Notes on type specimens of Miscanthus in Kew Herbarium

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Fortunately I had opportunity to check several type specimens of Miscanthus in Kew Herbarium and British Herbarium in England during December 1970 to January 1971. I would like to thank Keeper Kew Herbarium J.P.M. Brenan and Clyaton in charge of the Gramineae and keeper of Botany, British General Herbarium who helped me much during my stay in Kew and London.

Type specimen: Miscanthus deperatus, Merr. in Kew Herbarium.

The species was described by Merrill on Philpp. Jour. Sci. Vol. V. page 170 in 1910 base on the type specimen which was collected by himself at 2000 m on Canlaon Volcano the Philippines. The specimen was checked in detail by the author and found to be Miscanthus sinensis.

Merril also noted it as being allied to Miscanthus sinensis, Andr. but differing in its densely tufted habit of growth, very much smaller size, narrower leaves, rather lax, depauperate panicle, solitary, or at most paired panicle-branches, and large spikelets. This note of Merriles seems to be a good expression of the characteres of Miscanthus sinensis, Andersson which grows at high altitude in areas which are not fertile but sunny.

The specimen was 60 cm in height with leaves 5-6 mm wide, panicle fan shaped, 15 cm long, spikelet 5 mm long, first glume 4-5 nerved, second glume 3-nerved, stamens 3, and anther 2.4 mm long.

Type specimen: Eulalia densa Munro in Kew Herbarium.

The species was named by Munro from a specimen that was collected in Hong-kong, China, and published in Seem. Bot. Voy. Herald, page 424 1845-51, but without description.

In 1930, Honda treated Eulalia densa as a synonym of Miscanthus japonicus Andersson. The author carefully checked both the type specimen and my specimens which were collected in Hong-kong in Feb. 1971. The plants are 70 cm tall, the leaf blade is 6 mm wide, the panicle is fan shaped, and the spikelets 4.5 or 3 mm long. These characteristics are considered to be ones of Miscanthus sinensis, a plant which grows in poor soil or under unfavorable conditions.

Type specimen: Saccharum densum Nees in Kew Herbarium.
Nees described Saccharum densum and based it on the type specimen which was collected from Luzon, Philippines. Hooker treated the species as Miscanthus japonicus as a synonym of Miscanthus floridulus.

The author adopted Ohwi's treatment of Miscanthus japonicus without my agrument because of its correct name and it in my taxonomic study on genus Miscanthus in 1964.

Type specimen: Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Max.) Hack. form. purpurascens in Kew Herbarium.
The specimen was collected in farm fields from Middlesex in September 14, 1963. All characters of the specimen are exactly similar except that the panicle, the author designated it as just a forma.

Type specimen: Miscanthus wordii Bor in Kew herbarium.
This species was described by Bor in 1953. He particularly emphasized that this species has truncate, short and long sized glumes in the spikelets and noted 3 stamens in a floret.
The author confirmed the above characters but found usually 2 stamens instead of 3. This
means that Miscanthus wordii belongs to the diandra group of Miscanthus instead of triandra. The diandra of Miscanthus are widely distributed in south-west Asia from West China to Himalaya (1964 Lee).

Type specimen: Miscanthus tylorii, Bor in Kew Herbarium & British Herbarium.

This species was also described by Bor in 1953 who used specimens collected in Tibet. The spikelts show the variation in the tips of glums from acute to rather trauncate even on the same specimen. Such variation of glume character can be seen in Miscanthus nudipes also.

The notes on type specimens of Miscanthus as follow;


Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Max.) Hack. form. purpurascens Y. Lee, form. nov.
Villi calli purpurascens folia et inflorescentia quam Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Max.) Hack.
This forma is allied to Miscanthus sacchariflorus, but differs in having purpusish callus hairs.
Type in Kew Herbarium

Miscanthus nudipes (Griseb.) Hack ssp. tylorii Bor. Y. Lee, comp. nov.
The variety base on the species Miscanthus tylorii Bor in Kew Bull. 273–274(1953)
Miscanthus nudipes (Griseb.) Hack ssp. wordii (Bor) Y. Lee, comp. nov.
The subspecies base on the species Miscanthus wordii Bor.

요 약

Kew 표본판에 저장될 역세 Miscanthus의 기준 표본에 대하여
이 영 노

기준표본 Miscanthus deperatus Merr.는 Miscanthus sinensis Andr.이고 Eulalia densa Munro
는 Miscanthus sinensis Andersson, Saccharum densum Nees는 Miscanthus floridulus라는 것을 밝
히고 새로운 품종으로 Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Max) Hack. form. purpurascens를 명명하고
Miscanthus tylorii Bor와 Miscanthus wordii를 각각 Miscanthus nudipes의 아종으로 취급했다.