



Sedum kuntsunianum (Crassulaceae: Sedoideae), a new species from southern Zhejiang, China

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Abstract

Sedum kuntsunianum, a new species of Crassulaceae from Zhejiang, China, is described and illustrated. It is similar to *S. makinoi* in having opposite leaves that are obtuse at the leaf apex, and sepals and leaves that are spurred at the base, but differs in having a creeping habit, persistent decussate basal leaves (absent in *S. makinoi*), paired sterile stems in the axils of the basal leaves (absent in *S. makinoi*), sepals 5–9 mm long (2–3 mm in *S. makinoi*), and petals 7–8 mm long (4–5 mm in *S. makinoi*).

Introduction

Sedum Linnaeus (1753: 430) belongs to the family Crassulaceae, and can be distinguished within the subfamily Sedoideae by having sessile carpels, connate at base; separate, yellow petals; and stamens in two rings (Judd *et al.* 2008). The genus *Sedum* (stonecrops) comprises ca. 470 species and is mainly distributed in the Northern Hemisphere, but some species extend to the Southern Hemisphere in Africa and South America (Fu *et al.* 2001). Stonecrops mostly have fleshy stems, small flowers, and quite variable leaves and sepals. Stonecrop species with easily deciduous leaves on specimens, which are difficult to differentiate from each other (Jin *et al.* 2010).

There are ca. 120 species of *Sedum* in China, with 91 endemic to the country and the South-western region especially rich in species (Fu & Fu 1984, Fu *et al.* 2001, Wu *et al.* 2011). With more than 20 species, *Sedum* is one of the largest genera of seed plants in Zhejiang Province (Zheng 1987). Hemsley described *S. polytrichoides* Hemsley (in Forbes & Hemsley 1887: 286) as a new species, which was collected from Ningbo of Zhejiang. During 1933 to 1945, Migo carried out botanical trips in southern Jiangsu and northern Zhejiang, and he described many new taxa, including *S. emarginatum* Migo (1937: 224). Fu and Hu *et al.* described *S. lungtsuanense* Fu (1965: 115) and *S. angustifolium* Z. B. Hu & X. L. Huang (in Hu *et al.* 1981: 311) respectively, and the latter was synonymized to *S. sarmentosum* Bunge (1833: 114) (Jin *et al.* 2010). Fu & Rao described *S. hangzhouense* Fu & Rao (1988: 119) and *S. tosaense* subsp. *sinense* Fu & Rao (1988: 121). Wang & Hsu described *S. ecalcaratum* H. J. Wang & P. S. Hsu (in Hsu 1991: 46), which was later reduced to the synonymy of *S. kiangnanense* D. Q. Wang & Z. F. Wu (in Wang *et al.* 1990: 45) (Jin *et al.* 2010). Ho described *S. jiulongshanense* Ho (1989: 31) and *S. tianmushanense* Y. C. Ho & F. Chai (in Ho 1989: 32)