

Feuillet et al. 1990a

+ Skog

**Proposal to emend the type citation of 7860 *Alloplectus*
Mart., nom. cons. (Gesneriaceae: Gesnerioideae).**

Taxon 39: 133-134.

REFNO: 2341

KEYWORDS:

***Alloplectus*, *Columnnea*, *Crantzia*, *Nematanthus*, Nomenclature, Typification**

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(1970) Proposal to emend the type citation of 7860 *Alloplectus* Mart., nom. cons. (Gesneriaceae: Gesnerioideae)

Alloplectus C. F. P. Martius, Nov. gen. sp. pl. 3: 53. 1829. T.: *A. hispidus* (Kunth) Martius (*Besleria hispida* Kunth), typ. cons. emend. prop.

Technically, for more than 15 years, the generic concept traditionally called *Alloplectus* Mart. has been without a name because the currently conserved type, *A. sparsiflorus* Mart., was found (Wiehler, 1972) to be a synonym of *Nematanthus hirtellus* (Schott) Wiehler. As several floristic treatments are now in preparation, we need a name for this group of more than 60 species (11 species are in cultivation). We propose to change the conserved type of the genus *Alloplectus* in order to maintain this generic name in its traditional sense, and avoid a large number of new combinations in *Crantzia* Scop. (nom. rej.) for all species but eight. The resurrection of *Crantzia* would be very undesirable because the position of its type, *C. cristata* (L.) Scop., cannot at this point be placed definitely in either *Alloplectus* or *Columnea* L. (Morley, 1974).

When he described the genus *Alloplectus* in 1829, Martius included seven species: two new species (*A. sparsiflorus* and *A. circinatus*); three species from other genera (*Besleria cristata* L., *B. hispida* Kunth, *B. coccinea* Aubl.) for which he gave new combinations (*A. cristatus*, *A. hispidus*, and *A. coccineus*) in the index (Martius, 1832); and two more (*B. bicolor* Schott and *Dalbergaria phoenicea* Tussac [or *B. sanguinea* Pers.]) which he never formally transferred, thus leaving the genus with five species.

In the first list of conserved names in the 1905 Code, the name *Alloplectus* was conserved over *Crantzia* Scop. (1777) and *Vireya* Raf. (1814). The type of the latter genus is now a member of *Columnea*. In 1929 Green proposed the typification of a large number of generic names, and chose *Alloplectus sparsiflorus* Mart. as the type for *Alloplectus*. There was no explanation with the long list of proposed names and this species was probably chosen for the only reason that it was the first in the text by Martius. This typification was accepted and has been cited in subsequent Codes. Finally Rickett and Stafleu (1959 and 1960) added "typ. cons." indicating that the type was in the nature of a lectotype. This appeared in subsequent Codes, including the present one, as "T.: *A. sparsiflorus* C. F. P. Martius (typ. cons.)."

During the last 35 years a large part of the studies on the Gesneriaceae have been focused on a very important matter: redefinition of the outdated subfamilial, tribal, and generic limits with respect to the new collections and newly available data. This vital and long-awaited remodelling of the family began with the redefinition of the Old World subfamily Cyrtandroideae by B. L. Burt (1963).

The consideration of the New World subfamily Gesnerioideae led Wiehler (1972) to propose new combinations in an emended concept of *Nematanthus* Schrad. In his paper *Alloplectus sparsiflorus* Mart. appears in the synonymy of *N. hirtellus* (Schott) Wiehler. Wiehler (1973) mentioned the generic typification problem and suggested that *A. hispidus* (Kunth) Mart. should be proposed as a replacement type for *Alloplectus*. Skog (1979) in the treatment of the Gesneriaceae for the *Flora of Panama* and Chautems (1988) in his revision of *Nematanthus* used the same concepts for *Alloplectus* and *Nematanthus* and noted again the necessity of a new typification.

Alloplectus is separated from *Nematanthus* by its distribution in Central America, northern South America, and the Lesser Antilles (well away from *Nematanthus* endemic to the coastal forests of South East Brazil), by the lack of a leaf hypodermis, and by its base chromosome number $x=9$ (instead of $x=8$ in *Nematanthus*). These two genera are now well defined. *Alloplectus* has about 60-65 species (Skog, 1979 and Wiehler, 1983).

