

In 1965 I observed egg deposition in two captive females of *Oligodon quadrilineatus*. The first female deposited five eggs in the early morning of 28 January and the second female deposited two eggs in the evening of 4 April. In neither case could the extent of embryonic development prior to deposition be calculated; nor did exovation occur in either case.

The two specimens together with their eggs were donated to the Centre for Thai National Reference Collections (Applied Scientific Research Corporation of Thailand).

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## VII. The Genus *Nicolaia* in Thailand

The genus *Nicolaia* has not previously been reported from Thailand.

Through working up Kerr's collections of *Zingiberaceae* from Thailand, and from recent collections sent to me for determination, it has been found that this genus is not at all infrequent in southern Thailand, where it is represented by three species; a fourth may be expected to occur.

HOLTUM (1950), in his treatment of the *Zingiberaceae* from the Malay Peninsula, enumerates four species of *Nicolaia*, sub nomine *Phaeomeria*. BACKER & BAKHUIZEN VAN DEN BRINK (1986) point out that this generic name is invalid, and that the Horanean name *Nicolaia* is the correct one (HORANIUS, 1862). For this reason the following new combinations have to be made :

1. *Nicolaia fulgens* (Ridl.) K. Larsen comb. nov.—Basionym : *Hornstedtia fulgens* Ridl. in Journ. As. Soc. Straits 32 : 149, 1891.
2. *Nicolaia maingayi* (Bak.) K. Larsen comb. nov.—Basionym : *Amonum maingayi* Bak. in Hook. fl. Fl. Brit. Ind. 6 : 235, 1892.

3. *Nicolaia venusta* (Ridl.) K. Larsen comb. nov.—Basionym :  
*Hornstedtia venusta* Ridl. in Journ. As. Soc. Beng. 1899, 149.

These three species have not previously been recorded from Thailand. The following material has been studied :

*Nicolaia fulgens*—A.F.G. Kerr 13523 : Bangkok, cultivated, 31.9.1927. Rabil 284 : Amphur Kao Kao, Trang, on banks of stream 1.8.1929.

*Nicolaia maingayi*—A.F.G. Kerr 7352, Pattani, evergreen forest, alt. 100 m, 26.7.1923. A.F.G. Kerr 17255 : Phangnga, Kao Toi, clearing in evergreen forest, alt. 200 m, 26.7.1929. Rabil 283 : Amphur Kao Kao, banks of stream, 1.8.1929. Laksnakara 652 : Ban Pari, Toh Moh, alt. 175 m, 17.4.1931. Beusekom & Pengklai 768 : Nakhon Si Thammarat, Khiri Wong, trail from village up to Khao Luang area, wet evergreen forest, alt. 400-500 m, 15.5.1968.

*Nicolaia venusta*—A.F.G. Kerr 10076 : Betong, Pattani, evergreen forest by stream, 11.3.1925. A.F.G. Kerr 7669 : Betong, Pattani, evergreen forest, alt. 400 m, 26.8.1923. A.F.G. Kerr 15440 : Nakhon Si Thammarat, Khao Luang.

A fourth species, *Nicolaia speciosa* (Bl.) Horan. (Syn. : *N. imperialis* Horan., *Phaeomeria magnifica* K. Schum.) which is widely distributed in Indonesia (from Celebes to Java and Sumatra (?)) and Malaya, growing wild as well as cultivated, may also be found in Peninsula Thailand.

## REFERENCES

- BACKER, C.A. & R.C. BAKHUIZEN V.d. BRINK Jr., 1968. Flora of Java III.—Groningen.  
HOLTUM, R.E. 1950 : The Zingiberaceae of the Malay Peninsula—Gard. Bull. Singapore 13 : 1-249.  
HORANIUS, P. 1862 : Prodrum monographiae Scitaminearum—Petropoli.

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