

RESEARCH ARTICLE OPEN ACCESS

Schismatoglottideae (Araceae) of Borneo LXXX: *Bau djinna*, a New Species From the Rejang Basin, Sarawak

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ABSTRACT

Bau djinna is described as a new species from Central Sarawak and compared with three species to which it is most similar. Recognition of *B. djinna* takes the genus to 27 species, 25 of which are endemic to Borneo. A brief note is provided on *Schismatoglottis ambigua*, a recently published name synonymous with *Bau inculta*. The paper also introduces the term ‘anthomorph’ for the flowering structure that in general is termed an inflorescence in the Araceae and explains why the term ‘bloom’ that the authors have employed previously is unsatisfactory.

1 | Introduction

The genus *Bau* S.Y.Wong & P.C.Boyce (Wong and Boyce 2024) comprises 26 species of small to medium-sized compact to sprawling mesophytes or, rarely, facultative rheophytes with aromatic (probably terpenoids) vegetative tissues, polyphyllous modules, leaf blades with conspicuously tessellate secondary venation (usually visible fresh, always visible in dry specimens), petioles commonly longitudinally ribbed and/or scabrid, and erect solitary or clustered (and then developing sequentially) anthomorphs in which the lower persistent part of the spathe has pronouncedly thickened walls, with the spathe limb either wide-spreading, darkening, and deliquescing at the onset of staminate anthesis, or spreading wide, fragmenting and deliquescing, or more or less hardly opening, and persisting until post anthesis before deliquescing/rotting. Some species produce viviparous plantlets from various parts of still-active leaves or from detached leaf fragments. *Bau* plants are superficially similar to those of the genus *Borneoa* S.Y.Wong & P.C.Boyce but immediately distinguished by the aromatic tissues, tessellate venation, and by the absence of a petiolar sheath ligule.

Bau ranges from the south of Peninsular Thailand through the Malay Peninsula and Sumatera, through Borneo to Sulawesi. Borneo is the centre of diversity with 24 endemic species, with the westerly and easterly parts of the range having one species apiece, with one endemic on Sulawesi (Kurniawang et al. 2011; Hariri and Irsyam 2025).

Prior to the establishment of *Bau*, the 26 species were part of a polyphyletic *Schismatoglottis* Zoll. & Moritzi (Boyce and Wong 2015; Hay and Yuzammi 2000; Low et al. 2018; Ting et al. 2012; Wong 2010; Wong and Boyce 2011, 2017; Wong et al. 2012, 2016; Wong, Boyce, Aisahtul binti Wardi, and Chai 2019; Wong, Boyce, and Kartini 2019).

2 | Taxonomic Account

Bau djinna S.Y.Wong, P.C.Boyce & A.Hay, sp. nov. (Figures 1A–3)

Type: MALAYSIAN BORNEO. Sarawak, Kapit, Taman Rekreasi Seabai, 1°56'45.6"N 112°54'16.8"E, 50 m asl. 13 December 2004,

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