Begonia intermedia, an illegitimate name and taxonomic synonym of B. wuzhishanensis

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It came to our attention that Begonia ×intermedia Veitch ex van Houtte (1873: 39) was published in Flore des Serres and therefore, B. intermedia D.K. Tian et al. (2014: 116) is a later homonym and not legitimate according to the International code of nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants (McNeill et al. 2012: Art. 53). Furthermore, the article by Tian et al. was published on 24 Apr 2014 in Phytotaxa while B. wuzhishanensis C.I. Peng et al. (2014: 3) was published on 5 Feb 2014 in Botanical Studies for the same species based on type material collected from different locations on Hainan Island of China. In total, extant wild populations of this species have been found in at least the three places belonging to one city (Wuzhishan) and two counties (Qiongzhong and Lingshui), respectively (Fig 1).

Begonia wuzhishanensis C.I. Peng et al. (2014: 3)
= B. intermedia D.K. Tian et al. (2014: 116); not Begonia ×intermedia Veitch ex van Houtte (1873: 39).

Wild populations of Begonia wuzhishanensis were found in Fanyang of Wuzhishan (Peng et al. 2014), Yinggeling National Reserve of Qiongzhong (Tian et al. 2014), and Diaoluoshan National Reserve of Lingshui (Qin 2013) all on Hainan Island.

FIGURE1 Distribution of Begonia wuzhishanensis (= B. intermedia)
Summary

*Begonia intermedia* D.K. Tian & Y.H. Yang (2014:116) is a later homonym and thus not legitimate due to the previous published *B. ×intermedia* Veitch ex van Houtte (1873: 39). Also, *B. intermedia* and *B. wuzhishanensis* C.-I. Peng, X.H. Jin & S.M. Ku (2014: 3) are considered to be the same species after a careful review. Therefore, the former is a synonym of the latter. This species is endemic to Hainan, China.

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References


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