

***Impatiens parvisepala* (Balsaminaceae): A NEWLY RECORDED FROM VIETNAM**

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SUMMARY

Impatiens parvisepala S. X. Yu & Y. T. Hou, 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.

***Impatiens parvisepala* (Balsaminaceae): Một loài bóng nước mới cho khu hệ thực vật Việt Nam**

Impatiens parvisepala S. X. Yu & Y. T. Hou, loài Bóng nước đài hoa nhỏ trước đây chỉ được biết phân bố ở Trung Quốc, nay là một loài mới cho khu hệ thực vật Việt Nam. Nó được tìm thấy trong các khu rừng nguyên sinh núi đá ở Khu bảo tồn thiên nhiên Na Hang, tỉnh Tuyên Quang.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Impatiens* L. (Balsaminaceae) is one of the largest and genera of angiosperms comprising over 1000 species (Mabberley, 2008; Grey - Wilson, 1980a & 1980b; Fischer, 2004). *Impatiens* is distributed throughout tropical Africa, India, South - West Asia, South China and Japan, with a few species spreading into the North temperate zone of Europe, Russia, China and North America (Grey - Wilson, 1980a & 1980b).

About 40 species are known in Vietnam (Ho, 2003; Chen et al. 2008), the majority restricted to North of Vietnam.

In the expeditions in Na Hang Nature Reserve (Tuyên Quang province), a species of *Impatiens* was collected. Through morphological analyses, we recognized that the characters of

this species completely fit to the species *Impatiens parvisepala* S. X. Yu & Y. T. Hou. Yu. This is the first time *Impatiens parvisepala* S. X. Yu & Y. T. Hou has been found in Vietnam.

DESCRIPTION

***Impatiens parvisepala* S. X. Yu & Y. T. Hou.** Yu, An. Bot. Fennici. 48: 57 - 62. 2011.

Plants perennial, glabrous, 35 - 50cm tall, shrub - like. Stems erect, simple, lower nodes swollen. Leaves simple, alternate, sessile or sub - sessile, aggregated or subverticillate on upper part of stem; blade 12 - 18 cm long, 3.5 - 5cm wide, abaxially pale green, adaxially dark green, obovate or obovate - lanceolate, base attenuate, margin roughly crenate towards base, apex acuminate; abaxial midvein prominent, lateral veins 4 - 6 on each side.

Inflorescences a raceme from upper leaf axils, 6 - 8 - flowered; bracts 1 per flower, 2.5mm long, membranous, lanceolate or subulate, apex acuminate, persistent. Peduncles 12 - 15cm long, glabrous, erect. Pedicels 2 - 2.5cm long, slender. Flowers white or yellow. Lateral sepals 4 (in 2 pairs), outer pair 4mm long, 1 - 2mm wide, obovate; inner pair 1.2 - 1.5cm long, 2 - 3mm wide, curved, lanceolate, inequylateral, apex acuminate. Lower sepal 1 - 2cm wide, 2 - 2.5cm deep excluding spur, obliquely infundibuliform, base gradually constricted to

spur; spur 1 - 2cm long, straight or slightly incurved, apex rostellate. Dorsal petal 1.4 - 2cm long, 1.2 - 1.8cm wide, obovate, base truncate, without a dorsal crest, apex slightly retuse. Lateral united petals 2.5 - 3cm long; 2 - lobed, upper petal 2.8 - 3cm long, 0.8 - 1cm wide, ovate - obovate; lower petal 2 - 2.5cm long, 4.5 - 7mm wide, oblong, apex acuminate. Stamens 5, filaments linear, 2.5 - 3.5cm long, anther obtuse. Ovary fusiform. Capsule (immature) clavate. Seeds quadrate - ellipsoid, surface with reticulate ornamentation.



Fig. 1. *Impatiens parvisepala*

- **A:** Inflorescence; - **B:** Flower; - **C:** Base cordate; - **D:** Leaves

Habitat: Primary and secondary board - leaved evergreen sub - mountain forest on very steep rocky of Na Hang Nature Reserve; 250 - 450m alt.

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

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

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