



Typification of the name *Memecylon talbotianum* Brandis (Melastomataceae)

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Abstract

The lectotype of the Indian *Memecylon talbotianum* Brandis is designated here.

Key Words: Olisbeoideae, lectotypification, *Memecylon talbotianum*, India, Indian Endemics.

Introduction

The genus *Memecylon* Linnaeus (1753: 349) (Olisbeoideae–Melastomataceae) comprises about 343 species of shrubs and evergreen trees distributed in tropical, subtropical and submontane forests of the old world (Botanische Staatssammlung München 2015). In India, the number of species has been recently estimated to be 49 of which about 21 are stated to be endemic (Ahmedullah & Nayar 1986, Murugan & Gopalan 2006, Sivu 2012, Das Das *et al.* 2014). *Memecylon talbotianum* Brandis (Figure 1, B and C) is one of such endemics of Western Ghats.

A thorough literature survey and subsequent analysis of herbarium data on the genus *Memecylon* in India, led to the realization that the name *Memecylon talbotianum* needs to be lectotypified because D. Brandis (1906), while describing the species, mentioned six specimens [Mahabaleshwar (*D. B.* Oct. 1881), Konkan (*Stocks & Law*), Kanara (*Ritchie*, May 1853), North Kanara (*Talbot 3568, 3658*, March 1896) and Nilgiri and Coorg (*T. Thomson*)] in the protologue, which constitute syntypes. The International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi and Plants (McNeill *et al.* 2012) provides that each name must be typified and lectotypes to be selected from available original material. After intensive search in different national and international herbaria the authors could locate six syntypes of *M. talbotianum*, while Ritchie's specimen (*Ritchie s.n.*) remains untraceable. The specimen of Brandis (*Brandis s.n.*) consists of one dichotomously branched leafy twig devoid of any reproductive parts and two ventrally faced detached leaves. Those of M & S specimens (acronyms after Thiers 2015), collected by Stocks & Law seem inadequate for consideration as they are poorly mounted in the form of fragmented twigs with few leaves only. However, *Talbot 3568* and *3658* are in very good state with ample flower buds. The specimen *Talbot 3568* has been chosen and designated here as the lectotype of the name *Memecylon talbotianum* Brandis in accordance with Art. 9.2, 9.11 & 9.12 of ICN (McNeill *et al.* 2012).

Taxonomic Treatment

Memecylon talbotianum Brandis, Indian Trees: 336.1906. Type:—INDIA. Karnataka: Bombay, North Kanara District, Bunwasi (Banavasi), 2000 ft (600 m), 22 March 1896, *W.A. Talbot 3568* (K, barcode 000859141, digital image!, lectotype here designated). (Figure 1D.)

Additional specimens examined (remaining syntypes):—INDIA. Maharashtra: Mahabaleshwar, 4000 ft (1219 m), October 1881, *D. Brandis s. n.* (K, barcode 000357792, digital image!); Malabar, Konkan (“Concan”), *J.E. Stocks & J.S. Law s. n.* (M, barcode 0124564, digital image!); Malabar, Konkan, *J.E. Stocks & J.S. Law s. n.* (S, barcode G-4052, digital image!); Karnataka: Bombay, North Kanara District, Bunwasi (Banavasi), 22 March 1896, *W.A. Talbot 3658*

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