many immature ovules attached to the septa at the base of the capsule. Seeds-5, deep brownish black, shining, 6-8 × 3-1 mm, elliptic or nearly so, margin thin.

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NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON *COTONEASTER SYMONDSII* TH. MOORE (ROSACEAE)

J. D. Hooker (1878), Rehder (1940, 1949) and Klotz (1957, 1963) treated *Cotoneaster simonsii* hort. ex Baker (1869) as the correct name of the taxon endemic to the Himalaya, from Himachal Pradesh to Bhutan, between 1,525 m and 3,660 m. Simultaneously, Rehder (*l.c.*) and Klotz (*l.c.*) reduced *C. symondsii* Th. Moore (1861), without any comment, as the synonym of the former. The protologue of *C. symondsii* reads : "...from Mr. Standish, Bagshot. A very elegant and little known hardy evergreen shrub, of erect habit, furnished with elliptic leaves, larger than, but resembling those of *buxifolia*. The plants, at this season of the year, are loaded with large orange-scarlet berries, which render them exceedingly ornamental"

Therefore, *Cotoneaster symondsii* Th. Moore is neither a nomen nudum, nor a nomen illegitimum, nor a later homonym, but must be treated as a validly described species from an unspecified locality. Consequently, when treated as conspecific with *C. simonsii* hort. ex Baker (1869), it is the correct name, on the basis of priority, for this Himalayan taxon.

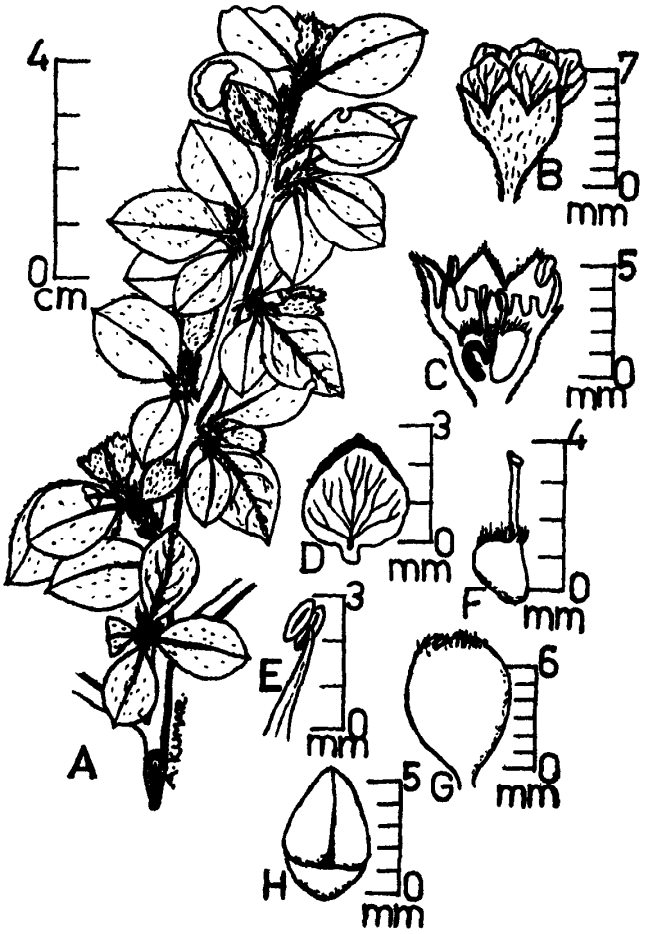
With regard to orthography and correct authority of the two specific epithets involved [whether *symondsii* Th. Moore/*symondsii* hort. ex Th. Moore/*simondsii* hort./*simonsii* hort. ex Baker/*simonsii* Baker./as spelt and adopted by different authors from time to time], the fact remains that Th. Moore (1861) spelt the epithet as *Symondsii*, in whose honour one does not certainly know. Although there was one Peter Lund Simmonds (aka Simons) (1814-1897), born in Lund he is not mentioned in the Index of Collectors, nor in the Chapters of the History of Indian Botany and his published botanical works (TL—2) are on commercial products. On the other hand, there was one Charles J. Simons, who collected plants from Khasia and North-East India between 1820 and 1850 and in his honour *Cotoneaster simonsii* Hort. was described by J. G. Baker (1869). The suffix 'Hort.' indicating that the plants described by him were of garden or of unknown origin ('hortorum' of garden). While Thomas Moore did not cite any type locality, Baker erroneously cited 'Native of Khasia', for what should have been 'Sikkim Himalaya'

The postscript note to *Cotoneaster simonsii* hort. ex Baker added by W.W.S. (William Wilson Saunders), the editor of *Refugium botanicum* 1. 1869 (cf. TL-2, 1985) stated that Saunders was "quite unacquainted with the origin of the plant ... is supposed to come from India" and that specimens (seeds) of the species first noticed by him in cultivation in the nursery of Weymouth, England, was

subsequently grown in his (Saunders) garden and formed the basis for Baker's *l.c.* t. 55 drawn by W. H. Fitch. Decaisne (1874) did not refer to 'Khasia' as the type locality of *C. simonsii* hort. ex Baker, but he cited (under *C. acuminata* Lindley var. *α C. simonsii* hort.) specimens from Simla and Kumaon. Although J. D. Hooker (1878) cited 'Khasia Mt. ?' he doubted that plants collected by Simons could have come to England from Bhotan from where Simons also collected. Klotz (1957, 1963) is emphatic that the type locality of *C. simonsii* hort. ex Baker (1869) is 'Sikkim-Himalaya', not 'Khasia', as cited in the protologue.

