

NEW COMBINATIONS UNDER HOYA VERTICILLATA
(ASCLEPIADACEAE)
AND A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE ON SPERLINGIA

J. F. VELDKAMP¹ & B. HANSEN²

SUMMARY

Two new varietal combinations are proposed under *Hoya verticillata* (Vahl) G. Don (Asclepiadaceae). The reason for the delay in the publication of *Sperlingia* Vahl is outlined.

HOYA

In a previous article we (Veldkamp et al., 1995) have reduced *Hoya parasitica* (Roxb.) Wall. ex Wight (Asclepiadaceae) to *H. verticillata* (Vahl) G. Don. While this was in press a paper by Kiew (1995) appeared where a new variety of *H. parasitica* was described. She also made clear that *H. parasitica* var. *citrina* (Ridl.) Rintz is indeed a form of *H. parasitica*, and not a distinct species, something we were not sure of.

Roxburgh mentioned an *Asclepias parasitica* Roxb. in 1814, which was validly described in 1832, based on material in the Botanic Gardens of Calcutta. However, in between (1819) Hornemann also had published an *Asclepias parasitica* Wallich probably based on material grown in the Botanic Garden of Calcutta in 1815 and sent by Wallich in 1816 and certainly on a plant grown in 1818 in Copenhagen (see also Mabberley, 1984). There are three sheets in C and Mr. R. van Donkelaar identified them as belonging to *A. parasitica sensu* Roxb. One sheet is stamped 'Hb. Horn.' and annotated (by Hornemann himself?) "*Hoya parasitica* Wall. (*Asclepias parasitica* Roxb.) Herb. paras." (with the alchemist's symbol for herb); note that Hornemann published it as "*caule fruticoso*" and with the alchemist's symbol for a woody plant "*Aestuar. Gangis*" (IDC microfiche 14 II, 6–7). Because of the stamp and the annotations this may be regarded as the lectotype.

The other two sheets bear references to Wallich, but it is not clear whether they were actually written by Wallich himself. The script is similar. On the back of one sheet there is "*HB. 1815, No. 787*", presumably referring to the Botanic Garden in Calcutta. The number is not that of Wallich (1829–1847), where '787' is *Didymocarpus reptans* Jack, while '8159' is *Hoya parasitica* Herb. Wight.

On the back of the other sheet, annotated "*IDC microfiche photo 14 II, 4–5*", is written "*Asclepias parasitica* Roxb." "*India orientalis misit Wallich 1816.*"

1) Rijksherbarium / Hortus Botanicus, P.O. Box 9514, 2300 RA Leiden. The Netherlands.

2) Vuglevadsvej 8, 2800 Lynby, Denmark.

Actually the publication, not the identity of Hornemann's name is so far of importance in that it made Roxburgh's 1832 combination a later homonym. Wight (1834) transferred Roxburgh's taxon to *Hoya* and, as it had no legitimate epithet, was allowed to use any he pleased. He made the (now) legitimate combination *Hoya parasitica* [Roxb.] Wallich ex Wight and this combination is to be used if the taxon is regarded as distinct. The citation of "[Roxb.]" here is intended to indicate that the basionym is illegitimate. Officially the square-bracketed author can be completely deleted.

When *H. parasitica* Wight is regarded as a synonym of *H. verticillata* (Vahl) G. Don, new combinations are required for the varieties distinguished by Kiew.

1. *Hoya verticillata* (Vahl) G. Don var. *citrina* (Ridl.) Veldkamp, *comb. nov.*

Hoya verticillata (Vahl) G. Don var. *citrina* (Ridl.) Kloppenburg, *Fraterna* 2nd Quart. 1996 (1996) 9, *comb. inval.* — *Hoya citrina* Ridl., *J. Str. Br. Roy. As. Soc.* 86 (1922) 300. — *Hoya parasitica* [Roxb.] Wall. ex Wight var. *citrina* Rintz, *Mal. Nat. J.* 30 (1978) 514, f. 27. — *Hoya acuta* A.W. Haworth var. *citrina* Kent, *Hoyan* 11/1/2 (1989) I. — Lectotype: *Ridley s.n.*, 'Batu Caves' (holo K).

Petioles 1–2 cm long. Leaf blades ovate, 10–18.5 by 6.5–8.5 cm, base cordate, rigidly coriaceous, venation conspicuous, lowest pair of lateral veins extending to the apex.

Distribution — Malay Peninsula: Pahang (fide Rintz, 1978), Perak (Ulu Bubong, Batu Kurau), Selangor (Batu Caves).

Habitat — Common on limestone, and sometimes in riverine fringe forest at low altitudes.

Note — Because Kloppenburg (1996) cited *Hoya verticillata* proper as one of the synonyms, he ought to have used the autonym. He also gave no full and direct reference to the basionym. His combination is therefore invalid.

