

SHORT COMMUNICATION

***Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer nov. spec. (Rosaceae L.) – a new bramble in the Netherlands and Germany**

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Key words

Rubus psilops
Rubus lindleianus
Rubus scoliacanthus

Abstract – A new species is described here: *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer. It is characterized by very short hairs, which give the impression that the plant is more glabrous than it is. The leaves are very coarsely serrated, usually with a narrow rhomboid or obovate terminal leaflet. The inflorescence is narrow pyramidal or cylindrical, with leaves at the base only. Flowers small, late.

Samenvatting – In 1952 vond Beijerinck een braam bij Fluitenberg bij Hoogeveen die op *Rubus lindleianus* Lees leek, maar op essentiële punten afweek. Hij vermeldt deze niet in zijn monografie over de Nederlandse bramen (Beijerinck 1956). Later werd hetzelfde taxon op meerdere plaatsen in Drenthe en Noord-Overijssel gevonden en daarnaast trof Weber een exemplaar aan bij Dinklage in Duitsland. Gezien de verspreiding van dit taxon is de tijd rijp om het nu te beschrijven. Vanwege de zeer korte beharing, waardoor de plant veel kaler lijkt dan deze is, geven we de naam *Rubus psilops*. Naast de opmerkelijke beharing wordt deze soort gekarakteriseerd door zeer grof getande bladeren, met meestal een smal ruitvormig tot omgekeerd eirond topblad, een smal piramidale of cilindrische bloeiwijze met kleine bloemen die alleen aan de voet doorbladerd is en talrijke vrijwel zittende en verspreide langere klieren heeft. Bloeit laat.

In de regio waar de soort voorkomt, kan *Rubus psilops* alleen verward worden met *R. lindleianus*, die echter een brede doorbladerde bloeiwijze met grotere bloemen heeft met afstaande zijtakken en bloemsteeltjes, en een veel zwaardere bestekeling. Bovendien mist de laatstgenoemde de talrijke vrijwel zittende en verspreide gesteelde klieren die *R. psilops* heeft.

De zeer zeldzame *R. scoliacanthus* A. Beek – die alleen in de Gelderse Vallei voorkomt – heeft sterkere en kromme stekels, een bredere bloeiwijze, kortere meeldraden en aan de top behaarde vruchtbeginsels.

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INTRODUCTION

When the checklist of the Dutch brambles (Beek et al. 2014) was published, the status of several taxa was still unclear. Therefore, these were omitted from the list. The exact identity of these taxa is under current research and one of the first results is published in this article.

In 1952, Beijerinck discovered a plant in Fluitenberg near Hoogeveen which was similar to *Rubus lindleianus* Lees. According to the notes on the label of the collected specimen, however, it differed from this by the many stalked glands on the axis of the inflorescence. Beijerinck does not mention this plant in his *Rubi Neerlandici* (Beijerinck 1956), but a specimen of this plant was conserved in his herbarium in Wageningen (WAG),

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which was recently moved to Leiden (L). From 1988 onwards, we found plants, which obviously belong to the same taxon, in several locations in the provinces Drenthe and Overijssel in the Netherlands. It appeared that Dr. Heinrich Weber (Bramsche, Germany) also collected a specimen of this taxon in Germany.

From the comparison of all the specimens it became clear that all these plants indeed belong to the same taxon. We hereby describe this taxon, with a known distribution area of 80 km in diameter, as a new species (see [Haveman & De Ronde 2013](#)).



Fig. 1. Primocane samples with leaves of the holotype of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer (Herb. K. Meijer, nr. 1370, HFN).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The material which has been investigated includes (a) the specimen in L (the former WAG collection) collected by Beijerinck & Vaan-

drager; (b) later samples collected by Van de Beek; (c) further collections in the Herbarium Frisicum (HFN) collected by Meijer; (d) specimens in the private herbarium of Van de Beek; and (e) the specimen referred to above in the herbarium of Weber.



Fig. 1. The inflorescence of the holotype of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer (Herb. K. Meijer, nr. 1370, HFN).

In addition to herbarium research, fieldwork was carried out in the region where the taxon was found.

DESCRIPTION

Rubus psilops A. Beek & K. Meijer, nov. spec. — Fig. 1 & 2.

Typus (holotypus HFN, hic designatus): Herb. K. Meijer, *Meijer 1370*, Drenthe, Echten, in bosrand bij spoorbaan [in a forest edge near the railway], 17.51.54, 04.08.1991.

Differt ab affino *R. lindleiano* Lees (1848: 361) foliis saepe convexis grosse serratis inflorescentia angusta pauciflora efoliosa aculeis tenuibus paucioribus glandulis multis subsessilibus et nonnumquam etiam sparsis stipitatis floribus parvis. — Series: *Hayneani* Tratt. (1823: 18).

