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12. *Noronhia christenseniana* Hong-Wa, **spec. nova** (Fig. 7A, 8).

Typus: MADAGASCAR. **Prov. Antsiranana:** DIANA, Diégo II, Ramena, env. 2 km à l'W d'Andavakoera, près de la grotte et du campement la Casa Aventura, 12°19'41"S 49°20'26"E, 76 m, 3.VIII.2007, *Hong-Wa et al.* 517 (holo-: MO-6615555!; iso-: CNARP!, G [G00341618]!, K!, P!, TAN!).

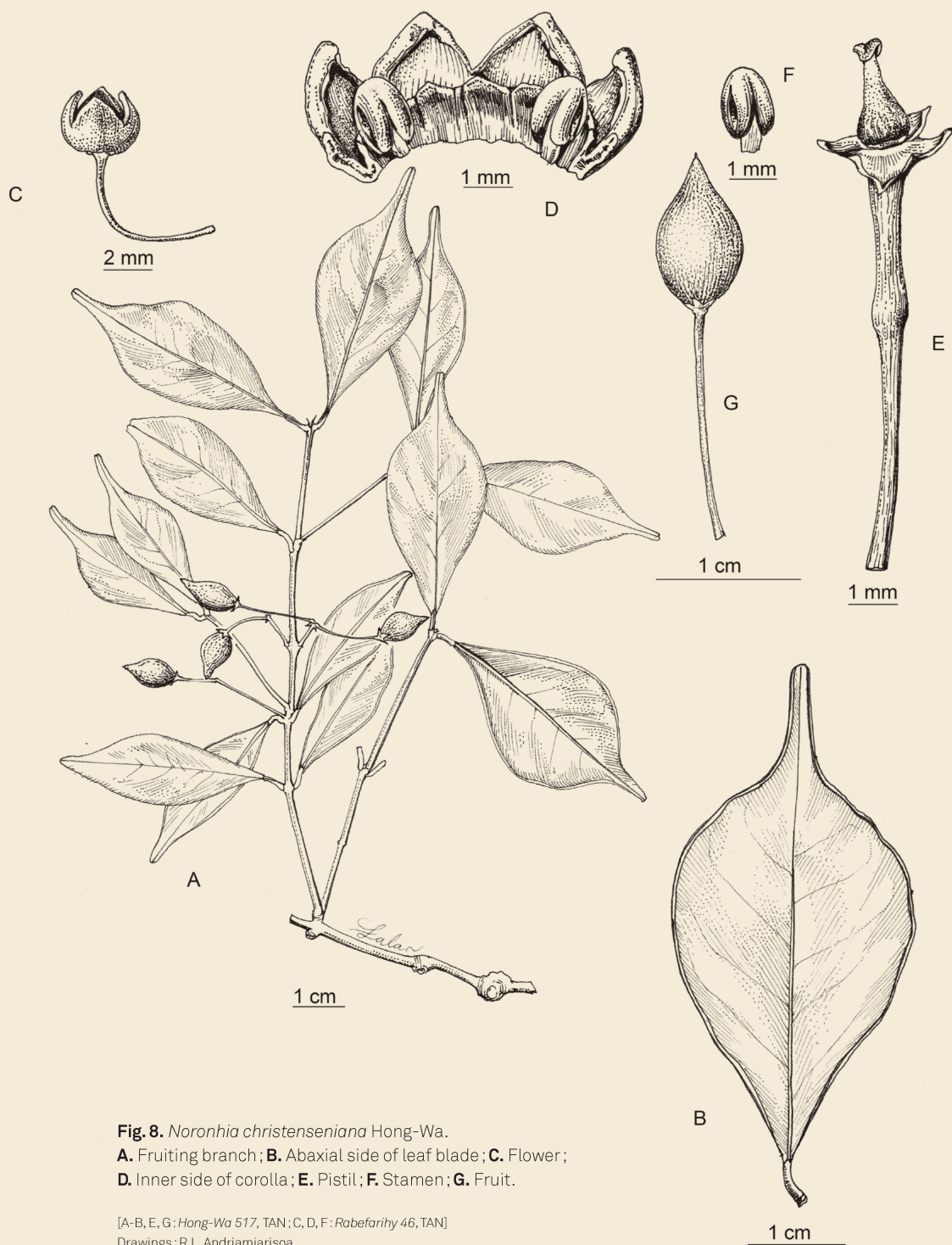
Diagnosis *Noronhia christenseniana* Hong-Wa can be distinguished from other members of the genus by its widely obovate to rhombic leaf blades, distinctly terminated by a long cusp and its diffuse inflorescences with red flowers.

