



Arisaema lihengianum (Araceae): A newly recorded from Vietnam

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Abstract: *Arisaema lihengianum* J. Murata & S. K. Wu, a previously known species only in China, is newly recorded from Vietnam. It is found in primary limestone forest in Na Hang Nature Reserve, Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam. [oang Thanh Son, Trinh Ngoc Bon, Nguyen Quang Hung and Pham Quang Tuyen. *Arisaema lihengianum* (Araceae): A newly recorded from Vietnam. *Nat Sci* 2023,21(5):54-56].ISSN1545-0740(print);ISSN2375-7167 (online).<http://www.sciencepub.net/nature> 07.doi:[10.7537/marsnsj210523.07](https://doi.org/10.7537/marsnsj210523.07).

Keywords: *Arisaema lihengianum*; Araceae; Vietnam

Introduction

The genus *Arisaema* includes about 170 species (Gusman, 2001). They are distributed mainly in Asia and few species there are in East-Northern Africa and Northern America (Mayo, 1997). Before, this genus was recorded with 5 species belonging to 2 sections in Vietnam (Gagnepain, 1942; Pham Hoang Ho, 1993). Recent studies (Luu, H. T., 2013, 2014; Nguyen Van Du, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2005; Nguyen Van Du and P.C. Boyce, 2005) have recorded 20 species of this genus known in Vietnam. All of them belong to 4 sections (J. Murata, 1984).

In the expeditions in Na Hang Nature Reserve (Tuyên Quang province), a species of *Arisaema* genus was collected. Through morphological analyses, we recognized that the characters of this species completely fit to the species *Arisaema lihengianum* J. Murata & S. K. Wu. This investigation surprised us because *Arisaema lihengianum* was an endemic species of China for long time but now it has been found in Northern Vietnam.

Description:

Arisaema lihengianum J. Murata & S. K. Wu, J. Jap. Bot. 78: 83. 2003.

Plants to 50-70 cm tall, monoecious or male. Rhizome creeping horizontally, purplish to brownish outside, red-purple or violet inside, subcylindric, to 14 × ca. 3.5 cm, branching. Cataphylls to 25 cm, some encircling peduncle directly. Leaf 1, expanding simultaneously with inflorescence; petiole purplish brown to violet, mottled with green 30 cm, lacking pseudostem; leaf blade 3-foliolate; petiolules 3.5-4 cm; leaflets subequal in size, to 20 × 15 cm; central leaflet oblong-elliptic, base rounded-cuneate, apex acuminate and caudate; lateral leaflets oblique. Peduncle 12-22 cm. Spathe tube white or pale green, narrowly funnelform, 5-6 × 8-10 cm when opened; limb proximal half white, distal half dark red-purple, narrowly deltoid to narrowly deltoid-ovate, 15-20 × 5-7 cm, apex acuminate. Spadix bisexual after sex change; female zone 20-30 × ca. 10 mm; female flowers green, bottle-shaped; male zone 10-20 × ca. 8 mm; male flowers basically white; appendix sessile, 15-18 cm, slender, exerted from throat of spathe and pendulous, proximally white, distally dark red-purple, throughout with numerous filiform neuter flowers 3-5cm.

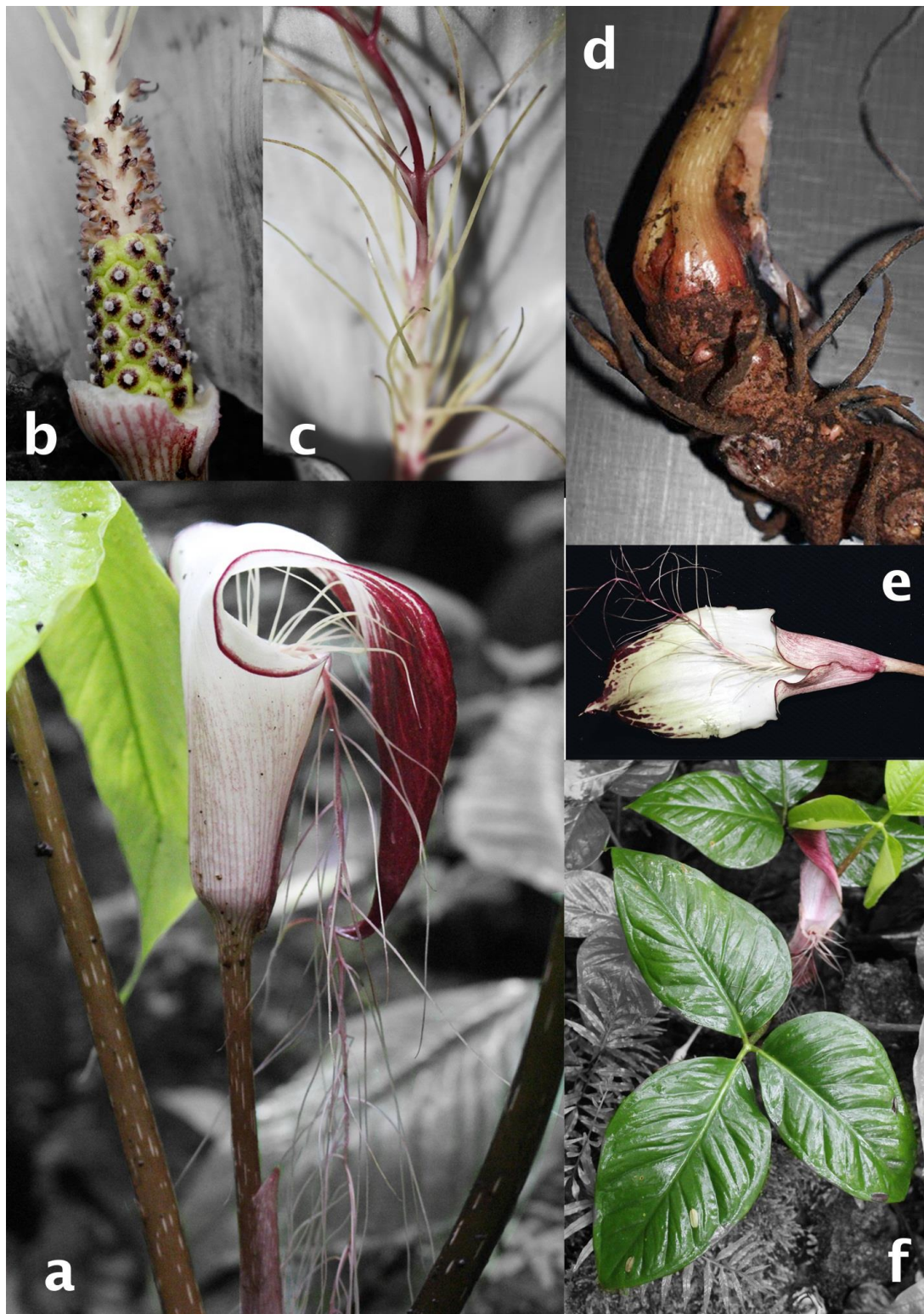


Fig. 1. *Arisaema lihengianum*

- a: Flowering plant with tuber; -b: Bisexual spadix; -c: Filiform; -d: Rhizome; -e: Inflorescence; -f: Leaf blade.

Habitat:

Primary and secondary board-leaved evergreen sub-mountain forest on very steep rocky of Na Hang Nature Reserve; 450-1000 m alt.

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Distribution:

Vietnam (Tuyen Quang), China (Gangxi and Yunan).

Phenology: Flowering, February - March; Fruiting, April – May.

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