

Notes on some recently discovered specimens of the lichen genus *Leioderma* from Peninsular Malaysia

The map of the world-distribution of taxa in the genus *Leioderma* Nyl. (Galloway & Jørgensen 1987: 363, fig. 14), gives the impression that this genus has two species in Peninsular Malaysia, but when checking on the cited specimens there is only one recorded from that region, namely *Leioderma sorediatum* D. J. Galloway & P. M. Jørg. collected by Gunnar Degelius at Fraser's Hill in Pahang (UPS). However, when going through some herbarium material of the *Pannariaceae* from TNS, I found well-developed specimens of another species, *Leioderma erythrocarpum* (Delise ex Nyl.) D. J. Galloway & P. M. Jørg., collected in the Cameron Highlands [alt. 1500–1800 m, 9 viii 1973, *K. Suigiyama* (TNS)] in Pahang, verifying its presence in the forests of Peninsular Malaysia. This also confirms the special status of these lichenologically poorly known forests (see e.g. van Steenis 1962 on the montane forests of the Malaysian region), where amongst other things some of the most typical SE Asian species of *Erioderma* also occur, viz. *E. phaeorhizum* Vain. and *E. tomentosum* Hue (as well as *E. sorediatum* P. M. Jørg. & D. J. Galloway, see Jørgensen & Sipman 2002). The nearest previous records of *L. erythrocarpum* are from montane forests in Borneo and Java (Galloway & Jørgensen 1987: 383).

From the same Cameron Highlands locality there is a further Peninsular Malaysian collection of *Leioderma sorediatum* [*K. Sugiyama* (TNS)] which is worth noting, since it is completely orange (due to an

unidentified pigment, which does not move on the TLC plates) on the lower surface. Previously one specimen from Sri Lanka was known to have orange spotting on the lower surface. That case was discussed by Galloway & Jørgensen (1987: 360) and believed to be caused by a possible mite attack. This cannot be the case for the Cameron Highlands specimens, but I still hesitate to recognize this variant taxonomically, at least at species level. It appears at the moment to be just a rare chemical variation, best recognized as a chemodeme, similar to the situation recorded by Tønsberg (2002) for some pigmented specimens of *Lepraria*.

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