

NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES AND RECTIFICATIONS IN THE
INDIAN VERBENACEAE

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A B S T R A C T

Premna coriacea C.B. Clarke var. *villosa* (C.B. Clarke) Rajendran & Daniel, *stat. & comb. nov.* and *Premna serratifolia* L. var. *minor* (Ridley) Rajendran & Daniel, *comb. nov.*, are proposed *Clerodendrum farinosum* (Roxb.) Steudel and *Lantana veronicifolia* Hayek supersede *Clerodendrum venosum* Wallich ex C.B. Clarke and *Lantana wightiana* Wallich ex Gamble respectively. *Lippia indica* Mold., is a synonym of *Lippia javanica* (Burm.f.) Sprengel whereas *Lantana malabarica* Hayek and *Lippia unica* Ramakr., are synonyms of *Lippia alba* (Miller) N.E. Br.

The following nomenclatural changes and rectifications are the outcome of a taxonomic revision of the family Verbenaceae for India. The correct names are followed by synonymy.

Clarke (1885) described *Premna villosa* as a new species but observed that it may only be a variety of *P. coriacea*. As the presence of the dense yellowish pubescence on the lower surface of the leaf (copious on the nerves) is the only clear-cut character by which *P. villosa* can be distinguished from *P. coriacea*, which incidentally was also remarked by Clarke (*l.c.*), it is reduced to a variety of *P. coriacea*.

Premna coriacea* C.B. Clarke var. *villosa* (C.B. Clarke) Rajendran & Daniel, *stat. & comb. nov.
Type : As for the basionym.

Premna villosa C.B. Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4:573. 1885. *Type* : Clarke (*l.c.*) cited *Premna* n. 25. *Herb. Ind. Or. H.f. & T. Deccan Peninsula, Mts. of Kurg, Wight, G. Thomson; Wynaad, alt. 3000 ft., Beddome.* Of these we have seen Coorg, March 1852, *Herb. Wight* 2912 (CAL! K, photo!) and Wynaad, 3000 ft., ?-1-'68, *Beddome s.n.* (K, photo!). Both materials are good. However, as the

specimen *Beddome s.n.* shows the lower surface of the leaf with the distinguishing character, it is selected here as lectotype.

Gumira villosa (C.B. Clarke) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 508. 1891. *Type* : As for the basionym.

Distrib. : India : Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Recorded here for Kerala.

China, Eastern Asia, Indo-China and Thailand (Moldenke, 1980.)

Ridley (1923) described var. *minor* under *Premna integrifolia* L. which can be differentiated from the typical variety in the nature of the habit, leaf margin and petiole length. Merrill (1917) pointed out that the names *Premna integrifolia* L. and *P. serratifolia* L., being superfluous, were illegitimate. Fletcher (1936) transferred var. *minor* to *P. corymbosa*, an assumed combination (*vide* Fosberg, 1953). Moldenke (1954), on the other hand, transferred it to *P. obtusifolia* R. Br. following Fosberg (1953). Munir (1984) retypified *P. serratifolia* L. and got rid of the illegitimacy. This retypification was confirmed by Nicolson *et al.* (1988). As a result, var. *minor* is transferred to *P. serratifolia*.

Premna serratifolia L. var. *minor* (Ridley) Rajendran & Daniel, *comb. nov.* Type : As for the basionym.

P. integrifolia L. var. *minor* Ridley, Fl. Malay Penins. 2 : 619. 1923. Type : Pehay, Pekan, on sandy hills, Ridley s.n. (? K, n.v), Moldenke and Moldenke (1983) indicated BM as the place of the existence of the type. But no such specimen exists there [Curator (BM), *in litt.*]. Stafleu and Cowan (1983: 786) stated that Ridley's types exist at K.

P. corymbosa var. *minor* (Ridley) Fletcher in Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 19: 178 1936. Type : As for the basionym.

P. obtusifolia R. Br. var. *minor* (Ridley) Mold. in Phytologia 5: 88. 1954. Type: As for the basionym.

Distrib. : India : Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Recorded here for Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand (Moldenke, 1980).

Roxburgh (1832) described *Volkameria farinosa* as a new species. Steudel (1841) transferred it to *Clerodendrum* and made the combination *C. farinosum* (Roxb.) Wallich ex Steudel. Clarke (1885) validated *Clerodendrum venosum* Wallich on the assumption that the epithet *farinosum* was preoccupied in *C. farinosum* Wallich, a *nomen nudum*. The combination *C. farinosum* (Roxb.) Steudel seems to have been overlooked by later workers as may be evident from its absence in Index Kewensis and Moldenke's (1980) Summary. This combination supersedes *C. venosum* Wallich ex C.B. Clarke, currently in use.

Clerodendrum farinosum (Roxb.) Steudel, Nomencl. Bot. ed. 2, 1: 382. 1941; Walp., Repert. Bot. Syst. 4: 107. 1845 (as *Clerodendron*); Mabberley in Manilal, Hist. Bot. Hort. Malab. 93. 1980; Daniel & Rajendran in Taxon 42: 670. 1993. Type : As for the basionym.

