

SCHRADERA INVOLUCRATA IS THE CORRECT NAME FOR
SPERMACOCE SCANDENS (RUBIACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

In a recent article, the new combination *Schradera scandens* (Aubl.) Delprete was proposed. This binomial is predated by *S. scandens* Willd., which makes Delprete's new combination a later homonym and thus illegitimate. Therefore, *S. involucrata* (Sw.) K. Schum. is accepted as the correct name to be used for this species.

KEY WORDS: *Schradera*, Schraderae, Jamaica, Neotropics, *Palicourea*, *Cephaelis*, *Psychotria*, Brazil, nomenclature

RESUMEN

En un artículo reciente se propuso la nueva combinación *Schradera scandens* (Aubl.) Delprete. Este binomio está predatado por *S. scandens* Willd., que hace de la combinación nueva de Delprete un homónimo posterior y por tanto ilegítimo. Sin embargo, *S. involucrata* (Sw.) K. Schum. está aceptado como nombre correcto para esta especie.

INTRODUCTION

Aublet (1775: 61) described *Spermacoce scandens* Aubl., reproducing word for word Sloane's (1707: 73) polynomial. In Sloane's Plate 28, figure 4, it is depicted as a prostrate herb rooting at nodes, with broadly ovate leaves, and axillary flower buds. Based on these morphological characters, Delprete (2015) designated the specimen with barcode BM 000589320, preserved in the Sloane Herbarium (BM-SL), the lectotype of *S. scandens* Aubl. In addition, Delprete noted that J.E. Dandy in 1962 identified BM 000589320 as a juvenile form of *Schradera involucrata* (Sw.) K. Schum. Further study of the growth habit and leaf polymorphism of the taxa in question lead Delprete to concur with Dandy that *Spermacoce scandens* Aubl. and *Schradera involucrata* (Sw.) K. Schum. are conspecific. As *Spermacoce scandens* has priority over *Fuchsia involucrata* (Swartz 1788), he made the new combination *Schradera scandens* (Aubl.) Delprete. Unfortunately, he overlooked the existence of the binomial *Schradera scandens* Willd. (Willdenow, 1797). Although *Schradera* Willd. (Euphorbiaceae; Willdenow 1797) is an illegitimate later homonym of *Schradera* Vahl (Vahl 1797), *S. scandens* Willd. is a legitimate name; even if the Willdenow name were to be illegitimate, it would still make *S. scandens* (Aubl.) Delprete an illegitimate later homonym (Articles 53.1 Note 1 and article 55.1 of the ICNafp; McNeill et al. 2012). Therefore, as already pointed out by Sandwith (1963), *Schradera involucrata* (Sw.) K. Schum. is the name to be used for this species; Sandwith's conclusion was overlooked by Delprete (2015), hence the necessity of this rectification.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study is based on examinations of herbarium specimens, samples preserved in 60% ethanol, digital images, and direct field observations. Herbarium specimens were studied either by visiting and/or through loans from the B, BM, L, LD, M, NY, P, S, US herbaria. Specimens were examined using a dissecting microscope. For accurate citation of herbarium specimens, after the herbarium acronym we cite the barcode number between square brackets (when available); when no barcode number was available on the specimen, we cited the accession number between square brackets, preceded by "No." All specimens cited have been examined, unless the

herbarium acronym is followed by “n.v.” (not seen). For further information about the typification of Aublet’s taxa, see Delprete (2015).

SYSTEMATIC TREATMENT

Schradera involucrata (Sw.) K. Schum. in Martius, Fl. Bras. 6(6):295. 1889 ≡ *Fuchsia involucrata* Sw., Prodr. 62. 1788 ≡ *Schradera cephalotes* Willd., Sp. Pl. editio quarta 2(1):238. 1799, *nom. superfl. illeg.* (based on *Fuchsia involucrata* Sw., 1788) ≡ *Urceolaria involucrata* (Sw.) Standl., N. Amer. Flora 32(2):32. 1921. TYPE: JAMAICA: s.d. [1784–1786], O.P. Swartz s.n. (LECTOTYPE [Delprete (2015: 618)]: S [No. S15-3615]; ISOLECTOTYPES: LD [1250717], M [M-0189392], S [No. S15-3643, No. S15-3646]).

Spermacoce scandens Aubl., Hist. Pl. Guiane 1:61. 1775. ≡ *Schradera scandens* (Aubl.) Delprete, Taxon 64:618. 2015, *nom. illeg. homon.*, non Willd. (1797). TYPE: JAMAICA: “on the trunks of the trees near the banks of the Rio d’Oro, coming from St. Maries to sixteen miles walk,” s.d. [1687–1689], H. Sloane s.n. (LECTOTYPE [Delprete (2015: 618)]: BM-SL [BM 000589320]).

Non *Schradera scandens* Willd., Gött. J. Naturwiss. 1:3. Jun 1797. (Euphorbiaceae) TYPE: “Habitat in Guinea. Isert. [1783–1786, P. Isert s.n. ?]” (B-W? not found) = *Astraea lobata* (L.) Klotzsch (BASIONYM: *Croton lobatus* L.). After detailed search, no specimen that could be assigned to *Schradera scandens* Willd. was found in the B-W herbarium (R. Vogt, Curator, pers. comm.).

Non *Borreria scandens* DC., Prodr. 4:546. 1830. TYPE: GUADELOUPE: s.d. [1816–1818], Bertero s.n. (HOLOTYPE: G-DC [without barcode, IDC 800, 718: II. 2, photo]; ISOTYPE: P; POSSIBLE ISOTYPE: M [M-0187038]). ≡ *Spermacoce berteroaana* Howard (for additional information see Howard 1988)

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