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A new species of *Trigonotis* from southwestern China

by

Ivan M. JOHNSTON

Trigonotis muriculata Johnston, sp. nov. — Herbacea, 1-2 dm. alta, ut videtur perennis; caulibus ex rhizomatibus horizontalibus laxè ramosis erumpentibus erectis solitariis simplicibus, 1-6 cm. longis, dense breviter hirsutis, saepe 2-3 (raro 5)-foliatis (internodiis 1-3 cm. longis), ad apicem in pedunculos conspicuos ebracteatos graciles strigosos solitarios vel geminatos 6-12 cm. longos erectos abrupte transmutatis; foliis paucis alternis, lamina ovata vel elliptica, costata sed obscurissime nervata, evidenter sed sparse strigosa, integerrima, 2.5-5.5 cm. longa, 1.5-2.5 cm. lata, apice rotunda vel obtusiuscula abrupte et minute acuminata, basi rotundata vel late angulata, subtus pallidiori; petioliis conspicuis 1.3-4 cm. longis, inferioribus laminis longioribus, superioribus eis saepe brevioribus; pedunculis folia conspicue superantibus ad apicem in racemos geminatos ebracteatos unilaterales 2-6 cm. longos laxè sed abundanter floratos furcatis; pedicellis gracilibus laxè ascendentibus 2-4 mm. longis strigosis; calyce fere ad basem 5-fido, lobis oblanceolatis ca. 2.5 mm. longis ad 1 mm. latis sparse strigosis herbaceis 1-3-nervatis tubum corollae conspicue superantibus, paullo infra apicem acuminatum cum glandulis brunneis notatis; corolla violacea ca. 5 mm. diametro 4 mm. longa extus glaberrima, lobis 5 suborbicularibus ca. 2.5 mm. latis et 2 mm. longis ascendentibus imbricatis apice rotundis, faucibus vix differentiatis, tubo 1.5 mm. longo a basi 0.9 mm. crasso ad apicem ca. 2 mm. crassum versus gradatim ampliato, intus paullo supra basem linea villulosa ornato ceterum glaberrimo summum ad apicem cum appendicibus 5 intrusis glabris lunatis incrasatis notato; staminibus supra medium tubi affixis appendices corollae vix superantibus, filamentis subulatis ca. 0.4 mm. longis basi decurrentibus glabris, antheris oblongis ca. 0.8 mm. longis ca. 0.3 mm. latis ad medium versus affixis basi et apice obtusis; ovulis 4; stigmate integro depresso capitato apice truncato; gynobasi late pyramidalis

0.4-0.6 mm. lata supra in stylum 0.8 mm. longum teretem glabrum abrupte transmutata, in faciebus paullo concava, in angulis pilis rigidis paucis 3-5 mm. longis erectis ornata ; stylo nuculis saepe paullo breviori sed raro eas paullo superante ; nuculis 4 abundanter muriculatis obscure tetragonalibus opacis griseis evidenter incrassato-marginatis erectis in basi anguli interioris verticalis ca. 1 mm. alti per areolam parvam obliquam sessilem ad gynobasem affixis, basi horizontali triangulari subplana ca. 0.8 mm. longa in dorsum nuculae abrupte sed distincte curvata ; dorso nuculae convexo ca, 1 mm. lato.

China : moist forest, « Long-Ky-Nord », Yunnan, 700 m. alt., June 1912, *E. E. Maire* sine no. (Type, Herb. Delessert).

An extremely well-marked species distinguished from all described congeners by its finely muricate nutlets. In having nutlets that are only obscurely tetrahedral in shape and racemes that are geminate on elongate naked terminal peduncles the species possesses characters that set it off from most members of its genus. The relationships of the plant are not clear.

When in situ the nutlets form a hemispherical mass. The base of each nutlet is triangular in outline and lies in a plane perpendicular to the angular inner edge of the nutlet. The margin of this triangular base farthest from the areola is rounded off abruptly into the more or less convex back of the nutlet. The base and the back of the nutlet are not separated by a distinct angle or ridge as in most species of *Trigonotis*. Consequently the nutlets are only obscurely tetrahedral. There is, however, a prominent thickened margin which sharply defines the angle separating the inner faces of the nutlet from the back and base. The nutlets are distinctly muriculate on all faces, being covered with minute conic cusps. The gynobase in *T. muriculata* is distinctly although broadly pyramidal and is thereby rather more prominent than in other species of the genus.
