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62. *Noronhia patricei* Hong-Wa, *spec. nova* (Fig. 46).

Typus: MADAGASCAR. **Prov. Toamasina:** Analanjirofo, Ambanizana, along path between Ambanizana-Andranobe, 15°38'29"S 49°57'54"E, 7 m, 25.X.2004, *Antilahimena* 2959 (holo-: MO-6615553!; iso-: G [G00341616]!, K!, P [P03532773]!, TAN!).

Diagnosis *Noronhia patricei* Hong-Wa can be distinguished from its congeners by its three-verticillate, large leaves, its fasciculate infructescences, and its large fruits characterized by a thick pericarp.

Description Trees to 11 m tall, trunk to 16 cm diameter; young twigs subquadrangular to cylindrical, 5.5-8.6 mm diameter, glabrous; bark medium gray, rugose. Leaves verticillate, persistent; bud scales persistent; blades medium green above, lighter below, lanceolate, 26-36 × 4.5-9.5 cm, very coriaceous, glabrous, domatia absent, base acute, margin flat, apex acuminate, the acumen 5-12 mm long, midrib deeply sunken above, distinctly raised below, secondary veins conspicuous, 14-20 per side, 19-40 mm apart, looping 2-7 mm from the margin; petiole medium to dark gray, 16-20 × 4-6.5 mm, entirely woody, glabrous. Flowers unseen, but infructescence thyrsoïd, fasciculate. Fruiting pedicel 5-11 × 3.5-5 mm; young fruits green, yellow when mature, ovoid to oblong, 25-38 × 19.5-24 mm, surface smooth, sometimes covered with white dots, apex flat to bluntly pointed; dry pericarp 2.2-3 mm thick; endocarp woody; seed 15 × 20 mm.

Etymology This species is dedicated to Patrice Antilahimena, a botanist at the Missouri Botanical Garden in Madagascar, for collecting the type specimen and for keeping an eye out for *Noronhia* during his extensive fieldwork.

Distribution, ecology and phenology *Noronhia patricei* occurs in low-elevation humid forests and basement rocks and unconsolidated sands in the Masoala region in northeastern Madagascar (Fig. 36). It fruits from October to June.

Conservation status *Noronhia patricei* is currently known only from five collections representing five localities. The assessment resulted in an EOO of 1,023 km², an AOO of 20 km², and four subpopulations representing four locations, of which two occur within a protected area (Masoala). With decline in habitat quality, habitat loss and reduction of the number of mature individuals likely to continue outside of the protected area as a result of wood harvesting and land conversion, the small EOO and AOO as well as the small number of locations, *N. patricei* is assigned a preliminary status of "Endangered" [EN B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)+2ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)].



Fig. 46.
Noronhia patricei Hong-Wa.
A. Branch; **B.** Fruit with pedicel; **C.** Fruit.

[Antilahimena 2959, TAN] Drawings: R.L. Andriamiarisoa

Notes *Noronhia patricei* is similar to *N. crassiramosa* but can be distinguished by its entirely verticillate (vs. verticillate only at the tips of the branches), lanceolate (vs. oblong) leaves, and its ovoid to oblong (vs. subglobose) fruits with a flat (vs. apiculate) apex. Its three-verticillate, large leaves, fasciculate infructescences, and large fruits characterized by a thick pericarp allow for the unambiguous identification of this species.

Paratypes **MADAGASCAR.** **Prov. Antsiranana:** Maroantsetra, Anjahana, Ambanizana, 15°37'03"S 49°58'36"E, 200 m, 11.VI.2002, *Antilahimena 1090* (G, MO, P); Antalaha, Ampanavoana, forêt de Faho, [15°41'S 50°21'E], 24.IV.1951, *Service Forestier 87R140* (TEF). **Prov. Toamasina:** Ambatondradama (env. 10 km au NE d'Ankovona), Navana, 15°17'13"S 50°01'10"E, 500 m, 27.IX-6.X.1997, *Ralimanana et al. 111* (MO, P, TAN); Maroantsetra, Anjahana, Ambanizana, Tampolo (Masoala), 15°43'45"S 49°57'38"E, 10 m, 19.X.2001, *Randrianaivo 710* (MO, P, TAN).