Volkameria farinosa Roxb. [Hort. Beng. 46. 1814, *nom. nud.*], Fl. Ind. 3: 64. 1832. Type : Lower Subansiri F.D., Yazali, 12.11.1980, G.D. Pal 65991 (ARUN, neotype) (*vide* Daniel & Rajendran, *l.c.*). Daniel and

Rajendran (*l.c.*) had overlooked the earlier combination by Steudel.

Clerodendrum venosum Wallich [Numer. List No. 1807. 1828, *nom. nud.*] ex C.B. Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 592. 1885, *nom. illeg. incl.* *Volkameria farinosa* Roxb. 1832 (as *Clerodendron*).

Distrib. : India: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

Myanmar and Thailand (Moldenke, 1980).

Lantana veronicifolia Hayek (1906) is conspecific with *Lantana wightiana* Wallich ex Gamble (1924) which was earlier described as a variety, viz., *L. indica* Roxb. var. *albiflora* Clarke (1885). Being priorable *L. veronicifolia* Hayek supersedes *L. wightiana* Wallich ex Gamble. The correct name and synonyms therefore are:

Lantana veronicifolia Hayek in Feddes Repert. Nov. Spec. Regni Veg. 2: 163. 1906. Type : Nilgiri (and Kurg), *G. Thomson s.n* (K. CAL !).

L. indica Roxb. var. *albiflora* Wight ex C.B. Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 562. 1885. Type : Wallich, Numer. List No. 2655 (K. CAL, microfiche !).

L. wightiana Wallich ex Gamble, Fl. Madras 1087. 1924. Type : As for *L. indica* Roxb. var. *albiflora* Wight ex C.B. Clarke.

Distrib. : India: Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Recorded here for Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan (*cf.* Moldenke, 1980).

L. malabarica Hayek (1906) which is treated as a distinct species by some authors is found to be conspecific with *Lippia alba* (Miller) N.E. Br. *Lippia unica* Ramakr. (1957) is either treated as a distinct species, or wrongly synonymized under *Lippia javanica* (Burm.f.) Sprengel. It is a taxonomic synonym of *L. alba* only. The correct name and the synonyms are:

Lippia alba (Miller) N.E. Br. in Britton & P. Wilson, Bot. Porto Rico 6: 141. 1925. Type : As for the basionym.

Lippia alba Miller, Gard. Dict. ed. 8, no. 8. 1768.
Type : ? Mexico, Compeachy, Dr. Houston s.n. (BM !).

L. geminata Kunth in H.B.K., Nov. Gen. Sp. 2: 266. 1817. Type : Herb. Humbolt & Bonpland, Amerique Equatariale, Rio Apure juxta Santa Barbara (P, photo !).

Lantana malabarica Hayek in Feddes Repert. Nov. Spec. Regni Veg. 2: 163. 1906. Type : Malabar, Concan, Stocks s.n.; Law s.n. (K, n.v.).

Lippia unica Ramakr. in J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 54: 925. 1957. Type : Coimbatore, Agricultural College Estate, wetlands, V. Ramakrishnan 94281 (MH, holotype !).

Distrib.: India: Andaman Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

South America (cf. Moldenke, 1980).

Moldenke's (1940) *Lippia indica* which is considered a distinct species in Indian works is found to be conspecific with *Lippia javanica* (Burm.f.) Sprengel, hence synonymized thereunder.

Lippia javanica (Burm.f.) Sprengel, Syst. Veg. 2: 752. 1825. Type : As for as the basionym.

Verbena javanica Burm.f., Fl. Ind. 12. t. 6. fig. 2. 1768. Type : Unknown origin (G, photo !). That the type is not from Java has already been discussed at length by Meeuse (1942: 68-69).

Lippia indica Mold. in Phytologia 12: 427. 1940. Type : Nilgiri, Sighur Ghat, 915 m, Aug. 1886, J.S. Gamble 17895 (K, holotype; MH, isotype!)

Distrib. : India: Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Africa (cf. Moldenke, 1980).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to Dr. N.P. Balakrishnan, formerly Joint Director, Botanical Survy of India, Coimbatore, for facilities, to the Director (K) and Dr. N.P. Singh, then Indian Liaison Officer at Kew for photocopies of some literature and cibachrome

photographs of types / authentic specimens of some taxa, to the Curator of Flowering Plants (BM), Director (G), and Director (P), for loaning the type of *Lantana alba* and sending a photograph of the type of *Verbena javanica* and *Lippia geminata* respectively. A.R. is grateful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India, for a research fellowship and the officers-in-charge/curators of the following herbaria for facilities: AMH, ARUN, ASSAM, BLAT, BSA, BDS, BSI, BSIS, BSJO, CAL, CALI, DD, FRC, HIFP, IIS (Bangalore), LWG, MH, NEHU, PBL, PCM, PUN, RHT, RRCBI, SHC, TBGT and UCT (Trivandrum).

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* For other references see under citatiuous.