

Noronhia planifolia

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66. *Noronhia planifolia* H. Perrier ex Hong-Wa, **spec. nova** (Fig. 50).

- *Linociera incurvifolia* var. *planifolia* H. Perrier in Mém. Inst. Sci. Madagascar, Sér. B, Biol. Vég. 2: 280. 1949 [nom. inval.].
- *Noronhia incurvifolia* var. *planifolia* (H. Perrier) Hong-Wa & Besnard in Mol. Phylogenet. Evol. 67: 376. 2013 [nom. inval.].

Typus: MADAGASCAR. **Prov. Antsiranana:** Collines et plateaux calcaires de l'Ankarana, à l'E et NE d'Ambondrofe, [12°54'S 49°08'E], 300-350 m, XII.1937-I.1938, *Humbert 18966* (holo-: P [P03559156]!; iso-: K [K000233204] image seen, P [P03559158]!, WAG [WAG0004663] image seen).

Diagnosis *Noronhia planifolia* H. Perrier ex Hong-Wa can be distinguished from other members of the genus by its coriaceous, widely oblong leaf blades, bearing abundant domatia, its rostellate fruits, and crustaceous endocarp.

Description Trees to 10 m tall; young twigs cylindrical, 0.6-1.6 mm diameter, glabrous; bark medium gray, slightly rugose. Leaves opposite, persistent; bud scales deciduous; blades medium green above, lighter below, broadly oblong, 4-9 × 2-5.5 cm, coriaceous, glabrous, domatia abundant, base attenuate, margin flat, apex cuspidate, the cusp 3-10 mm long, midrib slightly sunken above, distinctly raised below, secondary veins conspicuous, 5-9 per side, 5-15 mm apart, looping 1-5 mm from the margin; petiole light gray, 4-15 × 0.8-1.6 mm, partially woody, glabrous. Flowers unseen, but infructescence thyrsoïd. Fruiting pedicel 4-13 × 1.1-2.2 mm; young fruits green, brownish when mature, ovoid, 8.5-19 × 8.5-15 mm, surface smooth, apex flat to rostellate, with the persistent style; dry pericarp 0.5-0.8 mm thick; endocarp crustaceous; seed 6.5-12 × 5-10 mm.

Etymology The specific epithet refers to the flat leaf blades of this species as opposed to the folded leaves of *Noronhia incurvifolia*, within which *N. planifolia* was originally considered to be a variety.

Distribution, ecology and phenology *Noronhia planifolia* occurs in low-elevation dry forests at Ankarana in the north (Fig. 49). It fruits from October to May.

Conservation status *Noronhia planifolia* is currently known only from six collections representing six localities. The estimates indicated an EOO of 111 km², an AOO of 20 km², and five subpopulations representing five locations, of which one occurs within a protected area (Ankarana). Conversion of forested areas into agricultural field and pastureland and

