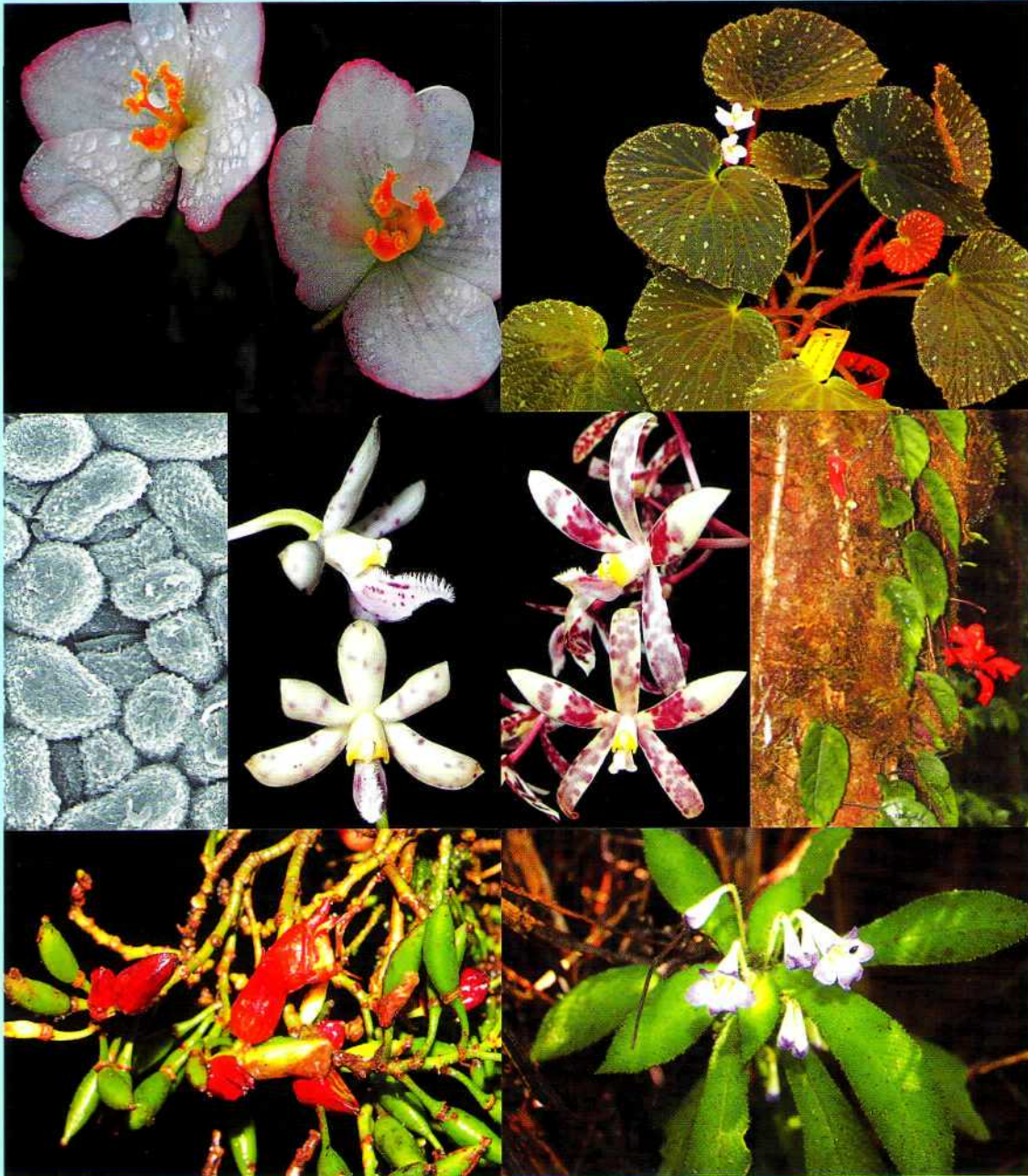




# REINWARDTIA

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Cover images: 1. *Begonia holosericeoides* (female flower and habit) (Begoniaceae; Ardi *et al.*); 2. Abaxial cuticles of *Alseodaphne rhododendropsis* (Lauraceae; Nishida & van der Werff); 3. *Dipodium puspitae*, *Dipodium purpureum* (Orchidaceae; O'Byrne); 4. *Agalmyla exannulata*, *Cyrtandra coccinea* var. *celebica*, *Codonoboea kjellbergii* (Gesneriaceae; Kartonegoro & Potter).

