Cercis usnadzei, a new replacement name for Cercis kryshtofovichii Usnadze (fossil Fabaceae)

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Abstract

A new replacement name, i.e., Cercis usnadzei Y.X.Lin & W.O.Wong, nom. nov. (fossil Fabaceae), is proposed here to supersede the later homonym C. kryshtofovichii Usnadze (1971) of C. kryshtofovichii Kornilova (1960). C. usnadzei should be only used for the leaf fossils, which have been reported from the late Oligocene to middle Miocene of Central Eurasia. An emended description of C. usnadzei is given here.

Keywords: Central Eurasia, Cercis usnadzei nom. nov., leaf fossil, Fabaceae, nomenclature

Introduction

Usnadze (1971: 970) published a replacement name Cercis kryshtofovichii Usnadze (fossil Fabaceae) for Cercis turgaica Usnadze (1957: 226), which is a later homonym of an earlier validly published name Cercis turgaica Usnadze ex Kiritchkova (1955: 148). Unfortunately, the replacement name C. kryshtofovichii Usnadze is still the later homonym of another earlier validly published name C. kryshtofovichii Kornilova (1960: 59). According to the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (Melbourne Code) (ICN) (see Art. 53.1 & 14, McNeill et al. 2012), C. kryshtofovichii Usnadze is, unless conserved, illegitimate and should be rejected. Under such circumstances, a new name used to supersede C. kryshtofovichii Usnadze is proposed here.

Cercis usnadzei Y.X.Lin & W.O.Wong, nom. nov. (Fig. 1A–C)

Replaced synonym:—Cercis kryshtofovichii Usnadze in Bot. Zhurn. 56: 970 (leaf). 1971 [non Cercis kryshtofovichii Kornilova in the early Miocene flora of Kishuk, 59, pl. 6, figs. 6–10, pl. 24, figs. 1–5 (fruits). 1960]; Stephyrtza in the early Sarmatian flora of Bursuk, 104, pl. 8, fig. 3, pl. 19, fig. 4 (leaves). 1974 (Fig. 1C herein).

Homotypic synonym:—Cercis turgaica Usnadze in Komarova, Sbornik Pamjati A.N.Kryshtofovicha, 226, pl. 6, fig. 6, text-fig. 2 (leaf). 1957 [non Cercis turgaica Usnadze ex Kiritchkova in Mater. Hist. Faun. Fl. Kazakhstan 1: 148, pl. 3, fig. 1 (leaf). 1955]; Takhtajan et al. in Orlov, Osnovy Paleontologii 15: 706, pl. 28, fig. 2 (leaf). 1963; Kryshtofovich & Baikovskaya in Sarmatian flora of Krynka, 86, pl. 22, fig. 14, text-fig. 32 (leaf) [non pl. 19, fig. 10, pl. 21, fig. 6, text-fig. 33 (fruits), pl. 39, fig. 2 (leaf)]. 1965 (Fig. 1B herein); Rajushkina in Mater. Hist. Faun. Fl. Kazakhstan 8: 144, fig. 5g, fig. 6a, b (leaves). 1982.

Etymology:—The specific epithet is dedicated to M.D.Usnadze (Geological Institute, the Academy of Sciences of the Georgian SSR, Tbilisi) who first described this leaf fossil. The English spelling of M.D.Usnadze (М.Д.Узнадзе) followed Takhtajan (1974: 178).

Type:—KAZAKHSTAN. Sarybulak: late Oligocene, the eastern portion of the Altny-Shokysu Plateau in the far eastern part of Mount Saryoba (Sary-Oba, Saroba), No.14/39 (holotype), collected by V.A.Vakhrameev (Fig. 1 A).