Primocane moderately high arching to prostrate, diameter (4–)5–9 mm, angular, green or wine red in the sun, glabrous or sometimes with scattered hairs, eglandular or sometimes with a few stalked glands. Prickles (5–)10–20 per internode, slightly curved or reclined with a (0.5–)2–7(–8) mm large base, 2–6(–7) mm long. Stipules linear to linear-lanceolate, (8–)9–13 mm long, fimbriate, with sessile glands. Petiole (5–)6–8(–9) cm long, usually shorter than the lateral leaves, slightly hairy on both sides, with some sessile glands and (2–)5–10(–12) somewhat reclined to slightly curved prickles. Leaves 5-nate, often somewhat convex, slightly hairy or almost glabrous above, at the underside mainly on the veins somewhat hairy. Margins coarsely to unequally, sharply, and clearly periodically serrated, sometimes with strongly recurved primal dents. Petiolules of the lower lateral leaves

(3–)4–5(–6) mm long. Terminal leaflet (80–)90–110(–120) mm long, with a cuneate, rounded or sometimes emarginated or slightly cordate base, narrow to large obovate or almost rhomboid, rarely ovate, gradually attenuated into an 8–15 mm long apex or sometimes abruptly narrowed into a short apex; width 53–75(–85)% of its lengths. Length of the petiolule 21–40% of the length of the leaflet. — See Fig. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9.

Flowering branch roundish to bluntly angular rather densely short-haired, with many subsessile glands. Prickles (5–)6–8(–9) per internode slightly reclined, slender, up to 2–4 mm long. Upper leaves almost glabrous, or with some hairs on the veins at the underside. Inflorescence narrow, somewhat pyramidal or cylindrical, without leaves, with dense tangled often appressed hairs and many subsessile or sometimes scattered unequal stalked glands. Branches erect often poorly flowered, rarely fasciculate, the higher ones with 1–4 flowers, sometimes all one-flowered. Pedicels (5–)10–20 mm, densely short-haired with 100 to more than 200 subsessile or sometimes unequal short stalked glands, and 4–10 pricklets. Sepals (loosely) reflexed, grayish tomentose, with many subsessile glands, unarmed or with 1–2 pricklets. Petals white or sometimes very pale pink, ovate, narrow, 3–4 mm wide and up to 7 mm long. Stamens longer than the yellowish green styles. Anthers and ovaries glabrous. Receptacle with many long hairs. Flowering in July and August. — See Fig. 10 & 11.

Distribution — The species occurs in the southern parts of the Province of Drenthe and adjoining areas in the Province of Overijssel in the Netherlands (Fig. 12) and also in Germany near Dinklage (Niedersachsen).

Ecology — Forest edges, wooded banks and old woodlands.



Fig. 3. Leaves of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.



Fig. 4. Large leaf of primocane of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.



Fig. 5. Underside of primocane of leaflet of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.



Fig. 6. Detail of underside of leaflet of primocane of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.



Fig. 7. Detail of underside of leaflet of florican of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.



Fig. 8. Primocane of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer growing in shade.



Fig. 9. Primocane of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer growing under sunny conditions.



Fig. 10. Inflorescence of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.



Fig. 11. Detail of inflorescence of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer.

Characteristic specimens

Netherlands

HFN, herb. K. Meijer — *Meijer 1385*, Hoogeveen, Kinkholtbos, forest edge along the road, 17.52.32, 16 August 1991; *Meijer 1641*, Mantinge, edge of old woodland along the road, 17.34.43, 13 August 1998; *Meijer 2925*, Zwinderen, old forest near bungalowpark, 17.55.34, 29 July 2001; *Meijer 986*, Steenwijk, Onna, old wooded bank, 16.46.32, 10 August 1988; *Meijer 1805*, Steenwijkerwold, Molenhoek, old wooded bank, 16.44.14 24 July 1999; *Meijer 1402*, De Wijk Dickninge, old park forest in the Reestdal, 21.18.51, 15 August 1992; *Meijer 1884*, Wijster, forest edge along the road, 17.33.43, 29 July 2000; *Meijer 2068*, Oosterhesselen, old forest near Havezathe De Klencke, 17.46.42.

L, herb. Vadense — *W. Beijerinck & M.H. Vaandrager s.n.*, *R. lindleianus* Lees, along the road from Fluitenberg to Kinkholt, 22.07.1952.

Herb. A. van de Beek — *Beek 2013.19*, parking of the museum camp Westerbork, 19.7.2013, 234,579/548,816; *Beek 2013.20*, Hoogeveen, railway crossing near Kinkholtbos, 19.7.2013, 226,645/527,034.

Germany

Herb. H.E. Weber — 87.827.5, Niedersachsen, 3314.124: Bünne bei Dinklage, Wald bei Höhe 26 m. 27.8.1987.

