

## ON A NEW SPECIES OF *SYMPLOCOS* FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

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(Plate xxviii.)

*SYMPLOCOS* BAEUERLENI, sp.nov.

A small, glabrous, delicate shrub, about 6 to 9 feet high.

Leaves ovate, acuminate, or lanceolate, terminating in a sharp point, glabrous, pale on the underside, membranous or chartaceous, irregularly toothed or entire, slightly shining on the upper surface, about 2 inches long and under 9 lines wide; principal veins distant and more distinct on the underside, pale-coloured, slightly oblique, not always parallel; petiole about 1 line long.

Flowers small, solitary in the axils or 3 to 5 in an exceedingly short raceme; petiole slightly under a line long. Bracts few, small, minutely hirsute. Calyx glabrous, lobes exceedingly short and broad. Petals glabrous, imbricate, broad, about 1 line long. Stamens united at the base of the petals, indefinite, numbering from 20 or more. Pistil about as long as the stamens. Stigma slightly bifurcated.

Fruit ovoid, bluish-black, under 4 lines long, 2 lines in diameter, contracted at the top and crowned by the calyx lobes.

*Hab.*—Tumbulgum, Murwillumbah, Tweed River (W. Bäuerlen).

This shrub differs considerably in its foliage from *S. spicata*, Roxb., *S. Thwaitesii*, F.v.M., and *S. paucistamineus*, F.v.M.—the three species at present recorded for Australia; in fact, the difference is so great in this feature that one would never at first sight take this plant to be a *Symplocos*. The floral and carpellary characters, however, show it conclusively to be such. The inflorescence of the above three species of *Symplocos* described



for Australia, is in the form of spikes or panicles with numerous, flowers, whilst in this species the flowers are either solitary or few (from 3 to 5) in an exceedingly short raceme. The individual flowers, as well as the leaves and fruits, are all much smaller than in any of the above species.

It differs from *S. spicata*, Roxb., also in its small, delicate, thin leaves and smaller and pedicellate flowers. *S. Thwaitesii*, F.v.M. and *S. paucistamineus* have firm, comparatively large, coriaceous leaves, and numerous spikes of over an inch long. The fruits are also smaller than those of any of these species.

It also appears to be quite distinct from any *Symplocos* described in the 'Flora of British India' (Hooker).

It occurs in the rich alluvial gullies of Tweed River, growing amongst the recently described new plants of that district, obtained by Mr. W. Bäuerlen.

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#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXVIII.

*Symplocos Bäuerleni*, sp.n.

Fig. 1.—Flowering twig.

Fig. 2.—Fruiting twig.

Fig. 3.—Slightly expanded bud showing imbricate petals.

Fig. 4.—Individual flower showing disposition of petals and stamens.

Fig. 5.—Individual flower showing disposition of sepals and petals.

(Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are enlarged).



Baker, Richard T. 1903. "On a new species of *Symplocos* from New South Wales." *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 27, 594–595.

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