

SOME ANNOTATIONS TO THE COMPOSITAE COLLECTED BY
O. BECCARI IN BORNEO AND SUMATRA

by

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The *Compositae* of the Malay Archipelago and New Guinea collected by O. Beccari have been studied by U. Martelli in 1883. Afterwards J. Matfeld reconsidered some of Beccari's *Compositae*, chiefly specimens of the genus *Blumea*, founding also a new species, *Anaphalis arfakensis*, on a Beccari specimen from Papua.

The re-examination of the above mentioned collection brought to light some misinterpretations.

1. The Bornean plant identified by Martelli as *Spilanthes urens* Jacq. does not belong to that tropical American species, but it is the endemic Bornean species *Spilanthes chamaecaula* A. H. Moore. In his revision of the genus *Spilanthes*, Moore distinguished the two species which are very similar in their habit, but clearly distinct in their achenes. In his annotations Martelli indicates that Beccari found the Bornean species growing in great quantities on the beach which gave him the impression that the plant had already been introduced for a long time. Martelli's remark about the astonishing geographical distribution of *Spilanthes urens* is explained now in so far as there is no question of one and the same species: there are two different ones.

This is the second record of the Bornean *Spilanthes*.

2. The Sumatran specimen identified as *Erechtites petiolata* Benth. appears to be *Erechtites valerianifolia* (Wolf) DC., a species from Brasil and introduced into Java in 1845. It has since spread all over the Malay Archipelago. Martelli followed Hooker's identification, though Martelli himself found very little difference between the Beccari plant and a specimen of *Erechtites valerianifolia* from Brasil which he checked with it.

3. *Lactuca kanitziana* Martelli from Borneo is identical to *Youngia japonica* (L.) DC. [= *Crepis japonica* (L.) Benth.] which is introduced all over the Malay Archipelago. Martelli thought already that the Beccari plant was introduced from China or another part of the Asiatic continent. But he himself, as well as Kanitz who also studied the plant, presumed it to be a new species, according to Martelli's annotations.

References.

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