

Lectotypifications in *Ceropegia* (Ceropegieae: Apocynaceae)

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Abstract

Ceropegia angustifolia Wight and *C. ciliata* Wight are lectotypified.

Keywords: Katie falls, Lectotype, Nilagiri, Silhet, Syntype

Introduction

The genus *Ceropegia* is represented by 244 taxa worldwide (cf., The Plant List, 2013). Presently there are a total of 67 taxa of *Ceropegia* in India of which 42 species and 5 varieties are distributed in the Western Ghats (Kambale & Yadav, 2013). As a part of the revisionary studies in Ceropegias of India, we felt the need for typifications of some species. In the present paper, *Ceropegia angustifolia* Wight and *C. ciliata* Wight are lectotypified and images of the designated lectotypes (Fig. 1 & 2) are provided. In designating the lectotypes, we follow the guidelines of Art. 9.2 of the Melbourne Code (McNeill *et al.*, 2012)

Ceropegia angustifolia Wight, Contr. Bot. India 31. 1834; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 72. 1883; Kanjilal *et al.*, Fl. Assam 3: 308. 1939; Ansari, Fasc. Fl. India 16: 8. 1984; *C. longifolia sensu* Huber, Mem. Soc. Brot. 12: 41. 1957; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Pl. India 1: 160. 2009

Lectotype (designated here): BANGLADESH, Silhet, *s.d.* Wallich asclep. no. 13. K (K000894290), photo!; syntypes E and K (photo!) **Fig. 1.**

Wight (1834) described *C. angustifolia* based on collections of Wallich (asclep. nos. 8, 13 and 19). All of these are syntypes. Ansari (1984) in his treatise on Indian Ceropegias mentioned "Type ... *Herb. Wight* (K, Photo)," and did not specify which specimen (no. 8 or 13 or 19) is the type. Out of these specimens, Wallich asclep. no. 8 is a single flower and it is mounted along with Wallich asclep. no. 13 on same sheet (upper left corner of K000894290). Wallich asclep. no. 19 is without leaves. Since Wallich asclep. no. 13 (Fig. 1) bears all the characters and agrees well with the protologue, it qualifies to be designates as the lectotype.

Huber (1957) considered *C. angustifolia* conspecific to *C. longifolia* Wall. However, Ansari (1984) treated it as a distinct species. After examining type of *C. longifolia*, it has been confirmed that both the species are distinct.



Fig. 1. *Ceropegia angustifolia* Wight (Wallich asclep. no.13, K; Lectotype) [© The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Reproduced with the consent of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew"]

Ceropegia ciliata Wight, Icon. Pl. Ind. Orient. 4(1): 15, t. 1262. 1848; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India. 4: 73. 1883; Gamble, Fl. Madras. 2: 858. 1921; Huber, Mem. Soc. Broter. 12: 68. 1957; Ansari, Fasc. Fl. India. 16: 13. 1984; Karthikeyan *et al.*, Fl. Pl. India 1: 161. 2009.

Lectotype (designated here): INDIA, Tamil Nadu, Neilgherries [Nilagiri], Kaitie [Katie] Falls *s.d.* R. Wight *s.n.* K (K000894274), photo!, isolectotype K (K000894273) photo! **Fig. 2.**

Wight (1848) described *C. ciliata* collected from Katie falls, Nilagiri. Within the protologue, Wight gave precise locality but did not provide the collector name, date and number of the collection. However, Huber (1957) mentioned "Typus: *Herb Wight* 1927 (BM, G)" while Ansari (1984) mentioned "Type: India: Tamil Nadu; Nilgiri hills, Wight 1927 (K Photo!)". Critical analysis on these specimens cited by Huber (1957) and Ansari (1984) revealed that these do not bear the precise locality or annotation by Robert Wight and hence cannot be the original materials. In this case, Wight's annotation "*Cerop. ciliata* RW, Kaitie Neelgherries" found on the specimen sheets housed at K (K000894273 and K000894274) indicates that these 2 specimens should be considered as original material and are chosen here for lectotypification.



Fig. 2. *Ceropegia ciliata* Wight (R. Wight *s.n.*, K; Lectotype) [© The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Reproduced with the consent of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew"]

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