Two replacement names in Asian *Rubus* (Rosaceae)

HUAN-CHONG WANG1, 2

1 School of Life Sciences, Yunnan University, Kunming 650091, China, e-mail: hchwang@ynu.edu.cn

2 Key Laboratory for plant Biodiversity and Biogeography of East Asia, Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Kunming 650204, China

*Rubus* Linnaeus (1753: 492) is one of the largest genera in the Rosaceae and species of *Rubus* occur on all continents except Antarctica (Lu & Boufford 2003, Wang & al. 2013). *Rubus* is a taxonomically notoriously complex genus. Its species circumscription is complicated by hybridization, polyploidy, agamospermy, and lack of a universal species concept (Weber 1996), which has resulted in broad disagreement about the number of species with estimates ranging from 250 (Mabberley 1997) to several thousand (Jennings 1988). In the latest revision, published nearly a century ago by Focke (1910, 1911, 1914), *Rubus* was divided into 12 subgenera. Most of the species were classified in subgenera *Rubus*, *Idaeobatus* (Focke) Focke (1910: 128), and *Malachobatus* (Focke) Focke (1910: 41).

While working on a synopsis of the Asian species of *Rubus*, the author found that two of the names in current usage are later homonyms and therefore illegitimate. Herein, avowed substitutes (replacement names) for these later homonyms are proposed.

*Rubus austrosinensis* Huan C.Wang, nom. nov.


Type:—CHINA. Guangxi: Xing'an county, Mao'er Shan, June 1953, Guangxi Exped. 4235 (holotype PE-00020733!, isotype PE-01833205!).

Etymology:—The new specific epithet, austrosinensis, referring to the geographical range of the newly named species, derives from the Latin *austro*-, meaning “south”, *Sina*, meaning “China”, and Latin suffix -*ensis*, meaning “of” or “belonging to”.

Distribution:—Endemic to south China.

Notes:—In 1982, Yu & Lu (1982: 460) proposed the name *Rubus crassifolius* for a species endemic to southern China and placed it in their *R*. subsect. *Stipulosi* T.T.Yu & L.T.Lu (1982: 460). However, the name *R. crassifolius* had been previously used by Genevier (1868: 236) for a European species, thus Yu & Lu’s name is a later homonym of *R. crassifolius* Genevier and is therefore illegitimate. Yu & Lu’s species belongs to *R*. subg. *Malachobatus* and is distinctive amongst members of this group in its flowers solitary, rarely 2-3, the inflorescences, calyces and abaxial surfaces of leaves densely yellowish-brown sericeous-villous, and the stipules suborbicular or broadly ovate, 1.5-2 cm long. There seems to be no available synonym for this Chinese species, therefore a replacement name (nomen novum) is required and the new name, *R. austrosinensis* Huan C.Wang, is proposed here.

Additional specimens examined:—CHINA. Jiangxi: Anfu county, Mao’er Shan, June 1953, Guangxi Exped. 4235 (holotype PE-00020733!, isotype PE-01833205!).

Quanzhou county, Longshui, Daxian village, 18 June 1959, D.A. Huang 60621 (IBK-00065211, IBSC-0323677).
Rubus nguyenii Huan C. Wang, nom. nov. (Figure 1)


Type:—VIETNAM. ?Hoang Lien Son: ?Sa pa, collection date unknown, sine coll. 75 (holotype HN, not seen, probably lost.)

Paratype:—VIETNAM. Bac Thai: Dai Tu, 1967, Be Kim khe s.n. (HN!).

Etymology:—The new specific epithet is dedicated to Nguyên Tien Hiep, one of the authors of Rubus caudatisepalus T. H. Nguyen & Yakovlev.

Additional specimens examined:—CHINA. Yunnan: Jingping county, Yongping village, Hetou Zhai, Laoling, 2200m, 9 May 1956, Sino-Russ. Exped. 1128 (IBSC-0323388, KUN-689454, PE-00168928); Pingbian county, Jianshe village, Laojian Shan, 2140m, 19 March 1954, P. Y. Mao 03504 (IBSC-0323378, KUN-689452, KUN-689453, PE-00168937, WUK-196043).

Notes:—Based on two collections from northern Vietnam, Nguyen & Yakovlev (1982: 108) published the name Rubus caudatisepalus T. H. Nguyen & Yakovlev, which they placed it in sect. Corchorifolii Focke (1911: 129). The name R. caudatisepalus, however, had been previously used by Calderón (1973: 57) for a different Mexican species. Thus Nguyên & Yakovlev’s name is a later homonym of R. caudatisepalus Calderón and illegitimate. A replacement name (nomen novum), R. nguyenii Huan C. Wang, is proposed here.

Rubus nguyenii Huan C. Wang is very similar to R. corchorifolius Linn. f., a species widespread in East Asia, but differs from the latter by its stems nearly glabrous, leaves long acuminate at apex, lateral veins of leaves 9-11 pairs, sepals caudate at apex, styles pilose at base, and fruits nearly glabrous. This species has so far been reported only from northern Vietnam (Nguyễn & Yakovlev 1982, Averyanov & Nguyễn 1996), here two gatherings (Sino-Russ Exped. 1128 and P. Y. Mao 03504) from southeastern Yunnan, China, are first reported for the flora of China.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to express special gratitude to Dr. Do Van Hai, curator of the herbarium HN, for providing the type image of Rubus nguyenii, and thank the directors and staff of the following herbaria for assistance and granting study access to their collections or online specimen databases: A, IBK, ISBC, KUN, LBG, PE, WUK, and YUKU. I’m also very grateful to the anonymous reviewers for critical comments on the manuscript.

References