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## TRICHOMES MORPHOLOGY ON PETALS OF SOME ACANTHACEAE SPECIES

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### ABSTRACT

JUHARI, M. A. A. A., NORAINI, T., AMRI, C. N. A. C. & RAHMAN, M. R. A. 2014. Trichomes morphology in petals of some Acanthaceae species. *Reinwardtia* 14(1): 79 – 83. — A preliminary taxonomic study was carried out on seven Acanthaceae species namely as *Andrographis paniculata*, *Pseuderanthemum graciliflorum*, *P. carruthersii*, *Asystasia gangetica* ssp. *micrantha*, *Ruellia repens*, *Justicia comata* and *J. betonica*. The study was undertaken to investigate the morphology of trichomes present on the surfaces of flower petal. The variations found in this study are in their types and density. Based on observation, two forms of trichomes are present in all species studies which are glandular and non-glandular trichomes. There are seven types of trichomes found in this study. Trichomes types are shown to have systematic significance that can be used to differentiate and identify certain Acanthaceae species studied.

**Key words:** Acanthaceae, floral anatomy, trichomes.

### ABSTRACT

JUHARI, M. A. A. A., NORAINI, T., AMRI, C. N. A. C. & RAHMAN, M. R. A. 2014. Morfologi trikoma daun mahkota beberapa jenis Acanthaceae. *Reinwardtia* 14(1): 79 – 83. — Studi pendahuluan taksonomi dilakukan pada beberapa jenis Acanthaceae yaitu *Andrographis paniculata*, *Pseuderanthemum graciliflorum*, *P. carruthersii*, *Asystasia gangetica* ssp. *micrantha*, *Ruellia repens*, *Justicia comata* dan *J. betonica*. Studi ini dilakukan untuk mengetahui morfologi trikoma yang terdapat pada permukaan daun mahkota bunga. Dalam studi ini ditemukan variasi pada tipe dan kepadatannya. Berdasarkan hasil pengamatan semua jenis diketahui terdapat dua bentuk trikoma yaitu berbentuk kelenjar dan tidak berkelenjar. Terdapat tujuh macam trikoma pada pengamatan ini. Tipe trikoma secara sistematis menunjukkan karakter diagnostik untuk membedakan serta mengidentifikasi beberapa jenis Acanthaceae pada studi ini.

Kata kunci: Acanthaceae, anatomi bunga, trikoma.

### INTRODUCTION

Acanthaceae is a plant family under the order Lamiales with at least of 4000 tropical and subtropical species (Borg, 2008). There are three subfamilies in Acanthaceae which are Acanthoideae, Thunbergioideae and also Nelsonioideae (Borg & Schonberger, 2011). Acanthaceae is known as third largest tropical plant family after Myrtaceae and Melastomataceae (Grant, 1955). According to McDade *et al.* (2008), even though Acanthaceae is an important plant family in the tropical and subtropical countries of the world, the information

about the phylogenetic of this plant family is very little and thus prevent from comparative study being conducted. Not only known as horticulture plant, this family also have an economic value and useful for medicinal purposes (Grant, 1955).

Trichomes are defined as unicellular or multicellular appendages, which originates from the epidermal cells and develop outwards on the surface of various plant organs and often covered the aerial organs or plants, and the morphology of trichomes structures vary greatly between species (Werker, 2000). Cutler *et al.* (2008) stated that, trichomes are hairs, papillae and scales that exhibit the same wide

range as on the leaf and the type of hair can be of diagnostic value at species level, sometimes also at genus level, but rarely at family level. According to Navarro & El Oualidi (2000), trichomes also known as hairs or glandular hairs commonly found on the epidermis of plants. It is among the most useful taxonomic characters. On the other hand, they serve as physical and chemical block against biotic and abiotic stresses (Kim *et al.*, 2012). Rao & Ramayana (1977) stated that, the trichomes types are not only serve in the identification of species but also their corresponding part thus being important in pharmacognosy, archaeobotany, paleobotany and agronomy.

The morphological and mechanical features (density, size, shape, surface texture, hair orientation) of trichomes can influence many aspects of plant physiology and ecology, such as to reduce insects movements, mechanical abrasion, and leaf wetness, for temperature regulation, increase light reflectance (including UV), decrease water loss through reflection, protection of phylloplane organisms, pollinator attraction, allelopathy and many more (Wagner *et al.*, 2004). Therefore this study was conducted to investigate the detail morphology of trichomes of all species studied and to investigate its systematic significance in the family Acanthaceae.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Seven Acanthaceae species were chosen namely as *Andrographis paniculata* Nees, *Pseuderanthemum graciliflorum* Ridl., *P. carruthersii* (Seem) Guillaumin, *Asystasia gangetica* ssp. *micrantha* (L.) T. Anderson, *Ruellia repens* (Nees) Angely, *Justicia comata* (L) Lam. and *J. betonica* T. Anderson. All species studied belong to the subfamily Acanthoideae. The fresh flower materials were collected from several locations in Peninsular Malaysia such as Tasik Chini, Felda Chini, Felda Chemomoi, Pahang, and Hutan Lipur Sungai Kanching, Selangor. Fresh flower specimens were fixed in AA (70% Ethanol: 30% Acetic Acid in a ratio of 1:3). A measurement of 1 cm × 1 cm flower petal was cleared using Basic fuchsin solution (10% Basic fuchsin and 10% KOH), and placed in the microwave at about 60°C for several hours. This was done to ensure that the epidermis layers of the samples were completely removed. Cleared petal specimens were mounted on the glass slides using Canada balsam and kept in the oven at 60°C for about two weeks. Photograph of cleared petals was taken using video camera DP 25 Olympus attached to an Olympus microscope and images were

