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<b>Autor:</b>	Hong-Wa, Cynthia
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**19. *Noronhia crassiramosa*** H. Perrier in Mém. Inst. Sci. Madagascar, Sér. B, Biol. Vég. 2 : 296. 1949 (Fig. 12B).

**Typus:** MADAGASCAR. Prov. Toamasina: Est Centre, forêt d'Analamazaotra, [18°56'S 48°26'E], s.d., Perrier de la Bâthie 5085 (holo- : P [P00418098]!; iso- : P [P00418099]!).

**Description** Trees to 25 m tall, trunk to 25 cm diameter ; young twigs cylindrical to subquadangular, 4-8 mm diameter, glabrous ; bark medium gray, smooth to slightly rugose. Leaves opposite, verticillate at the tips of the branches, persistent ; bud scales persistent ; blades dark green above, lighter below, oblong, 13-38 × 3.5-12 cm, very coriaceous, glabrous, domatia absent, base acute to rounded, margin flat, apex acuminate, the acumen 1-14 mm long, midrib slightly sunken above, distinctly raised below, secondary veins very conspicuous below, 8-14 per side, 14-51 mm apart, looping 3-13 mm from the margin ; petiole medium gray to brownish, 9-22 × 3-5.5 mm, entirely woody, glabrous. Thyruses fasciculate, pauciflorous, diffuse ; peduncle 8-25 mm long, glabrous ; pedicel 6-10 mm long, glabrous ; calyx glabrous on both sides, lobes deltate, 3-4 × 2-2.5 mm ; corolla purplish red, cupuliform to subrotate, 5-6 mm long, glabrous on both sides, the tube 2-3 mm long, lobes widely ovate, apex acute ; corona present, 2-3 mm long, undivided ; stamens 3 mm long, anthers oblong, 2 mm long ; pistil 2.5-3 mm long, stigma slightly bilobed. Fruiting pedicel 5-14 × 3-4 mm ; young fruits green, reddish when mature, sub-globose, 21-30 × 16.5-21.5 mm, surface smooth, apex flat to apiculate ; dry pericarp 2-2.5 mm thick ; endocarp woody ; seed 14-22.5 × 9.5-14 mm.

**Distribution, ecology and phenology** *Noronhia crassiramosa* occurs in mid- to high-elevation humid forests in the central east, from Analamazaotra to Ranomafana (Fig. 9). It produces flowers and fruits from October to March.

**Conservation status** There were 11 collections representing nine localities available for analysis, which resulted in an EOO of 5,024 km<sup>2</sup>, an AOO of 32 km<sup>2</sup>, and six subpopulations representing five locations, four of which occur within protected areas (Analamazaotra, Corridor Ankeniheny-Zahamena, Mantadia, and Ranomafana). Subpopulations outside of protected areas are very likely to experience continuing decline in habitat quality as well as habitat loss resulting from wood harvesting, forest exploitation, slash-and-burn cultivation and industrial mining, thereby reducing also the number of mature individuals. Therefore, *N. crassiramosa* is assigned a preliminary status of "Vulnerable" [VU B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)+2ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)].

**Notes** *Noronhia crassiramosa* can be recognized by its thick twigs, large, coriaceous leaf blades with very conspicuous venation, and its fruits with thick pericarp. It differs from *N. patricei* Hong-Wa by its opposite to verticillate at the tips of the branches (vs. entirely verticillate), oblong (vs. lanceolate) leaves, and apiculate (vs. flat) fruit apex. This species seems to reproduce only at a later age and appears to be rare.

**Additional specimens examined**

**MADAGASCAR.** **Prov. Fianarantsoa:** Ranomafana PN, Vatoharanana, Parcelle 3, 21°16'06"S 47°25'30"E, 923 m, 8.V.2010, Hong-Wa & Ortiz 669 (MO, P, TAN); *ibid. loc.*, 21°15'S 47°27'E, 900 m, 8-14.XI.1991, Malcomber *et al.* 1007 (G, MO, P, TAN). **Prov. Toamasina:** Moramanga, Ambatovy, 18°48'42"S 48°20'40"E, 1141 m, 27.VII.2008, Antilahimena *et al.* 6403 (MO, P, TAN); *ibid. loc.*, 18°50'25"S 48°18'16"E, 1090 m, 15.V.2010, Bernard *et al.* 1569 (MO, P, TAN); Analamazaotra RS, 18°56'12"S 48°25'09"E, 953 m, 2.V.2010, Hong-Wa & Ortiz 640 (MO, P, TAN); Andasibe, Analamay, 18°47'54"S 48°20'3"E, 1030 m, 1.XII.2010, Miaridrimanana 473 (MO, P, TAN); Ambatovy, Amboasary, 18°57'13"S 48°26'43"E, 1008 m, Rasoazanany *et al.* 326 (MO, P, TAN); Brickaville, Ankerana, 18°25'52"S 48°47'23"E, 842 m, 26.III.2011, Ravelonarivo 3892 (G, MO, P, TAN); Saharefina, Péreinet, [18°56"S 48°26"E], 19.II.1955, Service Forestier 15015 (P, TEF).