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**55. *Noronhia myrtoides*** H. Perrier in Mém. Inst. Sci. Madagascar, Sér. B, Biol. Vég. 2: 302. 1949 (Fig. 40A).

**Typus:** MADAGASCAR. **Prov. Toliara:** Ampandrandava, dans les rochers de Pisopiso, [24°02'S 45°42'E], 750 m, XI.1943, *Seyrig* 299 (= *Herb. Jard. Bot. Tan.* 5392) (holo-: P [P03558897]!).

### Description

Small *trees* to 5 m tall, trunk to 5 cm diameter; young twigs cylindrical, 0.6–1.3 mm diameter, glabrous; bark medium to light gray, smooth to slightly rugose. *Leaves* opposite, persistent; bud scales persistent; blades dark green above, lighter below, oblong to lanceolate, 4–8 × 1–2.5 cm, coriaceous, glabrous, domatia absent, base acute, margin slightly revolute, apex acute to acuminate, the acumen 1–8 mm long, midrib sunken above, slightly raised below, secondary veins barely visible, 7–11 per side, 3.5–11 mm apart, looping 0.5–3.5 mm from the margin; petiole light gray, 2.5–7.5 × 0.6–1.3 mm, entirely woody, glabrous. *Flowers* fasciculate; pedicel 3–7 mm long, glabrescent; calyx moderately pubescent to tomentose outside, glabrous inside, lobes deltate, 1–2 × 0.6–2 mm; corolla ivory white, cupuliform, 3.8–6 mm long, glabrous on both sides, the tube 2.5–4 mm long, lobes widely ovate, apex obtuse; corona present, 1–2 mm long, lobed; stamens 1.5–2.6 mm long, anthers widely ovate, 1.2–2.4 mm long; pistil 2–3.7 mm long, stigma capitate. *Fruiting* pedicel 4–9 × 0.7–1.4 mm; young fruits green, dark red when mature, ovoid to subglobose, 9–17 × 8.5–14.5 mm, surface smooth, sometimes covered with white dots, apex apiculate; dry pericarp 0.2–1.1 mm thick; endocarp woody; seed 5.5–11.5 × 4–9.5 mm.

### Distribution, ecology and phenology

*Noronhia myrtoides* occurs in low- to mid-elevation dry forests and thickets from Bemahara in the west to Andohahela in the south (Fig. 36). It produces flowers and fruits throughout the year except in April and May.

### Conservation status

The assessment included 20 collections representing 19 localities and resulted in an EOO of 78,840 km<sup>2</sup>, an AOO of 92 km<sup>2</sup>, and 21 subpopulations representing 17 locations, of which 11 occur within protected areas (Amoron'i Onilahy, Andohahela, Bemahara, Beza-Mahafaly, Complexe zones Mangoky, Menabe-Antanimena, Vohidava-Betsimalaho, and Zombitsy). With a large EOO, an actual AOO that is likely larger than 2,000 km<sup>2</sup>, and many locations that are well represented within the network of protected areas, *N. myrtoides* is assigned a preliminary status of "Least Concern".

### Notes

*Noronhia myrtoides* can be recognized by its habit (a small tree), oblong to lanceolate leaf blades with barely visible venation, and fasciculate white flowers. It differs from *N. alleizettei* by the shape of its leaves (oblong to lanceolate vs. narrowly elliptic) and the presence of a corona, and from *N. buxifolia* by the shape of its leaves (oblong to lanceo-

late vs. ovate) and fruits (ovoid to subglobose vs. ovoid) and by the color of its flowers (white vs. red). The specimen of *Humbert* 5236 deposited at P, with duplicates housed in several other herbaria, bears the annotation "type". However, in the protologue, *PERRIER DE LA BÂTHIE* (1949) designated *Seyrig* 299 (= *Herb. Jard. Bot. Tan.* 5392) as the type and *Humbert* 12949 as a "co-type"; the former is therefore recognized here as the type and the latter as a paratype.

