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Ophiorrhiza loana, a new name for Ophiorrhiza longipes H.S.Lo (Rubiaceae)

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Abstract

A new name, Ophiorrhiza loana is proposed to replace Ophiorrhiza longipes H.S.Lo, a name blocked by O. longipes Craib.

Key words: China, nomenclature, nomen illegitimum

Introduction

The genus Ophiorriza Linnaeus (1753: 150) is a notably species-rich, taxonomically complicated genus found in wet tropical forests of SE Asia extending to Australia, New Guinea and the Pacific islands (Darwin 1976, Chen & Taylor 2011). It comprises about 200 species with 70 species in China (Chen & Taylor, 2011). Ophiorrhiza longipes Lo (1990: 49) was described by Lo based a collection (GY.Feng 4-10-321) from Duan Xian, Guangxi, China. It was recognized in recent publications (Lo 1999, Qin & Liu 2010, Chen & Taylor 2011). Unfortunately, it is a later homonym of O. longipes Craib (1932: 66), a Thai species. After checking the type material of both names, it is concluded that the two homonyms apply to two totally different unrelated taxa. Therefore, the Chinese species requires a new name proposed below.

Ophiorrhiza loana Y.F.Deng & Y.F.Huang, nom. nov. Replaced name: Ophiorrhiza longipes Lo (1990: 49), nom. illeg., non Ophiorrhiza longipes Craib (1932: 66). Type:—CHINA. Guangxi: Duan Xian, Banling Gongshe, Zaotang Dadui, 19 April 1978, G.Y.Feng 4-10-321 (holotype GXMI! [sheet no. 50466]; isotype GXMI! [sheet no. 50469]).

Etymology:—The specific epithet is named after Professor Lo Hsienshui (1927–2001), a Chinese taxonomist who understood the family Rubiaceae in China well and described this species for the first time.

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