Among the five species originally included in *Alloplectus* by Martius: (1) *A. sparsiflorus* Mart. (= *Nematanthus hirtellus* (Schott) Wiehler), (2) *A. circinatus* Mart. (= *Drymonia coccinea* (Aubl.) Wiehler), (3) *A. cristatus* (L.) Mart., (4) *A. hispidus* (Kunth) Mart., and (5) *A. coccineus* (Aubl.) Mart. (= *Drymonia coccinea* (Aubl.) Wiehler), only two (nos. 3 and 4) remain in it according to the traditional and current concepts of the genus.

Morley (1974) transferred four of the five Caribbean species of *Alloplectus* to *Columnea* on the basis of their fruits: berries in *Columnea* instead of fleshy capsules in *Alloplectus*. He also discussed the type of fruit of the fifth species, *A. cristatus*, which has been reported from different collections as having capsules or berries. The status of this species, which is the type of *Crantzia*, may change to be merged in *Columnea* or to resurrect *Crantzia* Scopoli. Therefore it is not a good candidate for typification in *Alloplectus*. On the other hand *A. hispidus* closely matches the generic description in having fleshy

capsules. Therefore, we propose emending the type citation of conserved *Alloplectus* Mart. as stated at the beginning of this proposal.

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Proposed by: Christian Feuillet (ORSTOM) and Laurence E. Skog, Department of Botany, NHB-166, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560, U.S.A.

(971) Proposal to conserve the name *Hypericum japonicum* Thunb. ex Murray against *H. chinense* Osbeck (Guttiferae)

- Hypericum japonicum* Thunberg ex Murray, *Syst. veg.*, 14th ed. 702. July 1784; Thunb., *Fl. jap.* 295. August 1784 [Guttif.] *nom. cons. prop.* T.: Japan, Honshu, "in insula Nipon", Thunberg (holotype, UPS; isotype, BM).
- H. chinense* Osbeck, *Dagbok Ostind. Resa* 244. 1757, *nom. rejic. prop.* T.: China, Guangdong ("Kwang-tung"), Danish Island, 24. x. 1751, *Osbeck* (holotype, S).

Hypericum japonicum Thunb. ex Murray (sect. *Trigynobrathys*) is a common herb of open wet habitats in east and south-east Asia (where it is a frequent rice-field weed), Australia, and New Zealand (Robson, 1973, 1974, 1990). *Hypericum chinense* Osbeck has never been used since it was published. Merrill (1916) pointed out its priority over *H. japonicum* Thunb. ex Murray, but thought that *H. chinense* L. applied to the same species. The Linnaean name, however, applies to a widely cultivated shrub in sect. *Ascyreia* that Linnaeus described twice, as he also validated a Miller name for the same species (for extended synonymy, see Robson, 1985):

- H. chinense* Linnaeus, *Syst. nat.*, 10th ed. 2: 1184. 1759. T.: Miller, *Figures plants* 101, t. 151, f. 2. 1760 (typotype, BM).
- H. monogynum* Linnaeus, *Sp. pl.*, 2nd ed. 1107. 1763; Miller, *Gard. dict.* [7th ed. No. 11. 1759, *nom. invalid.*] 8th ed. No. 11. 1768. T.: as for *H. chinense* L.

Hypericum chinense L. had been used in botanical and horticultural literature almost exclusively until recently, when I explained the above synonymy (Robson, 1985). Since then, it has been replaced by *H. monogynum* L. in gardens and elsewhere, sometimes reluctantly but without any serious objections or inconvenience.

To replace *H. japonicum* Thunb. ex Murray by *H. chinense* Osbeck (non L.), however, would be to manufacture a 'nomen confusum' and would certainly lead to widespread confusion and uncertainty

as to which *H. chinense* circles (see, for example Thunb. ex Murray be ex

Acknowledgments

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- 30: *Trigynobrath*

Proposed by: N. K. B. R Road, London SW7 5B

(972) Proposal to reject

- Hypericum tetrapterum* ("Scania"), in silva R *H. quadrangulum* Linn: 380, No. 5 (BM). *H. quadrangulare* Murr *H. acutum* Moench, *M quadrangulare* L."). *H. quadratum* Stokes. E

When Linnaeus was erlands, he described th *rangulum* (Hort. cliff. 3: species, which is confine as *H. maculatum*, which 265), he described *H. q* PERICUM floribus trig *Species plantarum* (175

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Table 1. Some works Fries.

- Hudson, *Fl. anglica* 29: 2: 801. 1800; Babington: H. and J. Groves (eds.), Riddelsdell, Hedley and