
Research Article

New combinations in *Ruellia* (Acanthaceae)

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Abstract: In current circumscription, *Dipteracanthus* Nees and *Tremacanthus* S.Moore are synonymous to the genus *Ruellia* Plum. ex L. Therefore, one validly published species name in *Tremacanthus* and nine validly published species names in *Dipteracanthus* are transferred here to the genus *Ruellia*. *Ruellia lallanii* R.Kr.Singh, a new name is herein proposed to replace the illegitimate name *Ruellia brevicaulis* (Nees) Lindau, being a later homonym of *R. brevicaulis* Baker. In addition, lectotype is designated here for the name *Dipteracanthus schottianus* Nees.

Keywords: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, *Dipteracanthus*, Endemic, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand, *Tremacanthus*

Introduction

The genus *Ruellia* Plum. ex L. is represented by about 375 species worldwide (POWO, 2025). Presently, *Dipteracanthus* Nees and *Tremacanthus* S.Moore are synonymous to the genus *Ruellia* (Manzitto-Tripp et al., 2022). Thus, one validly published species name in *Tremacanthus* and nine validly published species names in *Dipteracanthus* are transferred here to the genus *Ruellia*. Further, *Ruellia lallanii* R.Kr.Singh, a new name is herein proposed to replace the illegitimate name *R. brevicaulis* (Nees) Lindau, being a later homonym of *R. brevicaulis* Baker according to Article 53.1 in Turland et al. (2018). To fix the identity, lectotype is designated here for the name *Dipteracanthus schottianus* Nees. I followed the guidelines and recommendations of Articles 9 and 41 in Turland et al. (2018).

Nomenclature

Ruellia angusta (Griseb.) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus angustus* Griseb., Bonplandia 6: 10. 1858.

Holotype: Panama, 1856, *E.P. Duchassaing de Fontbressin* s.n. (GOET006526!, Figure 1).

Distribution: Endemic to Panama.

Ruellia cana (Nees) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus canus* Nees, Fl. Bras. (Martius) 9: 38. 1847.

Holotype: Brazil, Serra da Viura, s.d., *H.W. Schott* 6131 (GZU000249501!, Figure 2); isotypes F0047331F!, W0004602! (Figure 3), W0004603!.

Distribution: Endemic to Brazil.

Ruellia capreifolia (Nees) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus capreifolius* Nees, Fl. Bras. (Martius) 9: 42. 1847, as “*capreaefolius*”.

Holotype: Brazil, Minas Gerais, Inter Rio Jiquita et Manoel da Souza, s.d., *J.B.E. Pohl* 3176 (GZU000249531!, Figure 4); isotypes M0186676!, W0049882! (Figure 5).

Distribution: Endemic to Brazil.

Ruellia chichesterensis (Trudgen & P.-L.de Kock) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus chichesterensis* Trudgen & P.-L.de Kock, Nuytsia 25: 165. 2015.

Holotype: Australia, Western Australia, east-north-east of Kenjenjie Outstation on Coolawanyah Station, 14 March 2013, *P-L. de Kock & R. Butler* PLDK 1040 (PERTH08644969!); isotype PERTH08644977!.

Paratype: Australia, Western Australia, 15 March 2013, *P-L. de Kock & R. Butler* PLDK 1047 (P00996053!, Figure 6).

Distribution: Endemic to Australia.

Ruellia gardneri (Nees) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus gardneri* Nees, Fl. Bras. (Martius) 9: 28. 1847.

Holotype: Brazil, Goiás, s.d., *G. Gardner* 3419 (GZU000249605!, Figure 7); isotypes BM000624582!, BR0000006942885!, K000534078! (Figure 8), NY00311938!, W0004511!, W1889-0111601! (Figure 9).

Distribution: Endemic to Brazil.

Ruellia lallanii R.Kr.Singh, *nom. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus brevicaulis* Nees, Fl. Bras. (Martius) 9: 35. 1847. *Ruellia brevicaulis* (Nees) Lindau,

Nat. Pflanzenfam. [Engler & Prantl] 4(3b): 310. 1895, *nom. illeg., non* Baker, J. Linn. Soc., Bot. 21: 428. 1885.

