

# Notes on Rubiaceae from India

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## भारत से रुबिऐसी कुल पर टिप्पणी

मोहन गंगोपाध्याय

### सारांश

भारत से रुबिऐसी कुल की जातियों के दो नये नाम एवं दो नवीन संयोजनों को प्रस्तुत शोध पत्र में प्रस्तावित किया गया है।

### ABSTRACT

Two new names and two new combinations are proposed for few taxa from family Rubiaceae.

**Keywords:** Rubiaceae, Nomenclature, new names, new combination, *Morinda*, *Psychotria*

### INTRODUCTION

During the study of the family Rubiaceae in Indian context, few nomenclatural problems have been observed, which required some nomenclatural changes either by proposing new names or new combination which are appended below.

1. *Ixora monticola* (Hiern) Kuntze, (Revis. Gen. Pl. 1: 287. 1891) based on *Pavetta monticola* Hiern, (Fl. Trop. Afr. 3: 170. 1877) was a preoccupied name based on different type (Upper Guinea. Summit of the Peak of St. Thomas, Mann). *Ixora monticola* Gamble in Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1920: 246. 1920 was a latter homonym of it. So, this valid taxon requires a new name which is proposed as below.

***Ixora deeprae*** M. Gangop. **nom. nov.** *Ixora monticola* Gamble in Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1920: 246. 1920 & Fl. Madras 445. 1921, *non* (Hiern) Kuntze, 1891 (Lecto type: High wavy mountains near Cumbum,

300 – 1200 m, Madurai District, May 1917, *Blatter & Hallbergh* 254 (CAL); para lectotypes: *Blatter & Hallbergh* 25 & 966 (CAL) selected by T. Husain & S. R. Paul in J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Addl. Ser. 6: 98. 1989.

The species epithet is given in the loving memory of Late Deepra Chattopadhyay, the elder sister of the author.

2. *Morinda reticulata* Gamble (1920) is the later homonym of *Morinda reticulata* Benth. (1867) which was published based on a different type {Australia, Albany Island; N.E. Coast, W. Hill; A. Cunningham (K)} and is a synonym of *Coelospermum decipiens* Baill; thus invalid. A new name is proposed herewith as ***Morinda pratimae*** M. Gangop., **nom. nov.** *Morinda reticulata* Gamble in Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1920: 248 1920, *non* Benth., 1867 & Fl. Pres. Madras 652. 1921 (Types: South India: Travancore (Kerala), 600 m alt., April 1895, *Bourdillon* 591; at Kulathurpoley, June

1913, *M. Rama Raw* 1281); C. N. Mohanan & A. N. Henry, Fl. Thiruvananthapuram 237. 1994.

The species epithet is chosen in respect of Smt. Pratima Gangopadhyay, mother of the author.

3. *Psychotria fulva* Buch.-Ham. ex Hook. f. (1880) is a synonym of *Psychotria monticola* Kurz. The well-known south Indian variety *Psychotria fulva* Buch.-Ham. ex Hook. f. *madraspatana* (Hook. f.) Gamble (1920) is valid, so that require to transfer under *Psychotria monticola*. Hence a combination is proposed here.

***Psychotria monticola* Kurz var. *madraspatana* (Hook. f.) M. Gangop. **comb. nov.****

*Psychotria fulva* Buch.-Ham. ex Hook. f. var. *madraspatana* (Hook. f.) Gamble, Madras 642. 1921; Deb & M. Gangop. in J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Addl. Ser.7: 106.1989. *P. madraspatana* Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 3: 167.1880 (Type: "Herb. Madras," Wallich. in Numer. List 8366 (CAL!). *Uragoga madraspatana* (Hook.f.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 961. 1891.

4. Based on the taxonomic judgement the taxon *Morinda aspera* Wight & Arn. (1834) is reduced to varietal rank under the species *Morinda tinctoria* Roxb. (1824) which was synonym of *Morinda pubescens* Sm. So a new varietal combination has proposed here as below.

## KEY TO THE VARIETIES

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1a. Plants tomentose        | var. <b>pubescens</b> |
| b. Plants uniformly scabrid | var. <b>aspera</b>    |

***Morinda pubescens* Sm. var. *aspera* (Wight & Arn.) M. Gangop., **comb. nov.** *Morinda aspera* Wight & Arn., Prodr. Fl. Ind. Orient. 420. 1834 (Type: Wight cat. n. 1320). *M. tinctoria* Roxb. var. *aspera* (Wight & Arn.) Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 3: 156. 1880.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author is grateful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India, for encouragement and facilities.

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