



***Grewia nagensium* Prain vs *Grewia denticulata* Wall. ex Prain (Tiliaceae), which is to be accepted?**

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Prain (1900: 168) described the species *Grewia nagensium* based on specimens collected from Assam and Nagaland in Northeast India. Few months later, while preparing “A second century of new and rare Indian plants”, Prain (1901: 10) noted that his *G. nagensium* is indeed *G. denticulata* Wall. ex Voigt (1845: 128) and treated the former as a synonym of latter. However, “*G. denticulata* Wall. ex Voigt” is a *nomen nudum* as Voigt did not provide any description. Kanjilal *et al.* (1934) in their account of Flora of Assam mentioned only “*Grewia denticulata*, Wall. Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calc. lx. 10. t. 12” and did not discuss its nomenclature. After about 6 decades, in Flora of India, Daniel & Chandrabose (1993) accepted the name as “*Grewia denticulata* Wall. ex Prain” (1901), and cited *Grewia nagensium* Prain (1900) as its synonym, which was followed by the Chowdhery *et al.* (1996). In some taxonomic database such as The Plant List (2013 onwards) and Tropicos (2015) the name *Grewia denticulata* Wall. ex Prain is also accepted! The name *G. denticulata* was indeed validly published by Prain (1901), with a full description and plate with analyses, but as Prain ascribed it to “Wall. ex Voigt” (i.e. essentially, to Voigt) it is to be cited as *G. denticulata* Voigt ex Prain. However, it is an illegitimate, nomenclaturally superfluous name, as the earlier name *G. nagensium* Prain was cited in synonymy. *G. denticulata* Voigt ex Prain is therefore unavailable for use and is to be treated as a synonym.

***Grewia nagensium* Prain (1900: 168)**

G. denticulata Voigt ex Prain (1901: 10, pl. 12), *nom. illeg.*

G. denticulata Wall. (Voigt 1845: 128), *nom. nud.*

Etymology:—In the epithet ‘*nagensium*’, the suffix “-ensium” is an adjective genitive plural (of the areas). Here it refers to ‘of the Naga Hills’ (one of the syntypes from Eastern Naga Hills at Narazu), in other words, *Grewia nagensium* means *Grewia* of the Naga Hills.

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