Holotype: Brazil, *s.d.*, *F. Sellow s.n.* (GZU000249509!, Figure 10).

Distribution: Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay.

Etymology: The new name is named after my father late Shri Lallan Singh.

Ruellia lamiiformis (Nees) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus lamiiformis* Nees, Fl. Bras. (Martius) 9: 43. 1847.

Holotype: Brazil, Serra grande, *s.d.*, *H.W. Schott 4728* (GZU000249600!, Figure 11); isotypes W0004501!, W0004502! (Figure 12).

Distribution: Endemic to Brazil.

Ruellia orthocaula (Bremek.) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus orthocaulus* Bremek., Dansk Bot. Ark. 33: 200. 1965.

Holotype: Thailand, Kanchanaburi province, Sai Yok, 220 m, 1 July 1963, *K. Larsen 10369* (U00000024!, Figure 13); isotype C10005136!.

Distribution: Endemic to Thailand.

Ruellia pavoniana (Nees) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus pavonianus* Nees, Prodr. [A. P. de Candolle] 11: 133. 1847.

Type: Peru, *s.d.*, *J.A. Pavón s.n.* (GZU000249502!).

Distribution: Endemic to Peru.

Ruellia robertii (S.Moore) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Tremacanthus robertii* S.Moore; J. Bot. 33, t. 456. 1904.

Holotype: Brazil, Mato Grosso, Santa Anna da Chapada, 1 August 1902, *A. Robert 468* (BM); isotype K000534244!, Figure 14.

Distribution: Endemic to Brazil.

Ruellia schottiana (Nees) R.Kr.Singh, *comb. nov.*

≡ *Dipteracanthus schottianus* Nees, Fl. Bras. (Martius) 9: 32. 1847.

Lectotype (designated here): Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, 1832, *L. Riedel 802* (GZU000249894!, Figure 15); isolectotype NY00311940! (Figure 16).



Figure 1: Holotype of *Dipteracanthus angustus* Griseb. (GOET006526, © Herbarium Göttingen)



Figure 2: Holotype of *Dipteracanthus canus* Nees (GZU000249501, © Herbarium Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz)



Figure 3: Isotype of *Dipteracanthus canus* Nees (W0004602, © Herbarium Naturhistorisches Museum Wien)



Figure 4: Holotype of *Dipteracanthus capreifolius* Nees (GZU000249531, © Herbarium Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz)



Figure 5: Isotype of *Dipteracanthus capreifolius* Nees (W0049882, © Herbarium Naturhistorisches Museum Wien)



Figure 6: Paratype of *Dipteracanthus chichesterensis* Trudgen & P.-L. de Kock (P00996053, © Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris)



Figure 7: Holotype of *Dipteracanthus gardneri* Nees (GZU000249605, © Herbarium Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz)



Figure 8: Isotype of *Dipteracanthus gardneri* Nees (K000534078, © The Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)

