

TYPIFICATION OF *BAUHINIA ORNATA* (LEGUMINOSAE: CAESALPINIOIDEAE) - ONE LAST TIME

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Thothathri (1965) who placed *Bauhinia ornata* Kurz in the genus *Phanera* Lour. and made the combination *P. ornata* (Kurz) Thoth. cited Kurz 2579 (CAL) from Choungmenach, Pegu Yomah (Burma) as the type without indicating the exact status. Larsen & Larsen (1980) while listing *B. ornata* cited Kurz 2579 (CAL), the one cited earlier by Thothathri (*l.c.*), as lectotype. However, in response to an enquiry, Prof. K. Larsen (pers. comm, 1992) informed that they did not lectotypify the name. It can be seen that Thothathri's citation: 'Choungmenach, Pegu Yomah-Kurz 2579' matches only with details given on herbarium label of a sterile specimen (CAL 0000011250). This specimen in my opinion, in no way helps the application of the name, *B. ornata*, with clarity. Assuming that Thothathri's (*l.c.*) mere citation as 'type' did not amount to lectotypification, I selected Kurz 2579 (CAL., acc. no. 137296) from Pegu, a flowering specimen as lectotype (Bandyopadhyay, 1995). In response to this Dr. J. McNeill (pers. comm., 1997) pointed out that Thothathri's (*l.c.*) citation as 'type' has to be accepted as lectotypification under Art. 9.8 of the Vienna Code (McNeill & al., 2006).

Typification of the name *B. ornata*, however, cannot end there. Kurz 2579 has 6 of them at CAL and 2 at K (with cibachromes at CAL). Although all of them have the same field number, they were neither collected on the same date nor in the same locality (Table 1; also *vide* Bandyopadhyay, 2000). Table 1 shows that of the 8 specimens 6 were collected in February 1871 and the rest in April 1871. Five specimens have only the region indicated as Pegu, whereas others have a locality and /or nature of the terrain in addition. Obviously all of them do not belong to the same gathering. Of the 6 specimens at CAL, Thothathri has annotated all except one (CAL 0000011251). He has annotated one (CAL 0000011252) as 'type' and the rest as 'isotypes'. During a recent personal discussion, Dr. K. Thothathri stated that he considered all of Kurz 2579 at CAL as replicates as they have the same field number and added that he considered the flowering specimen which he has labeled as 'type' as 'holotype' and the rest as 'isotypes'. Further, he had attributed the precise locality of the sterile specimen

Table 1. Location of type specimens of *Bauhinia ornata* Kurz

Accession and bar code numbers of the specimen with herbarium acronym	Locality	Date of collection and nature of the specimen	Annotation by Thothathri
137291 CAL 0000011248	Pegu	11/2/71 in flowers	isotype
137297 CAL 0000011249	Pegu	11/2/71 in flowers	isotype
CAL 0000011251	Pegu	11/2/71 in flowers	--
137296 CAL 0000011252	Pegu	11/2/71 in flowers	type
137298 CAL 0000011247	Pegu	8/4/71 sterile	isotype
137299 CAL 0000011250	Choungmenach chg, E. and W. slopes, Pegu Yomah	8/4/71 sterile	isotype
K	E. and W. slopes, Pegu Yomah	11/2/71 in flowers	--
K	E. and W. slopes, Pegu Yomah	11/2/71 in flowers	--

'Choungmenah' for all the other specimens and thus cited the locality as 'Choungmenah, Pegu' in his publication (Thothathri, *l.c.*).

Thothathri (*l.c.*) overlooked the details provided by Kurz (1875) in his report and the dates on the sheets that resulted in the erroneous conclusion that the specimens belonged to a single gathering.

In this situation it appears appropriate to consider the flowering specimen (CAL 0000011252) which Thothathri annotated as 'type' as the lectotype designated by him.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata, for facilities, Dr. K. Thothathri for ex-Joint Director, BSI, for clarification on his treatment and an anonymous reviewer, for improving manuscript.

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