideville 171 & 202 belongs to the same species. Unfortunately Ohwi determines both specimens using the unpublished name *S.*

nummularia Ohwi.

Sonerila celebica Bakh. f. (Figure 1).

Sonerila celebica Bakh. f., *Blumea* 5 (1945) 582. — Type: Monod de Froideville 202, Celebes, Mt. Rante Karoa, N of Makale 1800 m. 1938 (L; iso BO).

Sonerila froidevilleana Bakh. f., *Blumea* 5 (1945) 583. — Type: Monod de Froideville 171, Celebes, Mt. Mamboeliling near Mamasa 2500 m. 1938 (L; iso BO). **syn. nov.**

Erect, woody herb 8–40 cm tall. Stem terete, striate to smooth, purplish, densely covered with bristle hairs 0.5–1 mm long, nodes swollen. Leaves opposite, thin, isophyllous to anisophyllous; ovate to suborbicular, apex acute, base rounded to subcordate, margin serrate or crenulate, ciliate; leaf 3-nerved with bristly hair 0.2–0.4 mm long and white spots on both sides, dark green; larger leaves 0.8–2 cm long by 0.5–1.3, cm wide; smaller leaves 0.4–0.7 cm long by 0.4–0.5 cm wide. Petiole terete, sparsely to densely covered with bristly hair, 0.5–1.5 cm long. Inflorescence terminal, umbelliform, 3–4 flowered, peduncle densely hairy, bracts minute, pedicel terete or rather angular, subglabrous or sparsely hairy, 0.5–0.6 cm long. Hypanthium urceolate, base cuneate, glabrous, c. 3 mm long by 2 mm wide, calyx lobes 3, narrowly triangular, 1.5 mm long. Flower buds conical, 3–3.5 mm long. Petals 3, glabrous, white, obovate to suborbicular, apex acuminate, 6–7 by 5 mm. Stamens 3, filaments glabrous, white or pink, 3–4 mm long, anthers ovoid to oblong, connective not prolonged, inappendiculate, glabrous, 2 pores, yellow, c. 1.5 mm long. Ovary ovoid, apex crowned by bristly hairs, style terete, glabrous, white purplish, 5–6 mm long, stigma capitate. Fruits triangular pyrami-

Table 1. Characters discussed by Bakhuizen f. (1945) in describing *S. celebica* and *S. froidevilleana*

<i>S. celebica</i>	<i>S. froidevilleana</i>
Stem and petioles glabrous	Stem and petioles densely hairy
Leaf pair anisophyllous	Leaf pair isophyllous
Leaf sparsely ciliate	Leaf densely ciliate
Flowers in aggregate	Flowers solitary
Anthers 2-pored	Anthers 1-pored

Figure 1. *S. celebica* Bakh. f.

dal, glabrous or sparsely hairy, 5–6 mm long, apex densely hairy with persistent calyx lobes, 5 mm wide; stalks sparsely hairy, 7–15 mm long.

Distribution. Endemic to Sulawesi (Central, South and South East Sulawesi).

Habitat. Montane forest, common as an understorey plants between 1800–2500 m.

Notes. This species resembles *S. tenuifolia* Blume from West Malesia but differs by its oblong leaves, sagittate and acuminate anthers and also by non-venulose petals.

Specimens examined. Sulawesi. Mt. Mambulilin, Monod de Froideville 171 (BO, L); *ibid.* Monod de Froideville 171a (BO); Mt. Rante Karoa, Monod de Froideville 202 (BO, L); Mt. Roreka Timbu, van Balgooy 3158 (BO, L); *ibid.*, Hennipman 5342 (BO, L); Mt. Rante Mario, Kar-

tonegoro 485; Mt. Mekongga, Widjaja 9769 (BO); *ibid.*, Widjaja 9931 (BO, L); Mt. Watuwila, Kartonegoro 241 (BO, L).

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