SHORT COMMUNICATION

Reinstatement and lectotypification of the name Cissus muelleri Planch. (Vitaceae)

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The specific epithet ‘cardiophylla’ has been applied to two different species of Cissus L. (IPNI 2023). Standley (1929) described C. biformifolia Standl., from Panama, and C. cardiophylla Standl. from Costa Rica. In the Flora of Costa Rica, Standley (1937) considered these two species to be synonymous and placed C. cardiophylla Standl. into synonymy under C. biformifolia Standl. Jackes (1988) transferred the Australian species Vitis cardiophylla F.Muell. to Cissus as C. cardiophylla (F.Muell.) Jackes, but this name is an illegitimate later homonym of C. cardiophylla Standl. According to the ICN rules (Turland et al. 2018), another name is required for the Australian species. Originally the intention was to rename the species with a new epithet. However, the name Cissus muelleri Planch. is available for this species, having been previously included in the synonymy of C. cardiophylla (F.Muell.) Jackes (Jackes 1988).

Taxonomy


Vitis cardiophylla F.Muell., Fragm. 2: 73 (1861); Cissus cardiophylla (F.Muell.) Jackes, Austrobailey 2: 491 (1988), nom. illeg. non C. cardiophylla Standl., syn. nov. Type: In nemoribus ad oppidum, Rockhampton, s.dat., Thozet [94] (holo: MEL 540180), labelled as Vitis cordata.

Vitis cordata Benth., Fl. Austral. 1: 447 (1863), pro parte taxonomic synonym.


Typification: Of the three original syntypes for Cissus muelleri, only the collection by R. Daintree has been located. This collection was referred to by Planchon as “Mueller, herb. Melb.”, but was actually collected by R. Daintree as indicated by the label “Vitis, Kennedy District, R. Daintree” on MEL 565994. There is an additional blue label attached to the specimen which indicates it was collected on the “Basalt Wall, Fletcher’s Creek, North Kennedy”. A second sheet (MEL 565993) of what is apparently the same collection has had some of this information added with later labels. Although I have not seen a specimen labelled as Gulliver 204 from the Hodkinson River, Gulliver 804 from the Hodkinson (Hodgkinson) River (MEL 565993) is C. muelleri; it is possible that the hand-written number was incorrectly transcribed by Planchon. The third syntype (a collection by Dallachy) has not been located to date.
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References


