

NAME CHANGES IN TWO INDIAN LIVERWORTS

A.E.D. DANIELS¹ AND P. DANIEL²

¹Botany Department, Scott Christian College, Nagercoil 629 003, Tamil Nadu

²36, Arulnagar, Nagercoil 629 003, Tamil Nadu

Srivastava and Verma (2004) added the genus *Arachniopsis* Spruce to the Indian bryoflora for the first time with a new species, viz., *A. indica* from the Nilgiri hills. *Arachniopsis* has been traditionally treated as a distinct genus (Schuster, 1965). However, Engel and Merrill (2004) based on the striking similarities between the genera *Telaranea* Spruce ex Schiffn. (in Engl. & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 1(3): 103. 1895) and *Arachniopsis* Spruce (Cephalozia: 84. 1882) in the branching type, structure of the leaf lobes and underleaves and due to lack of support to maintain *Arachniopsis* as a distinct genus reduced it to a synonym of *Telaranea*. Engel and Merrill (*l.c.*) argued that since *Arachniopsis* is a priorable name and would involve the transfer of nearly 90 species to it if *Telaranea* was not conserved, they proposed to conserve it against *Arachniopsis* (Engel & Merrill, 2002). Now that *Telaranea* has been conserved against *Arachniopsis* (McNeill & al., 2006) it necessitates the transfer of the species *A. indica* S. C. Srivast. & P. K. Verma to the genus *Telaranea* which is done here and a new combination is made.

***Telaranea indica* (S.C. Srivast. & P. K. Verma) A.E.D. Daniels & P. Daniel, comb. nov.**

Arachniopsis indica S.C. Srivast. & P.K. Verma in Natl. Acad. Sci. Lett. 27: 270, t.1, ff. 1 – 12 & t.2, ff. 1 – 6. 2004. – Type: Western Ghats, Tamil Nadu, Nilgiri hills, Governor Shola, ca 2250 m, 10.04.2004, P. K. Verma & al. 15496/2002 (LWU, holo).

Awasthi and Udar (1984) described a new variety in *Mastigolejeunea humilis* (Gottsche) Schiffn., viz., *M. humilis* var. *ciliata* based on material collected at Kumily, Kerala. They differentiated var. *ciliata* from var. *humilis* in the presence of a 5 or 6-celled uniseriate apical tooth on the leaf lobule. This character which is distinct has also been observed in material collected in the Agasthyamalai region, located at the southern end of the Western Ghats (Daniels, 2003).

The name *Mastigolejeunea humilis* (Gottsche) Schiffn. has been widely used by bryologists. However, Thiers and Gradstein (1989) who found *M. humilis* (Gottsche) Schiffn. conspecific with *M. auriculata* reduced the former to a synonym under the latter. This necessitates the transfer of var. *ciliata* now placed in *M. humilis* to *M. auriculata* which is done here and a new combination is made.

***Mastigolejeunea auriculata* (Wilson & Hook.) Schiffn. var. *ciliata* (U.S. Awasthi & Udar) A.E.D. Daniels & P. Daniel, comb. nov.**

Mastigolejeunea humilis (Gottsche) Schiffn. var. *ciliata* U.S. Awasthi & Udar in Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. (Pl. Sci.) 93: 487, ff. 60 – 73. 1984. – Type: Kerala, Kumily, Udar & party, 6226/82 (LWU).

Jungermannia auriculata Wilson & Hook., Musc. Amer.: 170. 1841. – Type: South America, Drummond s.n. (NY).

Phragmicoma humilis Gottsche in Gottsche & al., Syn. Hepat.: 299. 1845. – Type: Java, Junghuhn s.n. (PC).

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