

XII. SOME NOTES ON ST. JOHN'S EVALUATION OF  
FORSTER'S PLANTS 1776

Harold St. John has (in *Le Naturaliste Canadien* 98, 1971, 571-580) given an evaluation of J.R. & G. Forster plants described in their *Characteres generum* which is newly dated to have been issued March 1, 1776. We feel induced to correct some inaccuracies.

*Gingidium montanum* (l.c. 574, no. 21) — later transferred to *Ligusticum* as *L. gingidium* by Forster f., *Prod.* (1786) 22; *DC.*, *Prod.* 4 (1830) 159, as an illegitimate homotypic synonym — is unnecessarily named as a new (superfluous) combination *Angelica forsteriana* St. John. Hooker f., *Handb. New Zeal. Fl.* (1867) 97, had this (according to the present Code, art. 72) correctly named *Angelica gingidium*, as because of the earlier *Angelica montana* Brot. (1804) he could not use the epithet *montanum*. For the rest Dawson (*New Zeal. J. Bot.* 5, 1967, 90) has reinstated the generic name *Gingidium*. He has still more recently changed the name *Gingidium* Forst., non Hill (1756), into *Gingidia* as Hill's herbal has been said to be declared nomenclaturally valid.

*Commersonia echinata* (l.c. 574, no. 22) — The correct name of this is *Commersonia bartramia* (L.) Merr., *Int. Rumph. Herb. Amb.* (1917) 362, based on *Muntingia bartramia* L., *Amoen. Ac.* 4 (1759) 124, a valid name.

*Casuarina equisetifolia* (l.c. 578, no. 52) — The correct name is not '*Casuarina equisetifolia* Stickm.' (a lapsus for *C. equisetifolia*) but *Casuarina equisetifolia* J.R. & G. Forster (1775). The validation of the generic name *Casuarina* dates from Adanson, *Fam.* 2 (1763) 481.

There is no '*Casuarina* Stickm., *Herb. Amb.* 1754'. There is *Casuarina* L., *Amoen. Ac.* 4 (1759) 143, but this is a nomen invalidum. See also Dandy, *Regn. Veget.* 51 (1967) 36 and the Seattle Code 1972, p. 22, under the conserved family names.

R.C. Bakhuizen van den Brink Jr.  
C.G.G.J. van Steenis.