processed using Cell^B Software and Adobe Photoshop. The preparations of the slides followed method by Johansen (1940) and Sass (1958) with suitable modifications.

## RESULTS

The findings of this study have shown that eleven types of trichomes were found including eight non-glandular and three glandular trichomes listed as follows (Singh & Jain, 1975):

- I. Non-glandular unicellular- Conical filiform unicellular trichome (A (i))
- II. Non-glandular unicellular - Papilose unicellular trichomes (D (i))
- III. Non-glandular uniseriate filiform-Bicelled trichomes(C(i))
- IV. Non-glandular uniseriate filiform- Simple filiform trichomes (E)
- V. Non-glandular uniseriate filiform- Clavate filiform trichomes (C(ii))
- VI. Non-glandular uniseriate filiform - Conical filiform trichomes (F(ii))
- VII. Non-glandular uniseriate filiform- Cylindrical filiform trichomes (B)
- VIII. Non-glandular uniseriate filiform Pedalated filiform trichomes (G(ii))
- IX. Peltate glandular -With multi-celled head, 1-3 elongated stalk cells and a small neck cell (A (ii))
- X. Peltate glandular -Multicellular head (F(i))
- XI. Vesicular glandular - With unicellular head and 1-2-cells stalk (G(i))

The summary of trichomes types on petal of all species studied is shown in Table 1. Non-glandular types of trichomes are found on the surfaces of the petal in all of the species studied. The glandular trichomes present in three species studied which are peltate glandular - with multi-celled head, 1-3 elongated stalk cells and a small neck cell in *Andrographis paniculata*, Peltate glandular - multicellular head in *Justicia comata* and vesicular glandular - with unicellular head and 1-2-celled stalk in *Justicia betonica*, but absent in other four species.

Two types of non-glandular trichomes were found on the species of *Asystasia gangetica* ssp. *micrantha* in this study which are non-glandular uniseriate filiform - bicelled trichomes and non-glandular uniseriate filiform - clavate filiform trichomes, whereas other species only consist of one type of non-glandular trichomes.

## DISCUSSION

According to Hardin (1979), the morphological characteristics of trichomes have played an impor-

tant role in plant systematics, especially of particular group at generic and specific levels. Previous study has suggested that the presence or absence of peltate hairs and their forms, size and colour could be used in distinguishing between genera and species of plants (Spring, 2000). Hairs or trichomes may serve to protect buds of some plants until defense phytochemicals are produced (Johnson, 1975). Dead trichomes may continue to function in water absorption, seed dispersal and abrasion protection (Werker, 2000).

From result obtained, all of the species studied consists of non-glandular trichomes on its petal (Fig. 1; Table 1). Except for *Asystasia gangetica* ssp. *micrantha*, all of other species studied having only one type of non-glandular trichomes. According to Metcalfe (1960) non-glandular trichomes are called prickle hairs and have smooth cell wall surfaces. Non-glandular unicellular trichomes can only be found in *Andrographis paniculata* and *Pseuderanthemum carruthersii*, while the other species consists of non-glandular uniseriate filiform trichomes. In the species with glandular trichomes, only *Justicia betonica* are having glandular vesicular trichomes, whereas, *Andrographis paniculata* and *Justicia comata* are having glandular peltate trichomes. *Andrographis paniculata*, *Justicia comata*, and *Justicia betonica* are the only species that having non-glandular and glandular trichomes on the surfaces of the petals. Therefore, the type of trichomes presence can be used as the diagnostic characteristics for species differentiation of these seven species. Ascensão *et al.* (1996) stated that, the great diversity of plant trichomes has attract botanists interest by their adaptive and taxonomic value and in some family, this can be used as discriminative characters at subfamilial level.

Both of non-glandular and glandular trichomes were found in this study. Non-glandular and glandular trichomes are classified according to their morphology. On the petal, the non-glandular trichomes are unicellular and multicellular with one to three cells and also pointed-shaped. Some of the non-glandular trichomes consist of echinate ornamentation on its surfaces. They may be unicellular or multicellular, and both types can be unbranched and branched (Amalia *et al.*, 2013). Simple trichomes can forms at various stages of organ development, and same senescence before the organ reaches maturity, while others remain until plant senescence (Wagner *et al.*, 2003).

