
The sea snake *Laticauda colubrina* is widely distributed being known from southern Malaya, Singapore, Calcutta, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, coasts of Australia, and islands of the South Pacific; ranging as far as the Fiji Islands, the Caroline Islands and New Zealand (Taylor, 1965).

In his review of the snakes of Thailand Taylor (1965) includes this species on the strength of "a single specimen in the Hamburg Museum from 'Siam' which he considered to be the only record for Thailand. He pointed out the possibility that colonies may prove to be found about islands off the east or west coasts of Thailand.

A live specimen of this species was found by Mr. Charles Smith on 16 June 1974 at a sandy beach close to the Phuket Marine Biological Centre on the southern tip of Phuket Island, Phuket Province. The live snake was of typical coloration for the species being blue-grey dorsally with sulphur-yellow head markings and a dirty creamish ventrally, the entire length banded by 41 complete black bands of uniform width and having a white tail tip. The specimen measures 417 mm. in total length and the tail 81 mm. The specimen is a young one bearing a quite distinct umbilical scar, a fact which would appear to substantiate Taylor's (1965) theory that colonies of this species may occur about islands on the west coast of Thailand.

The specimen concerned has been donated to the Centre for Thai National Reference Collections, ASRCT, Bangkok.

I am grateful to Mr. Charles Smith for providing me with the specimen and to Mr. Lim Boo Liat of the Institute of Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur for confirming my identification of the snake.

REFERENCE


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**REVIEWS**

**Recent Literature: Botany-Embryophyta**

**Airy Shaw, H.K.**

1973. Two new taxa in *Gonystylus* Teijsm. & Binnend. (Thymelaeaceae)


One species and one variety are described from Sarawak.

1973. New or noteworthy species of *Antidesma* (Silaginaceae)

Kew Bull. 28(2): 269-281.

New taxa of four species and six varieties are described from Malayan area.

**Airy Shaw, H.K., D.F. Cutler & Siwert Nilsson**


Kew Bull. 28(1): 97-104, 1 plate, 1 figure.

Taxonomically the genus *Potingeria* belongs to the family Celastraceae and deserves its own subfamily, *Potingerioideae* Airy Shaw; the genus was formerly placed in the family Saxifragaceae.

This monotypic species also occurs in Thailand and represented by *Potingeria acuminata* Prain var. *luteolata* Airy Shaw, based on *Pat 3386* from Dole Nang Ka (Inthanon), Chiang Mai (6 Nov. 1930).

**Banerji, M.L. and B.B. Thapa**

1972. Orchids of Nepal—6


Dealing with *Cremasoria, Oreorchis, Cymbidium, Anthurium, Calanthe, Pachystoma* and *Spathoglottis,* an artificial key to genera is given.