DISCUSSION

The species is very well characterized by its somewhat convex and coarsely serrated leaves and its narrow cylindrical to pyramidal, poor, short hairy inflorescence. In the region where it occurs it may be confused with *Rubus lindleianus* Lees, which has a large leafy inflorescence with patent branches and pedicels, numerous and strong prickles and larger flowers and which lacks the numerous sessile or scattered stalked glands. More similar is the very rare *R. scoliacanthus* A. Beek (1974: 70), which differs especially by larger, curved prickles, a larger inflorescence, shorter stamens and ovaries which are hairy at the top.

Although the recognition of the taxon is usually not difficult by virtue of the coarse serrature of the leaves and its narrow short hairy inflorescence, the shape of the terminal leaflets has caused some confusion during fieldwork. Usually, the leaflets are narrow with a cuneate or somewhat rounded base. However, sometimes plants are found with larger leaflets with an emarginated base. These grow together with the 'normal' plants and obviously fall within the variation of the species.

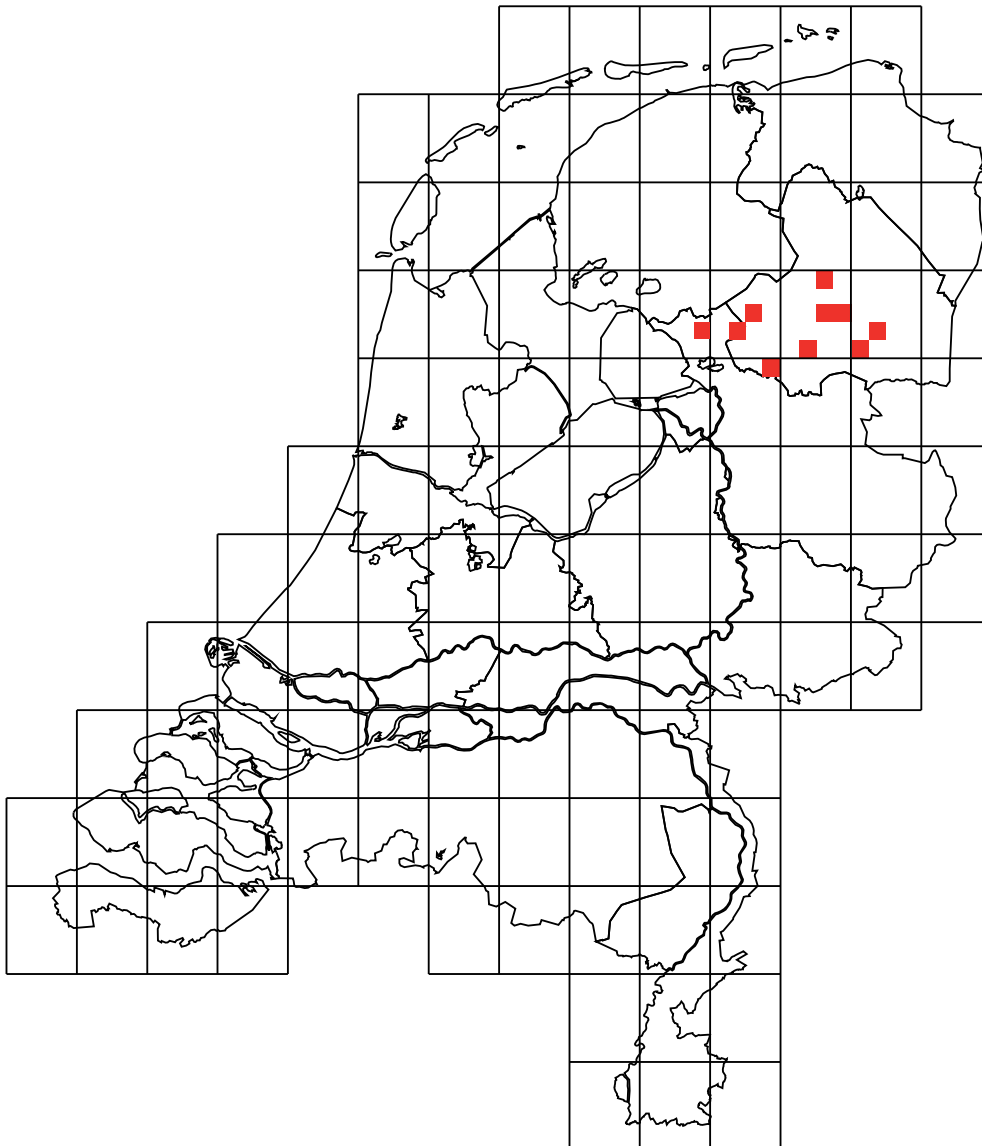


Fig. 12. Distribution of *Rubus psilops* A. Beek & K. Meijer in the Netherlands.

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