2. *Hoya verticillata* (Vahl) G. Don var. *hendersonii* (Kiew) Veldkamp, *comb. nov.*

Hoya verticillata (Vahl) G. Don var. *hendersonii* (Kiew) Kloppenburg, *Fraterna* 2nd Quart. 1996 (1996) 9, *comb. inval.* — *Hoya parasitica* [Roxb.] Wall. ex Wight var. *hendersonii* Kiew, *Sandakania* 6 (1995) 66, t. 1. — Type: *SF 23668 (Henderson)* (holo SING).

Petioles c. 2 cm long. Leaf blades ovate-oblong, 11.5–17 by 5–6.5 cm, base slightly cordate, coriaceous, venation conspicuous, lowest pair of lateral veins extending to the apex.

Distribution — Malay Peninsula: Pahang, Cameron Highlands, Fraser's Hill.

Habitat — Lower montane forest, 1200–1260 m altitude.

Note — Because Kloppenburg (1996) cited *Hoya verticillata* proper, he ought to have used the autonym. He also reduced his new combination in the next paragraph to a synonym of var. *citrina*. His combination is therefore invalid.

3. *Hoya verticillata* (Vahl) G. Don var. *verticillata*

Hoya verticillata (Vahl) G. Don, Gen. Hist. 4 (1837) 128. — *Sperlingia verticillata* Vahl, Skr. Naturhist.-Selsk. 6 (1810) 113. — Type: *Flohr s.n.* in *Hb. Vahl* (holo C, labelled IDC neg. 72^{II}, 6–7). *Asclepias parasitica* Hornem., Hort. Bot. Hafn., Suppl. (1819) 126. — Lectotype: *Hb. Hornemann s.n.* (holo C, IDC microfiche photo Type Herbarium 14 II, 6–7). *Asclepias parasitica* Roxb. [Hort. Beng. (1814) 20, nom. inval.] Fl. Ind. ed. 2, 2 (1832) 42, non Hornem. (1819). — *Hoya parasitica* Wall. ex Wight, Contr. Bot. India (1834) 37. — Lectotype: *Hb. Roxburgh 1382* (holo BM; K: Icon. Ined. 1382). *Hoya amoena* Bakh. f., Blumea 6 (1950) 380. — Type: *Koorders 20341* (holo L; iso BO). For further synonymy see Veldkamp et al. (1995).

Petioles 0.5–1 cm long. Leaf blades ovate to lanceolate, 6.5–13.5 by 2.3–6 cm, base rounded to broadly cuneate, succulently coriaceous, venation obscure, lowest pair of lateral veins extending about halfway to apex.

Distribution — India, Nepal, Andamans, to S Vietnam; Malesia: Malay Peninsula, Singapore, NE Sumatra (Sibolga), Sarawak, Brunei, Java (P. Peucang; Besuki, G. Puger, as *H. amoena*), and perhaps elsewhere.

Habitat — Common in beach forests, especially on islands.

SPERLINGIA

Some more research by BH on the publication date of *Sperlingia* Vahl (see Veldkamp et al., 1995) has brought an intriguing piece of history to light.

In the case of the publication date for Skr. Naturhist.-Selsk 6 (1810) we have the following facts.

Vahl died late December 1804. His very good friend, N. Tønder-Lund, also a member of the Naturhistorieselskabet finished his Enumeratio vol. 2, and Skr. Naturhist.-Selsk. 6, where Vahl had several papers. However, Tønder-Lund, who was a government servant taking care of especially custom problems, was sent on a mission to Norway early 1809. He ship-wrecked and disappeared in January 1809 and was never found. Volume 6 was ready for the printers in 1810 and contained a long prologue by the zoologist J. Rathke, a friend of both Vahl and Tønder-Lund. The prologue was an obituary of Tønder-Lund and contained one or two passages not very favourable to E. Viborg, another professor of botany and definitely an enemy of the Vahl club. Viborg, who had influential friends in the government, had done anything to harm Vahl over the last twenty years. He now demanded Rathke's prologue to be cut out before the issue was released to the booksellers. It is unbelievable that this discussion went on for eight years, but it is a fact that the issue was not released until 1818 with the prologue deleted. However, we think that one copy was placed in the Copenhagen Botanical Library already in 1810, because that copy contains Rathke's prologue in full and was thus spared Viborg's auto-da-fé. It is the only copy known to contain the full prologue. If this reasoning holds true, effective publication took place in 1810, as the volume was available to the public (Art. 29.1). Whether this was before 27 March 1810, the date that *Hoya* R. Br. was published, is as yet unknown. — BH.

It is to be noted that all authoritative works (Index Kewensis, Index Nominum Genericorum, International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, 1994), perhaps by mere copying one another, have accepted 1810 as the publication date of the new genera published by Vahl in this issue: *Dacryodes*, *Schumacheria*, *Thonningia* are currently accepted, while *Ptyxostoma*, *Macaglia*, and *Westia* are nomina rejicienda.

Collyris is generally regarded as a synonym of *Dischidia* R. Br., also of 27 March 1810 and thus the nomenclatural fate of *Dischidia* is identical with that of *Hoya*.

Collyris was lectotypified with *C. major* Vahl by Panigrahi (1986). This species is now *D. major* (Vahl) Merr., formerly known as *Dischidia rafflesiana* Wall.

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