Description *Shrubs* or trees to 10 m tall, trunk to 15 cm diameter; young twigs cylindrical, 0.7-1.2 mm diameter, glabrous; bark medium gray, smooth. *Leaves* opposite, persistent; bud scales deciduous; blades medium green above, lighter below, broadly obovate to rhombic, 3.5-7.5 × 1.5-4.5 cm, coriaceous, glabrous, domatia casual, base attenuate, margin flat to undulate, slightly revolute, apex cuspidate, the cusp 10-20 mm long, midrib slightly sunken above, distinctly raised below, secondary veins conspicuous only below, 6-10 per side, 4-9 mm apart, looping 1-3.2 mm from the margin; petiole light gray, 4-6 × 0.6-1.3 mm, entirely woody, glabrous. *Thyrse*s solitary to geminate, pauciflorous, diffuse; peduncle 12-20 mm long, glabrous; pedicel 4-8 mm long, glabrous; calyx glabrous on both sides, lobes triangular, 1 × 1-2 mm; corolla red, urceolate, 2.5-4 mm long, glabrous on both sides, the tube 1.8-2 mm long, lobes deltate, apex acute; corona present, 0.8-1.5 mm long, slightly lobed; stamens 1.5-1.8 mm long, anthers oblong, 1.2 mm long; pistil 1.8-2 mm long, stigma bilobed. *Fruiting* pedicel 8-18 × 0.5-1 mm; young fruits green, purplish brown when mature, ovoid, 9-15.5 × 7.5-9 mm, surface smooth, apex apiculate to rostellate, the rostellum flattened, truncate, with the persistent style; dry pericarp 0.4-0.8 mm thick; endocarp crustaceous; seed 8-10 × 4-5.5 mm.

Etymology This name honors the founders of the Christensen Fund Graduate Fellowship Program in Plant Conservation, which provided me with support during my graduate studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, thus allowing me to carry out a comprehensive study of *Noronhia*.

Distribution, ecology and phenology *Noronhia christenseniana* occurs in low-elevation semi-deciduous forests in the north, from Montagne des Français to Ankarana (Fig. 9). It produces flowers and fruits from August to March.

Conservation status Based on 18 collections representing 13 localities, the assessment resulted in an EOO of 4,069 km², an AOO of 48 km², and seven subpopulations representing six locations, of which three occurs within the network of protected areas (Ankarana, Loky-Manam-



bato, and Montagne des Français). *Noronhia christenseniana* is narrowly distributed (although with an actual AOO that is likely larger than estimated here) in an area that is affected by deforestation, wood harvesting, charcoal production, and illegal and/or artisanal mining, resulting in habitat degradation and loss. It is therefore assigned a preliminary status of “Vulnerable” [VU B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)+2ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)].

Notes *Noronhia christenseniana* is in some ways similar to *N. clarinerva* Hong-Wa and *N. intermedia* Hong-Wa, but can be distinguished by its thyrsoid inflorescences (vs. fasciculate flowers), red corolla (vs. pinkish in *N. clarinerva* and pale green in *N. intermedia*) and crustaceous (vs. woody) endocarp. Distinctive features such as the widely obovate to rhombic leaf blades with a long cuspidate apex and diffuse inflorescences with red flowers make it easy to recognize *N. christenseniana*.

Paratypes **MADAGASCAR. Prov. Antsiranana:** Mahamasina, Ankarana RS, 12°56'56"S 49°07'39"E, 22.III.2007, *Bardot-Vaucoulon & Toly* 1528 (K, MO, P, TAN); Ramena, Andavakoera, 12°19'57"S 49°21'19"E, 172 m, 4.VIII.2007, *Hong-Wa et al.* 538 (TAN); *ibid. loc.*, *Hong-Wa et al.* 539 (TAN); Ankarana RS, [12°49'S 49°01'E], 1.1969, *Morat* 3046 (P); Daraina, forêt d'Antsaharaingy, 12°54'52"S 49°39'25"E, 75-660 m, 3.III.2004, *Nusbaumer & Ranirison* 1533 (Daraina, G, K, MO, P); Antafiankoroka, Montagne des Français, 12°22'27"S 49°21'27"E, 204 m, 4.II.2005, *Rabefarihy* 46 (MO, P, TAN); Ampitiliantsambo, Montagne des Français, 12°22'55"S 49°23'05"E, 359 m, 25.I.2005, *Randrianarivelo et al.* 167 (MO, P, TAN); Daraina, forêt de Binara, 13°14'16"S 49°37'32"E, 250 m, 27.III.2004, *Ranirison* 500 (Daraina, G, K, MO, P, TEF); *ibid. loc.*, forêt d'Antsaharaingy, 12°54'34"S 49°39'57"E, 90 m, 18.IV.2004, *Ranirison* 691 (Daraina, G, K, MO, TEF); Andrafiabe, Mont Andrahona, 3 km au NE d'Andrafiabe, 12°28'49"S 49°26'56"E, 400 m, 31.I.2005, *Ratovoson et al.* 830 (CNARP, MO, P, TAN); Montagne des Français, forêt d'Antaolanaomby, 12°22'25"S 49°21'11"E, 385 m, 22.III.2007, *Ratovoson* 1280 (CNARP, G, MO, P, TAN); Mosorolava, Ampombiantambo, forêt d'Antsoroby, 12°42'13"S 48°58'12"E, 75 m, 23.IX.2007, *Ratovoson et al.* 1331 (CNARP, G, MO, P, TAN); Montagne des Français, Andavakoera, 12°21'10"S 49°21'06"E, 94 m, 12.VIII.2004, *Razafitsalama et al.* 606 (CNARP, MO, P, TAN); Ankarana RS, [12°49'S 49°01'E], 8.VIII.1952, *Service Forestier* 5419 (P, TEF); Montagne des Français, [12°22'S 49°21'E], 7.VIII.1978, *Service Forestier* 29260 (TEF); *ibid. loc.*, 12.XI.1979, *Service Forestier* 29597 (TEF); *ibid. loc.*, *Service Forestier* 29600 (TEF); *ibid. loc.*, 24.IX.1980, *Service Forestier* 29969 (TEF).



Fig. 9. Distribution maps of species of *Noronhia* Stadtm. ex Thouars. *N. christenseniana* Dubard to *N. domatifera* Bosser.