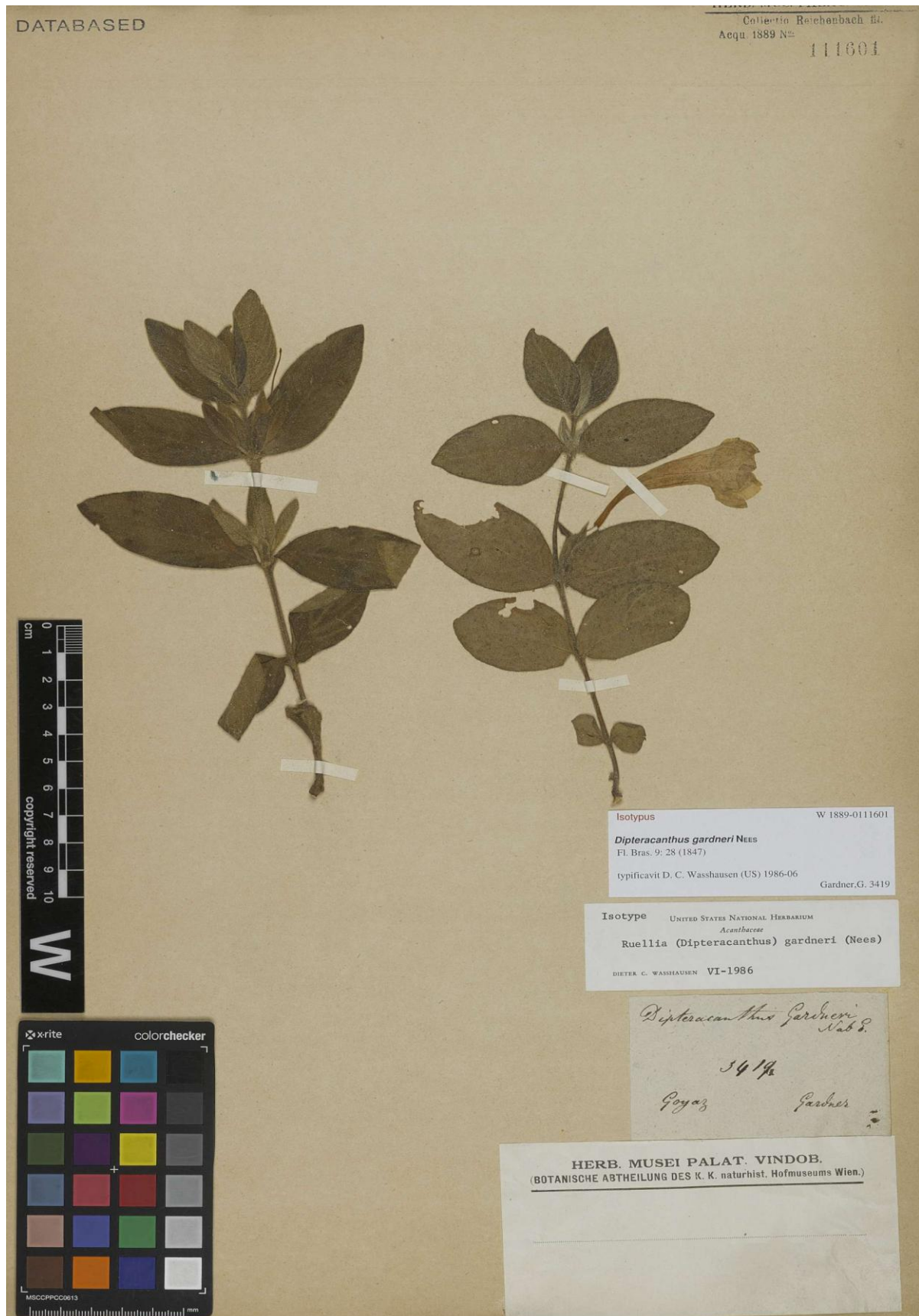


Figure 9: Isotype of *Dipteracanthus gardneri* Nees (W1889-0111601, © Herbarium Naturhistorisches Museum Wien)



Figure 10: Holotype of *Dipteracanthus brevicaulis* Nees (GZU000249509, © Herbarium Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz)

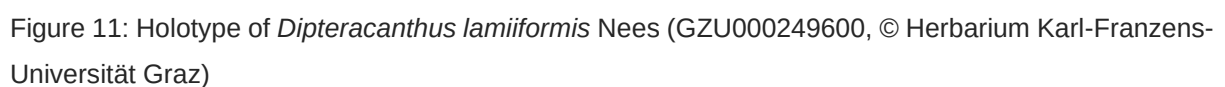




Figure 12: Isotype of *Dipteracanthus lamiiformis* Nees (W0004502, © Herbarium Naturhistorisches Museum Wien)



Figure 13: Holotype of *Dipteracanthus orthocaulus* Bremek. (U0000024, © Herbarium Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden)



Figure 14: Isotype of *Tremacanthus robertii* S. Moore (K000534244, © The Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)



Figure 15: Lectotype of *Dipteracanthus schottianus* Nees (GZU000249894, © Herbarium Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz)



Figure 16: Isoelectotype of *Dipteracanthus schottianus* Nees (NY00311940, © Herbarium New York Botanical Garden)

Remaining syntype: Brazil, s.d., *H.W. Schott 6132* (GZU000249893!).

Distribution: Endemic to Brazil.

Notes: Two specimens are extant for the name *Dipteracanthus schottianus* Nees at GZU (GZU000249893 and GZU000249894). The best one, GZU000249894, is designated here as the lectotype as it agrees well with the protologue.

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