There are two type of glandular trichomes found, which are the peltate and vesicular glandular trichomes. Werker (1993) stated that glandular trichomes produced essential oils in order to protect the aerial parts of the plants against herbivores and

pathogens. Peltate trichomes also have different secretion processes. The secretory product in peltate trichomes remain trapped in a large subcuticular cavity, and the cuticular will only rupture if there are external factors such as high temperatures, low air humidity or animal aggression (Ascensão *et al.*, 1996).

As a conclusion, findings in this study have shown and proven that the presence and types of trichomes have systematic significance in all seven species studied.

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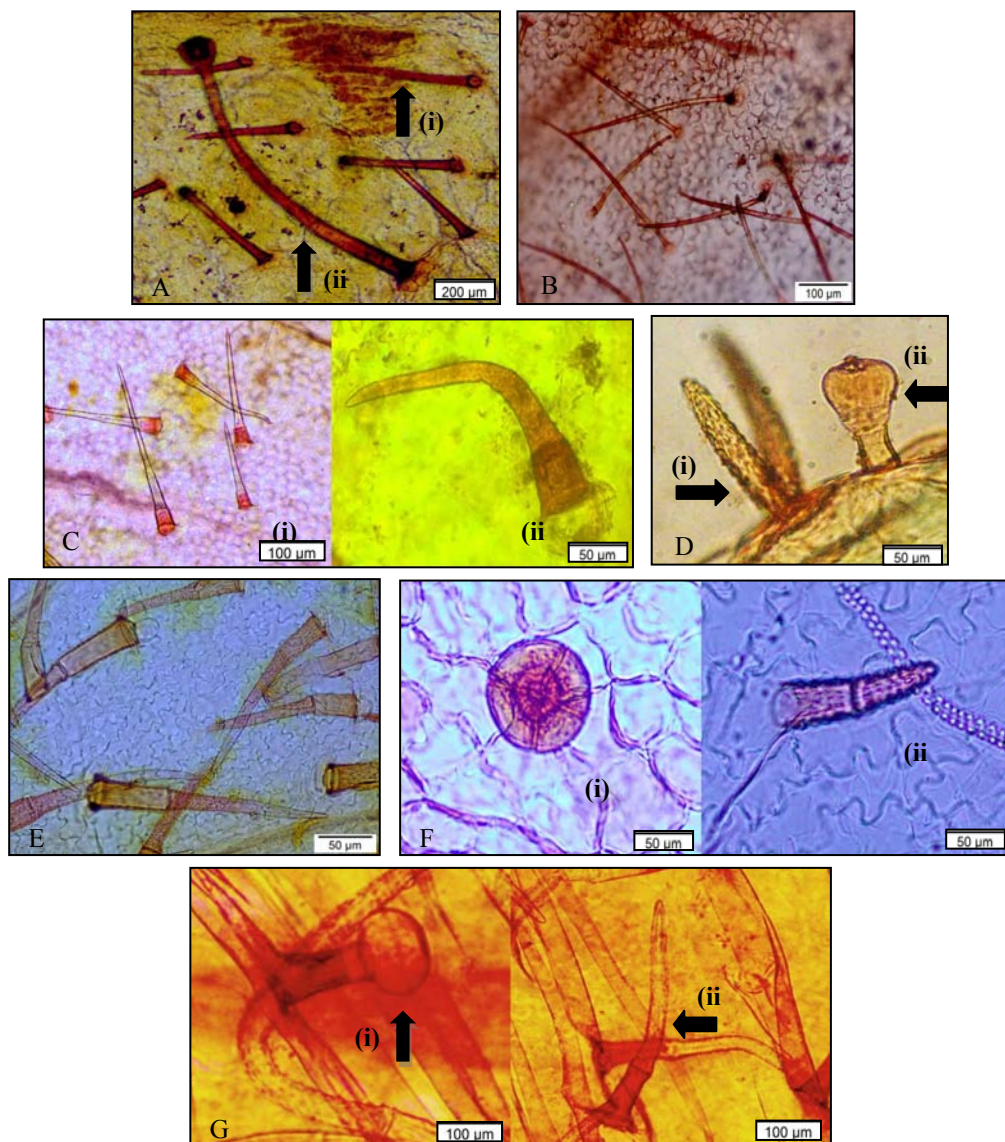


Fig. 1. Trichomes on petal of A. *Andrographis paniculata*. B. *Pseuderanthemum graciliflorum*. C. *Asystasia gangetica* ssp. *micrantha*. D. *Pseuderanthemum carruthersii*. E. *Ruellia repens*. F. *Justicia comata*. G. *Justicia betonica*.







# INSTRUCTION TO AUTHORS

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