

THE GENUS PRUMNOPITYS (PODOCARPACEAE) IN MALESIA

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With the division of the oversized genus *Podocarpus* into several well-marked genera (de Laubenfels, 1969) the widespread species, *Podocarpus amarus* needs to be reassigned. Certainly it lacks the fleshy receptacle which gives *Podocarpus* its name. In fact, one or more fruit are borne along a scale bearing fertile shoot, quite unlike the strictly subterminal fruit on a naked peduncle of *Podocarpus sens. strict.*, but corresponding to the condition in the former section of the genus known as *Stachycarpus*. The leaves of *Podocarpus amarus* also lack hypoderm, as is the case in the *Stachycarpus* group, but not generally in the strict *Podocarpus* group. In spite of these distinctions, *Podocarpus amarus* was not included in the section *Stachycarpus* until 1903 when Pilger recognized its proper relationships. Florin refined the understanding of the section *Stachycarpus* in 1931 but Buchholz and Gray elected to erect a separate section, *Sundacarpus*, for *Podocarpus amarus* in 1948. Van Tieghem elevated the section *Stachycarpus* to generic rank in 1891 without *P. amarus* but Gaussen transferred the section *Sundacarpus* to Van Tieghem's genus in 1974. The matter is still not settled, however, because *Stachycarpus* is not a valid genus. The proper genus for sections *Stachycarpus* and *Sundacarpus* was described in 1860 by Philippi who gave it the name, *Prumnopitys*. His type species was *Prumnopitys elegans* which has long been recognized as synonymous with the previously described *Podocarpus andinus*. Van Tieghem used this latter species for the type of his genus *Stachycarpus*, making the corresponding new specific combination. The genus *Stachycarpus* is therefore a synonym to the genus *Prumnopitys*, which ought also to include the section *Sundacarpus*. The necessary new combinations have yet to be made for all of the species except *Prumnopitys ferruginoides* (Compton) de Laubenfels, the only valid combination so far published. The taxonomy of the genus should therefore be as follows:

Prumnopitys Philippi, *Linnaea* 30 (1860) 731.

section **Prumnopitys**

1. **Prumnopitys andina** (Poepig ex Endlicher) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Podocarpus andina* Poepig ex Endlicher, *Syn. Conif.* (1847) 219. — *Prumnopitys elegans* Phil., *Linnaea* 30 (1860) 732.
2. **Prumnopitys montana** (Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd.) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Taxus montana* Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd., *Spec. Plant.* 4 (1805) 857. — *Podocarpus taxifolia* Kunth., *Nov. Gen.* 2 (1817) 2. — *Dacrydium distichum* D. Don in Lambert, *Pinus* ed. 1, 2 (1824) 26.

3. *Prumnopitys taxifolia* (Solander ex D. Don) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Dacrydium taxifolium* Solander ex D. Don in Lambert, Pinus ed. 1, 2 (1824) 25. — *Podocarpus spicata* R. Br. ex Mirbel, Mem. Mus. 13 (1825) 75.
4. *Prumnopitys ferruginea* (D. Don) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Podocarpus ferruginea* D. Don in Lambert, Pinus ed. 3 (2) (1832) App.
5. *Prumnopitys harmsiana* (Pilger) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Podocarpus harmsianus* Pilger, Pflanzenreich IV.5 (Heft 18) (1903) 68. — *Podocarpus utilior* Pilger in Fedde, Rep. Nov. Spec. 1 (1905) 189.
6. *Prumnopitys ladei* (Bailey) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Podocarpus ladei* Bailey, Queensland Ag. Journ. 15 (1905) 899.
7. *Prumnopitys ferruginoides* (Compton) de Laubenfels, Flore Nouv. Caléd. 4 (1972) 56. — *Podocarpus ferruginoides* Compton, Journ. Linn. Soc. Bot. 45 (1922) 424. — *Podocarpus distichus* Buchholz ex Gray & Buchholz, Journ. Arnold Arb. 32 (1951) 89.
8. *Prumnopitys standleyi* (Buchholz & Gray) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Podocarpus standleyi* Buchholz & Gray, Journ. Arnold Arb. 29 (1948) 72.

section *Sundacarpus* (Buchholz & Gray) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.*

Podocarpus section *Sundacarpus* Buchholz & Gray, Journ. Arnold Arb. 29 (1948) 57.

9. *Prumnopitys amara* (Blume) de Laubenfels, *comb. nov.* — *Podocarpus amara* Blume, Enum. Pl. Java (1827) 88. — *Podocarpus eurhyncha* Miquel, Fl. Ind. Bat. 2 (1856) 1074. — *Podocarpus pedunculata* Bailey, Queensland Ag. Journ. 5 (1899) 390.

This list of species extends the genus *Prumnopitys* from the Asian tropics through New Zealand to America where it is found from Costa Rica and Venezuela to southern Chile. The section *Prumnopitys* reaches to the margins of Malesia in both New Caledonia and northern Queensland. The mono-specific section *Sundacarpus* extends across Malesia from Sumatra and the Philippines to New Ireland and northern Queensland (thus overlapping slightly with section *Prumnopitys*). The genus *Prumnopitys* thus substantially parallels other genera of *Podocarpaceae* and other conifers, as well as various important genera of flowering plants, in a wide tropical and southern temperate distribution which includes a substantial representation in Malesia. *Prumnopitys amara*, like various other species in its genus, is locally important for lumber. It is generally found between 600 and 2000 meters elevation.

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