Cotoneaster symondsii Th. Moore, Proc. Roy. Hort. Soc. London 1 : 298. 1861. *Type* : Patia unknown ; ex Standish, Bagshot (not traced). *C. simonsii* hort. ex Baker, Saund. Refug. bot. 1 : t. 55. 1869, *p.p.* ; J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 2 : 386. 1878 (as '*Simonsii* Hort'.) ; Schneider, Ill. Handb. Laubholzk. 1 : 746. 1906 (as '*Simonsii* Baker') ; Rehder, Man. Cult. Trees Shrubs, 2nd ed. : 349. 1940, *p.p.* excl. loc. Khsia, et Bibilio. Cult. Trees, Shrubs : 234. 1949 (as '*Simonsii* Baker') ; Yü, Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) Bot. 1 : 132. 1954 (as '*simonsii* Baker') ; Hurusawa, Journ. Fac. Sci. Univ. Tokyo III. 11(6) : 210. 1973 (as '*simonsii* Baker') ; Ohasi in Hara & Williams, Enum. Fl. Pl. Nepal 2 : 135. [illegible] *Type* : Sikkim-Himalaya ; Baker *l.c.* t. 55, drawn from plants cultivated in Saunders' garden via Weymouth nursery, England. *Cotoneaster acuminata* Lindl. var. *simonsii* (Hort. ex Baker) Decaisne, Nouv. Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. (Paris) 10 : 175. 1874 ('var. *C. α simonsii* Hortul ex Baker').

Deciduous or semievergreen erect shrubs, 3 m or rarely 4 m high with slender branches ; branches strigose-pubescent when young and glabrous with age. Leaves 9-25 × 5-7 mm, subcoriaceous or chartaceous, broadly elliptic-obovate, apex acute or short-acuminate and mucronate, base cuneate or obtuse ; upper surface dark-green and pubescent when young ; lower surface sparsely strigose, striga persistent ; midrib on lower side strigose. Petioles 1-4 mm long, strigose-pilose (or pubescent). Flowers 2-4 in short cymes, subsessile, white. Sepals triangular, acute-acuminate or obtuse, appressed-pubescent. Petals 3.5 mm, white with red marking, upright. Stamens 15-20, each 2.5-3 mm long. Carpels 4-4.5 mm long. Pome 7-9 mm long, short-turbinate, or elliptic or obovate, scarlet red or dark red ; nutlets 3-4, each nearly 5-6 mm long.



Cotoneaster symondsii Th, More
Figs A—H. A. A twig. B. A flower. C.L.S. of at a flower. D. A petal. E. A stamen. F. A carpel. G. A fruit. H. A. nutlet.

Chromosome No. : 2n=68 (vide Zeilinga, Bot. Nat. : 117. 1964).

Distrib. : INDIA (Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh), NEPAL, BHUTAN.

Specimens examined : E. Himalaya, Surial Bunglow compound, 1525 m, 30 May, 1947, *K. Biswas* 7485 (CAL-2 sheets); Sikkim, Lachung valley, Aug. 1892, *G. A. Gammie s.n.* (CAL); Uttar Pradesh, Meelam, 3,660 m, *Strachey & Winterbottom* 3 (K, photo !; det. Yü, Apr. 1950).

According to Klotz (*l.c.*) *Cotoneaster simonsii* Baker (=*C. symondsii* Th. Moore) is closely allied to *C. Khasiensis* Klotz, but it is distinguished by its irregular ramifications and more pubescent leaves, hypathium and calyx teeth. It is apparently a transition between *C. acuminatus* Lindley and *C. nitidus* Jacq. group.

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SPIRANTHES SINENSIS (PERSOON) AMES—A NEW RECORD OF ORCHID FROM EASTERN BHUTAN

A new record of orchid *Spiranthes sinensis* (Persoon) Ames, the only species of *Spiranthes* Richard from the Indian Subcontinent, has been reported from Eastern Bhutan. Certain interesting points on variability have been discussed.

The orchids of Bhutan are very little known. (Balakrishnan and Chowdhury 1966). An enumeration of the orchids of Bhutan has been given in Materials for the Flora of Bhutan by Subramanyam (1973). In an attempt to enrich the herbarium of the department the author could come across some interesting orchid specimens near Khangma, Tashigang district (Eastern Bhutan) which were identified as *Spiranthes sinensis* (Persoon) Ames. Although a little mention of the collection of *S. australis* Lindl. from Bhutan by Griffith (Her. Ind. 19) has been given by Lindley (1840) but from Griffith's (1847) own report edited in the journal of travels in Assam, Burma, Bootan, Afghanistan and the neighbouring countries, it is crystal clear that he had collected *Spiranthes rubriflora* and not the *S. australis* Lindl. from a different locality near Chukka from South-west Bhutan The subsequent publications like Hooker's Flora of British India and others also do not show any record of Griffith's collection. A thorough scrutiny of literatures on the Himalayan flora (Subramanyam 1973; Collett 1902; Polunin and