#### **Additional specimens examined**

**MADAGASCAR. Prov. Toliara:** Ambatoabo, Andohahela PN, Mt Apiky, 24°47'19"S 46°43'04"E, 647 m, 18.I.2007, *Andriamihajarivo et al.* 1165 (MO, P, TAN); Amboasary Sud, Marotsiraka, Ankotsy, 24°17'13"S 46°08'24"E, 513 m, 11.XI.2008, *Andriamihajarivo et al.* 1559 (MO, P, TAN); c. 10 km N of Befandriana-Sud, 150 m, 21.XII.1961, *Appert* 51 (MO); Befandriana-Sud, 150 m, 15.V.1905, *Appert* 201 (MO); Vallée de la Sakoa, 23°42'S 44°46'E, 22.X.1940, *Decary* 16020 (G, MO, P); vallée du Fiherenana, [23°18'S 43°38'E], 10-200 m, 14.IX.1924, *Humbert & Perrier de la Bâthie* 2575 (P); vallée inférieure de l'Onilahy, [23°30'S 44°01'E], 10-50 m, 12.VIII.1928, *Humbert & Swingle* 5236 (BR, K, P, WAG); de Tsivory à Anadabolava, [24°12'S 46°19'E], 300-400 m, XII.1933, *Humbert* 12329 (P); Zombitsy (Sakaraha), 600-850 m, 26-29. III.1955, *Humbert et al.* 29649 (G, MO, P); Anadabolava, Betsimilaho, 24°13'06"S 46°17'16"E, 299 m, 1.VII.2011, *Letsara et al.* 1287 (CAS, MO); entre Tuléar et St. Augustin, 23°28'S 43°47'E, 31.III.1966, *Peltier & Peltier* 5827 (MO, P); env. de Soahanina, [18°35'S 44°14'E], s.d., *Perrier de la Bâthie* 8812 (P); sur la Sakoa, bassin de l'Onilahy, [23°43'S 44°47'E], VIII.1925, *Perrier de la Bâthie* 17363 (P); Beza Mahafaly RS near Betioky, 23°40'S 44°39'E, 180 m, 26.X.1987, *Phillipson* 2455 (MO, P, TAN); Near Beza Mahafaly RS, 23°58'S 44°39'E, 150 m, 28.XI.1987, *Phillipson* 2618 (MO, P, TAN); Sakaraha, Mahaboboka, Ankasy forest, 22°49'03"S 44°16'47"E, 581 m, 22.II.2011, *A. Randrianasolo et al.* 1441 (G, MO, P, TAN); Amboasary Sud, Mahaly, Anadabolava, 24°14'38"S 46°18'25"E, 263 m, 24.X.2007, *Randriatsivory et al.* 248 (MO, P, TAN); Manja, Beharoana, Vondrove, 21°48'03"S 44°10'43"E, 86 m, 20.IX.2007, *Rasoafaranaivo et al.* 267 (MO, P, TAN); Ambatoabo, Ankoba, 2 km E d'Imonty, 24°47'56"S 46°40'24"E, 160 m, 17.XI.2009, *Ratovoson* 1496 (G, MO, P, TAN); Zombitsy PN, [22°46'S 44°42'E], 600 m, 21.III.1951, *Service Forestier* 3387 (P, TAN, TEF); Ankaraobato, Morondava, [20°10'30"S 44°37'50"E], 0-50 m, 13.XI.1952, *Service Forestier* 6063 (MO, P, TEF); Menabe, Andoharano, [19°42'S 44°33'E], 16.XII.1957, *Service Forestier* 17866 (G, P, TEF); Betioky, near Analafaly, 23°39'S 44°38'E, 1.VI.1987, *Sussman* 153 (MO).



**Fig. 40.** Photographs of *Noronhia* Stadtm. ex Thouars.

**A.** *Noronhia myrtoides* H. Perrier [Ratovoson 1496]; **B.** *Noronhia oblanceolata* H. Perrier [Ranirison 1053].

Photos : taken by respective collectors