

ABSTRACT

Erycibe is a big taxon consisting about 75 taxa distributed from western India and Sri Lanka across tropical and subtropical Asia to the northern tip of Queensland, Australia. The present study is focusing on the morphology and taxonomy of *Erycibe* in Peninsular Malaysia. The results show that Peninsular Malaysia consists of nineteen taxa. At present, seventeen taxa have scientific names with an additional two new taxa known as *Erycibe* sp. A and *E.* sp. B. Four taxa are endemic to Peninsular Malaysia.

In the taxonomic revision, a key to aid taxa identification was developed based on a combination of morphological characters. The vegetative characters especially leaf characters are extensively used in the key. In addition, the reproductive characters such as inflorescence types are also utilized in distinguishing *Erycibe* taxa. Characters such as twig surface, inner bark texture and colour are not considered good taxonomic characters in distinguishing taxa level, however, can be applied for the field recognition for the genus. Trichome characters from the calyx and midpetaline bands are dependent characters and need supporting characters, thus this character was not preferably used in the key unless no other character could be used.

Taxa descriptions with full synonymy, geographic distribution with distribution maps, habitat and ecology information are given. Identification lists for herbarium specimens are provided.

Conservation status assessment on *Erycibe* taxa was also carried out. Nine taxa are categorized as Least Concern, one as Near Threatened, two as Vulnerable, two as Endangered, one as Critically Endangered, two as Data Deficient and none is Extinct.

ABSTRAK

Erycibe adalah suatu takson yang besar terdiri daripada kira-kira 75 taksa yang mempunyai taburan dari barat India dan Sri Lanka merentasi tropika dan subtropika di Asia sehingga hujung utara Queensland, Australia. Kajian yang dijalankan memberi tumpuan kepada morfologi dan taksonomi takson *Erycibe* di Semenanjung Malaysia. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahawa Semenanjung Malaysia terdiri daripada 19 taksa. Pada masa kini, 17 taksa mempunyai nama saintifik yang sah, ditambah dengan dua taksa baru yang dikenali sebagai *Erycibe* sp. A dan *E.* sp. B. Empat taksa berstatus endemik di Semenanjung Malaysia.

Dalam semakan taksonomi, kekunci untuk membantu pengecaman taksa telah dibina berdasarkan gabungan ciri morfologi. Ciri-ciri vegetatif terutamanya ciri daun telah digunakan secara meluas dalam kekunci ini. Di samping itu, ciri-ciri reproduktif seperti jenis jambak juga digunakan dalam membezakan taksa *Erycibe*. Ciri-ciri seperti permukaan dahan, tekstur dan warna kulit dalam dianggap sebagai ciri taksonomi yang kurang baik dalam membezakan taksa, namun boleh digunakan untuk mengenal pasti genus ini semasa dilapangan. Ciri-ciri trikrom dari kaliks dan jalur “midpetaline” adalah ciri yang bergantung dan memerlukan ciri-ciri sokongan, oleh itu ciri ini tidak digunakan sepenuhnya dalam kekunci melainkan jika tiada ciri lain yang boleh digunakan.

Deskripsi taksa berserta nama sinonim, peta taburan geografi, habitat dan maklumat ekologi disertakan. Senarai spesimen herbarium yang telah diidentifikasi disediakan.

Penilaian status konservasi terhadap taksa *Erycibe* juga telah dijalankan. Sembilan taksa dikategorikan sebagai “Least Concern”, satu sebagai “Near

Threatened”, dua sebagai “Vulnerable”, dua sebagai “Endangered”, satu sebagai “Critical Endangered”, dua sebagai “Data Deficient” dan tiada yang “Extinct”.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOL

Commonly used abbreviations or symbol

| Abbreviation or symbol | Word |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bkt. | Bukit |
| <i>c.</i> | <i>circa</i> ; about |
| cm | Centimeter |
| Cpt. | Compartment |
| e.g. | for example |
| Ed./Eds. | editor/edited/editors |
| <i>et al.</i> | and others |
| <i>ex</i> | In |
| <i>f.</i> | <i>filius</i> ; the son |
| Fig. | Figure |
| F.R. | Forest Reserve |
| FRIM | Forest Research Institute Malaysia |
| Gn. | Gunung |
| i.e. | <i>id est</i> ; that is |
| µm | Micrometer |
| Mt. | Mount |
| <i>n.v.</i> | <i>Non vidi</i> ; not seen |
| No. | Number |
| P. | Pulau |
| <i>pers. comm.</i> | personal communication |
| <i>p.p.</i> | pro parte; partly |
| s.n. | Unnumbered |
| SEM | Scanning Electron Microscopy |
| sp. | Species |
| var. | Variety |
| vs. | Versus |
| ! | seen by author |

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