TWO NEW COMBINATIONS IN ASIAN ADENIA (PASSIFLORACEAE)

W. J. J. O. DE WILDE

In the course of the revision of the Asian species of the genus Adenia Forsk. (tropical and subtropical Africa, tropical S.E. Asia, Malay Archipelago, N. Australia) it appeared that two valid old epithets have been overlooked which should have priority. Consequently the fairly well established names of two Adenias, Adenia palmata (Lamk.) Engler and Adenia nicobarica (Kurz) King have to be changed into the following names, with which the synonymy and short annotations are given:


['Palmodecca' Rheed, Hort. Mal. 8 (1688) 41, t. 21. — 'Passiflora spuria bryonoides Malabarensis folio trifido et quinquefido' Plukenet, Almag. (1720) 283. — Type: Rheed’s description and figure.].

['Motta-Modecca' Rheed, Hort. Mal. 8 (1688) 43, t. 22. — 'Passiflora spuria bryonoides Malabarensis, folii varii scissis, fructo diverso' Plukenet, Almag. (1720) 283. — Type: Rheed’s description and figure.].


From the above it is obvious that the oldest epithet, namely that of Bryonia palmata L. (1753) cannot be conveyed to Adenia on account of the heterotypic synonym Adenia palmata (Lamk.) Engler. Bryonia palmata L. is ultimately based on the descriptions of Herman (1717) and Burman (1737). Herman’s plant is to be expected in the Herman
Herbarium in the British Museum, but according to Trimen (1888, 1894) the specimen in Herman's herbarium representing *Bryonia palmata* L. is no *Adenia*. As far as could be traced through the care of Prof. Miège, the only specimen in the Geneva herbarium existent of the present species in the Burman Herbarium is annotated: 'J. Burmann, no 179, Ceylan 1773' and therefore cannot have served as type. There is certainly no *Adenia* among the photographs of *Bryonia* in the Linnean Herbarium. Gaertner's protologue comprises besides the description, a figure, and the citation of the seeds in the Leyden herbarium (not seen by me), the reference to Herman's Musaeum Zeyianicum (1717) p. 41. As long as cannot be proved that the seeds which served for Gaertner's description of *Granadilla hendala* are taken from the same specimen that was used by Linnaeus for the description of *Bryonia palmata*, Gaertner's name is legitimate (compare art. 63 of the Code) and should be used.


Modecca nicobarica Kurz, in Trimen, J. Bot. 13 (1875) 326. — *Adenia nicobarica* (Kurz) King, J. As. Soc. Beng. 71, 2 (1903) 52. — Type: *Kurz s.n. (K?)*, Katchall, Nicobar Isl. (not seen).


*Adenia angustisepala* Craib, Kew Bull. (1930) 406. — Type: *Kerr 12812* (K), (not seen).

*Adenia linearis* Craib, Kew Bull. (1930) 407. — Type: *Kerr 13725* (K), (not seen).

*Adenia nicobarica* (Kurz) King var. *obliqua* Craib, Fl. Siam. En. 1 (1931) 747. — Type: *Kerr 15242* (K?), (not seen).

*Adenia parvifolia* Pierre ex Gagnepain var. *insularis* Craib, Fl. Siam. En. 1 (1931) 748. — Type: *Kerr 12950* (K), (not seen).

*Adenia parvifolia* Pierre ex Gagnepain var. *nervosa* Craib, Fl. Siam. En. 1 (1931) 748. — Type: *Kerr 14384* (K), (not seen).


*Passiflora penangiana* Wall., was validated by G. Don in 1834. Don's description is fairly brief, but there is no doubt that the type-specimen (*Wallich no 1233*, from Penang, in K), belongs to the present species which is generally known as *Adenia nicobarica*. Recently Dr. M. Jacobs examined on my request the type, containing several leaves with the typical peltate blade—base bearing a single gland. *Passiflora penangiana* Wall. was already placed in the synonymy of *Modecca nicobarica* Kurz by M. T. Masters in *Hook f.*, Fl. Br. Ind. 2 (1879) 603, who stated that Wallich's specimen evidently belongs to that species.

2) See H. Trimen, 'Hermann's Ceylon Herbarium', in J. Linn. Soc. Bot. 24 (1888) page 150, where he writes: 'The specimen is very bad but seems to be nothing more than *Bryonia laciniosa*, but Linnaeus's description and native name refer to *Modecca palmata*.', and in *Handb. Fl. Ceylon* 2 (1894) p. 241 in a note: 'The only specimen now in Hermann's Herbarium representing *Bryonia palmata* L. is a very bad one and no doubt is *B. laciniosa*, but Linnaeus seems to have had specimens of the present plant also before him in writing his description.'