



Cercis usnadzei, a new replacement name for *Cercis kryshstofovichii* 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. kryshstofovichii* Usnadze (1971) of *C. kryshstofovichii* 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 kryshstofovichii* 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. kryshstofovichii* Usnadze is still the later homonym of another earlier validly published name *C. kryshstofovichii* 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. kryshstofovichii* Usnadze is, unless conserved, illegitimate and should be rejected. Under such circumstances, a new name used to supersede *C. kryshstofovichii* Usnadze is proposed here.

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

Replaced synonym:—*Cercis kryshstofovichii* Usnadze in *Bot. Zhurn.* 56: 970 (leaf). 1971 [non *Cercis kryshstofovichii* Kornilova in *the early Miocene flora of Kushuk*, 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.Kryshstofovicha*, 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; Kryshstofovich & 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 Altyn-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).