New names for three African Acanthaceae

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Summary. Four nomenclatural errors in African Acanthaceae are corrected, resulting in the publication of one new combination in *Duosperma*, *D. kaessneri* (S. Moore) Vollesen & I. Darbysh., two new names in *Justicia*, *J. plectranthoides* Vollesen & I. Darbysh. and *J. subcordatifolia* Vollesen & I. Darbysh., and a correction of the author combination for *Dicliptera cernua*.

Key Words. Flora of Tropical East Africa, Flora Zambesiaca, *Lepidagathis*, *Peristrophe*, taxonomy.

Introduction

The accounts of the Acanthaceae for the *Flora of Tropical East Africa* (Vollesen 2008; Darbyshire *et al.* 2010) and *Flora Zambesiaca* (Vollesen 2013; Darbyshire *et al.* 2015) documented 598 species and 401 species respectively, totalling 788 species across the two regions. This included the description of 193 new taxa (over 20% of the total Acanthaceae diversity) and 48 new combinations or new names for taxa in the two Flora regions, published either within the Flora volumes themselves or through various taxonomic papers and generic revisions that were written in preparation for the Flora accounts, such as the monograph of the genus *Duosperma* Dayton (Vollesen 2006). Since the publication of these Flora volumes and related taxonomic works, four nomenclatural errors or oversights have been brought to the attention of the authors and these are corrected below, resulting in the publication of one new combination, two new names and one corrected author combination.

The identity of *Lepidagathis kaessneri* S. Moore

During examination of material at the Natural History Museum, London (BM) in connection with the preparation of an account of *Lepidagathis* Willd. for *Flora of Tropical East Africa*, one of the authors (I. D.) studied the type specimen of *L. kaessneri* S. Moore and discovered that it was not a *Lepidagathis*. Subsequent examination at the Kew herbarium (K) of the type specimen showed that this is clearly a species of *Duosperma* Dayton. Perusal of the recent monograph of *Duosperma* (Vollesen 2006) and the collections at K quickly established that *L. kaessneri* is identical with *D. longibracteolatum*, a species described by Vollesen in that paper. *Lepidagathis* is systematically so far removed from *Duosperma* that it was never considered necessary

to examine species from this genus in connection with the monographic work on *Duosperma*. A new combination is thus necessary.

***Duosperma kaessneri* (S. Moore) Vollesen & I. Darbysh. comb. nov.** Type: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Katanga Region, Kundelungu, 15 May 1908, *Kässner* 2774 (holotype BM; isotype MO).

<http://www.ipni.org/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:60476869-2>

Lepidagathis kaessneri S. Moore, *J. Bot.* 47: 294 (1909); Lebrun & Stork (1997: 493).

Duosperma longibracteolatum Vollesen (2006: 313). Type: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Katanga Region, Kinika, 22 June 1957, *Duvigneaud* 3636 (holotype BRLU), **synon. nov.**

***Justicia plectranthoides* Vollesen & I. Darbysh., a new name for *Justicia interrupta* (Lindau) C. B. Clarke**

Justicia interrupta Kunth (1818: 232) — type: Colombia, Santa Ana, Sept. 1801, *Bonpland & Humboldt* s.n. (holotype P) — is a little known species which has been largely overlooked since its publication. For the account of Acanthaceae for *Flora of Tropical East Africa*, Vollesen (2010: 525) followed the concept of C. B. Clarke (in Burkill & Clarke 1900: 207) for *Justicia interrupta* and overlooked the much earlier name. A new name is thus needed for the fairly widespread and very characteristic Tanzanian coastal forest species with its large, resupinate corolla. This resupination, an uncommon occurrence in *Justicia* L. is caused by the pedicel bending backwards (Vollesen 2010). We thank Matthew Cock, Chief Scientist at the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), for first alerting us to this oversight.

***Justicia plectranthoides* Vollesen & I. Darbysh. nom. nov.**

<http://www.ipni.org/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:60476870-2>

Justicia interrupta (Lindau) C. B. Clarke, *Fl. Trop. Afr.* 5: 207 (in Burkill & Clarke 1900) nom. illegit., non *Justicia interrupta* Kunth (1818: 232). Type: Tanzania, Pangani Distr., Potwe Forest, 29 Dec. 1960, *Semsei* 3138 (neotype K, chosen by Vollesen [2010]; isoneotypes BR, EA).

Duvernoia interrupta Lindau (1895: 123).

***Justicia subcordatifolia* Vollesen & I. Darbysh., a new name for *Justicia hedrenii* Vollesen**

Justicia hedrenii Vollesen (2015: 201) is a later homonym of *J. hedrenii* J.-P. Lebrun & Stork (in Lebrun *et al.* 1991: 233). When naming his *J. hedrenii* in the account of *Justicia* for *Flora Zambesiaca*, Vollesen (2015) overlooked the identically named, recently described species from Chad. A new name is therefore needed for this species.

***Justicia subcordatifolia* Vollesen & I. Darbysh., nom. nov.**

<http://www.ipni.org/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:77187916-1>

Justicia hedrenii Vollesen, *Flora Zambesiaca*. Vol. 8 (6): 201 (2015) nom. illegit., non *Justicia hedrenii* J.-P. Lebrun & Stork (in Lebrun *et al.* 1991: 233). Type: Zimbabwe, Mutare Distr., Mutaranpanda, 4 Feb. 1956, *Chase* 5993 (holotype K; isotypes BM, SRGH).

The correct author combination for *Dicliptera cernua*

Based on morphological evidence, Darbyshire & Vollesen (2007) broadened the concept of the genus *Dicliptera* Juss. to include species formerly placed in *Peristrophe* Nees, a decision that is supported by recently published molecular phylogenetic data on the “justicioid” lineage of Acanthaceae (Kiel *et al.* 2017). However, Darbyshire & Vollesen (2007) at that time only made the necessary new combinations for species known to occur in the *Flora of Tropical East Africa* and *Flora Zambesiaca* regions. During final preparation of the latter Flora account, one of the authors (I. D.) uncovered two specimens of *Peristrophe cernua* Nees from southern Mozambique at the LISC and LMA herbaria. This represented a new record for the *Flora Zambesiaca* region and so that species was included in the Flora under the proposed new combination *Dicliptera cernua* (Nees) I. Darbysh. (Darbyshire 2015: 291). However, this overlooked the fact that the combination in *Dicliptera* had already been made three years earlier by Manning & Goldblatt (2012). Darbyshire’s (2015) combination is therefore superfluous.

***Dicliptera cernua* (Nees) J. C. Manning & Goldblatt (2012: 789); Darbyshire (2015: 291) as *D. cernua* (Nees) I. Darbysh. in error.**

Peristrophe cernua Nees (1841: 374).

For a full synonymy for this species, see Darbyshire (2015).

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