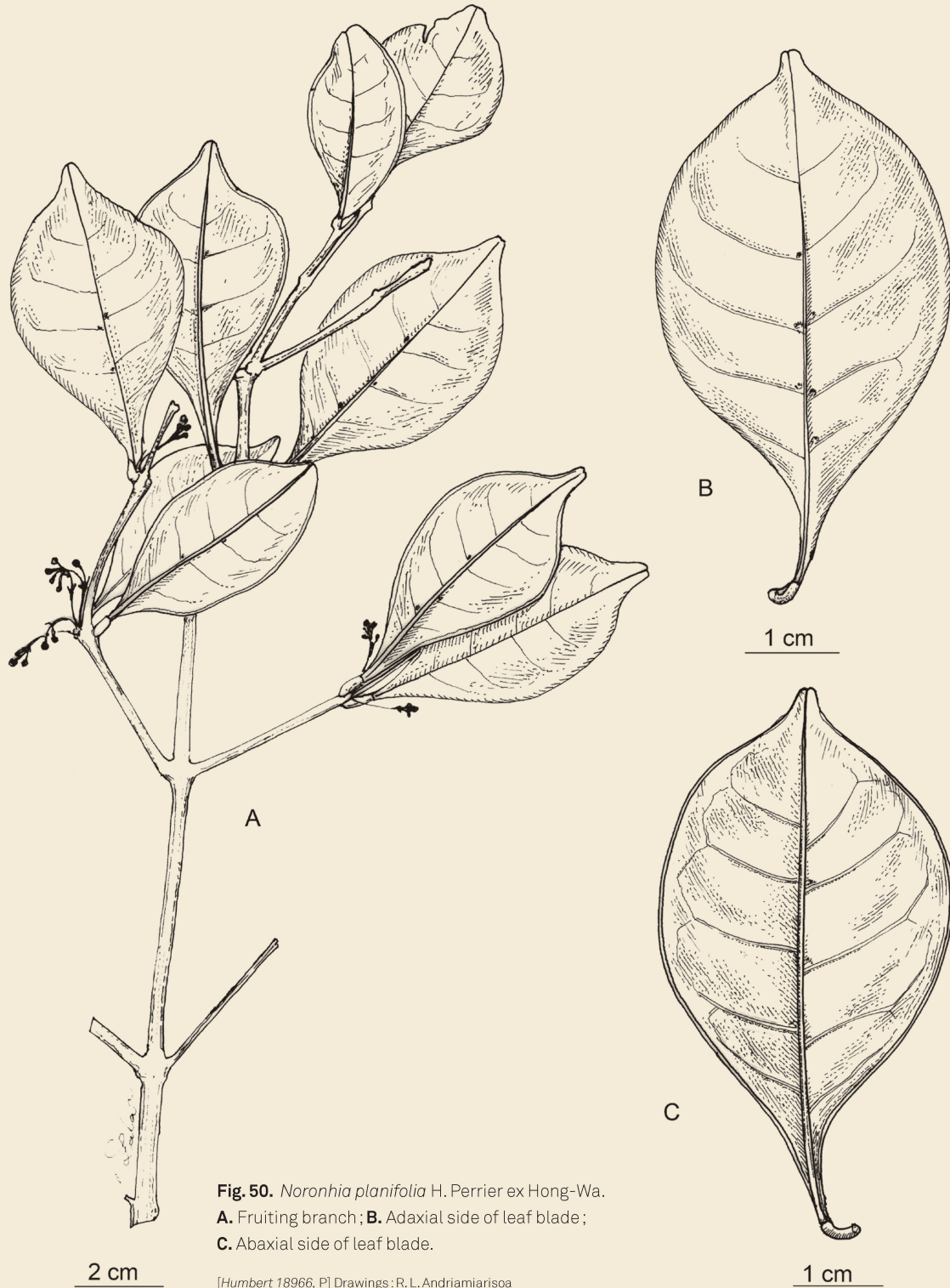


Fig. 50. *Noronhia planifolia* H. Perrier ex Hong-Wa.
A. Fruiting branch; **B.** Adaxial side of leaf blade;
C. Abaxial side of leaf blade.

[Humbert 18966, P] Drawings: R. L. Andriamiarisoa

exploitation of forest products, resulting in habitat loss and degradation and loss of mature individuals, impact the subpopulations outside of protected areas. Therefore, *N. planifolia* is assigned a preliminary status of “Endangered” [EN B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)+2ab (i,ii,iii,iv,v)].

Notes *Noronhia planifolia*, originally recognized as a variety of *N. incurvifolia*, differs from it by its woody (vs. non-woody) petioles, flat (vs. folded and curved) leaf blades, and crustaceous (vs. woody), rostellate (vs. rostrate) fruits. A corona may also be present in this species although no flowering material has so far been collected. *Noronhia planifolia* also resembles *N. cuspidata*, from which it differs by having broadly oblong (vs. broadly elliptic), coriaceous (vs. subcoriaceous) leaf blades, longer petioles (15 mm vs. 9 mm), rostellate (vs. apiculate) fruit, and crustaceous (vs. subcrustaceous) endocarp. PERRIER DE LA BATHIE’S (1949) description of *Linociera incurvifolia* var. *planifolia* is invalid because he did not provide a Latin diagnosis (Art. 39.1; McNEILL et al., 2012). Consequently, this entity, which is recognized here as a distinct species, is described here as new, retaining the original epithet and type collection.

Paratypes **MADAGASCAR. Prov. Antsiranana:** Ankarana RS, [12°49’S 49°01’E], 50-409 m, 12-20.X.1993, *Andrianantoanina* 383 (K, MO, TAN); *ibid. loc.*, à l’W de Mahamasina, 12°57’25”S 49°07’35”E, 161 m, 31.V.1995, *Andrianantoanina et al.* 801 (G, K, MO, P, TAN); *ibid. loc.*, tsingy close to Campement des Anglais, 12°50’47”S 49°06’18”E, 82 m, 25.V.1999, *De Block et al.* 1012 (BR, MO, P, TAN); *ibid. loc.*, [12°58’S 49°08’E], X.1964, *Morat* 891 (P, TAN); *ibid. loc.*, 12°58’S 49°08’E, 50 m, 15.VI.1995, *Razafimandimbison & Andrianantoanina* 98 (G, K, MO, P); Ankara, jardin botanique 8, [12°49’S 49°01’E], 50-409 m, 24.VII.1954, *Service Forestier* 10423 (MO, P, TEF).