(i) Status of Justicia gingiana Sebastine & Ramamurthy.

A study of the plant specimens of Justicia gingiana Seb. & Ramam. present in MH and CAL, and a review of literature pertaining to the same, in addition to an examination of the TYPE photograph of Adhatoda beddomei C. B. Cl. kindly sent by the Director, Kew Herbarium (K), England, have conclusively proven that the two species are conspecific. This can be seen by the following table of characters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Justicia gingiana Seb. &amp; Ramam.</th>
<th>Adhatoda beddomei C. B. Cl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Inflorescences axillary, rather small, up to 4 cm long.</td>
<td>1. Inflorescences axillary, rather small, up to 4 cm long.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bracts 2 × 0.5 cm.</td>
<td>2. Bracts 2 × 0.5 cm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Flowers 2 × 0.5 cm.</td>
<td>3. Flowers 2 × 0.5 cm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ovary glabrous but for a few hairs at top.</td>
<td>4. Ovary glabrous but for a few hairs at top.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Pollen prolate, 15 × 9.7 μ, 3-colporate with 6 pseudeocolpi.</td>
<td>5. Pollen prolate, 15 × 9.7 μ, 3-colporate with 6 pseudeocolpi.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The citations may therefore be written as follows:

Adhatoda beddomei C. B. Cl. | Justicia gingiana Seb. & Ramam. |
---|---|
1. Inflorescences axillary, rather small, up to 4 cm long. | 1. Inflorescences axillary, rather small, up to 4 cm long. |
2. Bracts 2 × 0.5 cm. | 2. Bracts 2 × 0.5 cm. |
3. Flowers 2 × 0.5 cm. | 3. Flowers 2 × 0.5 cm. |
4. Ovary glabrous but for a few hairs at top. | 4. Ovary glabrous but for a few hairs at top. |
5. Pollen prolate, 15 × 9.7 μ, 3-colporate with 6 pseudeocolpi. | 5. Pollen prolate, 15 × 9.7 μ, 3-colporate with 6 pseudeocolpi. |

(ii) Status of Justicia khasiana C. B. Cl.

The recent works of Ridley (1925), Bremekamp (1948), Bakhuizen Brink, Jr. (1965), Santapau (1967), among others, reveal that the genus Justicia Linn. needs to be split up into several genera, supporting the treatment of Nees Ensenbeck (1832). Thus, Justicia khasiana C. B. Cl. is appropriately treated under Rostellularia Reinchenb. The following new combination, therefore, becomes necessary:


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am thankful to the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England, for sending the TYPE photograph of Adhatoda beddomei C. B. Cl. Thanks are also due to Dr. B. D. Sharma, Deputy Director, Botanical Survey of India, Pune, for his interpretations of the pollen grains of the specimens concerned.

J. L. Ellis
Botanical Survey of India, Howrah

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