

NEW NAMES IN *THESIUM* (SANTALACEAE) FROM THE FLORA ZAMBESIACA AREA

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Eight species of *Thesium* are newly described, 3 apparently confined to Zambia, 3 to Zimbabwe and one to Mozambique, with another ranging from Zambia and Zimbabwe west to Botswana, Angola and Namibia.

In the course of writing up Santalaceae for a forthcoming volume of Flora Zambesiaca, eight species of *Thesium* were found to be undescribed. The names are now validated; full descriptions will follow in the Flora account.

***Thesium bundiense* Hilliard, sp. nov.** a *T. goetzeano* Engler cauli florifero saepe surculo longo foliato terminante (nec semper flore terminato), pedicellis longioribus (infirmis 1.25–8mm, nec 0.5–2mm), perianthii tubo saepe longiore (1.2–1.4mm, nec 0.7–1.2mm) distinguenda.

Type: Zimbabwe, Chimanimani Mts. above river Bundi, 5400ft, fl. & fr. 27 xii 1957, Goodier & Phipps 185 (holo. SRGH; iso. K, S).

***Thesium fanshawei* Hilliard, sp. nov.** a *T. doloensi* Pilger ramulis angulo plus minusve recto patentibus (nec angulo 45° ascendentibus), bracteis involucralibus ovato-cuspidatis c. 1.3 × 0.8mm (nec lanceolato-cuspidatis 1.8–2 × 0.6–0.7mm) et floribus majoribus, perianthii tubo 0.7–0.8mm longo (nec c. 0.25mm), antheris 0.4–0.7mm longis (nec 0.25mm), stylo 1–1.4mm (nec 0.7mm) differt. A *T. atro* A.W. Hill planta in sicco fusca (nec atra) foliis sub ramis principalibus lineari-subulatis 6–10 × 1mm (nec ad squamas lanceolatas vel ovato-lanceolatas 1.2–4 × 0.8–1.2mm redactis) distinguenda. Type: Zambia, Machili, 14 vii 1960, Fanshawe 5784 (holo. BR; iso. K, LISC).

***Thesium helodes* Hilliard, sp. nov.** *T. singulari* Hilliard, cui parum similis, fortasse affinis sed differt floribus racemosim (nec cymosim) dispositis et floribus minoribus: perianthii tubo 1.7–2mm longo (nec 2.6–3mm), lobis 2–2.4mm longis (nec 2.7–3mm), stylo 3.2–3.6mm longo (nec c. 5mm)

Type: Zimbabwe, Rusapi, fl & fr., Hislop 218 (holo. K).

***Thesium inhambanense* Hilliard, sp. nov.** fortasse *T. gracili* A.W. Hill affinis, sed planta in sicco atra (nec grisea), foliis principalibus ad basin distincte angustatis (nec basi lata) floribus in cymas multifloras dichasiales dispositis, cymis paniculatis (nec pro maxima parte in cymas trifloras dispositis, cymis racemosis) recedit.

Type: Mozambique, Inhacoongo, 90km au sud de Inhambane, 30m, fl. & fr. x 1935, Gomes e Sousa 1661 (holo. COI; iso. BR, K, LISC).

Thesium inonoense Hilliard, **sp. nov.** a *T. fimbriato* A.W. Hill bracteis floralibus minoribus (infirmis 1.5–1.8mm longis, nec 2.4–3.5mm) et floribus minoribus perianthii tubo 0.3–0.6mm longo (nec 0.5–1mm), lobis 1.2–1.6mm (nec 1.5–2.7mm), marginibus tenuiter (nec dense) fimbriatis, et fructibus minoribus (1.5 × 1.5mm, nec 1.6–2 × 1.4–2mm) distinguenda.

Type: Zambia, N. province, Katwe road, Inono stream, 18 v 1955, *Richards* 5758 (holo. K, iso. BR).

Thesium magnifructum Hilliard, **sp. nov.** a *T. equisetoides* Hiern caudice gemmis bracteatis carente (nec caudice lato gemmis bracteatis multis praedito) floribus pendunculosis ebracteatis (nec bracteatis) terminantibus, bracteis involucralibus elliptico-oblongis breviter apiculatis (nec lineari-lanceolatis subulatis), stylo 0.8–1.5mm longo (nec 2mm) differt.

Type: Zambia, Kalabo, fl & fr. 14 x 1963, *Fanshawe* 8055 (holo. K).

Distributed from Zambia and Zimbabwe at least as far as Runtu on the Okavango river in Namibia, so the species will certainly occur in northern Botswana and eastern Angola.

Thesium pygmaeum Hilliard, **sp. nov.** *T. nigricanti* Rendle affinis sed statura brevior (c. 100–150mm, nec 300mm–1m), caulibus haud costatis, floribus minoribus (perianthii lobis 0.6mm longis, nec 0.7–1.5mm, stylo 0.2–0.4mm nec 0.5–1.8mm) differt.

Type: Zimbabwe, Melsetter distr., Chimanimani Mts, Bundi river approximately halfway between mountain hut and southern lakes, 4800ft, fl. & fr. 26 ix 1966, *Simon* 839 (holo. K; iso. LISC, SRGH).

Thesium singulare Hilliard, **sp. nov.** nulli arcte affinis sed in grege *T. ussanguensis* Engl. ponenda a qua statim foliis omnibus ad squamas redactis, floribus solitariis terminalibus, perianthii lobis tenuiter (nec dense) fimbriatis statim distinguenda. Ad *T. katangensem* Robyns & Lawalrée foliis omnibus ad squamas redactis accedens sed bracteis minoribus (c. 1 × 0.6–0.8mm, nec 5 × 1.4mm) et floribus semper solitariis et terminalibus ramulis novellis proxime sub floribus orientibus superatis (nec floribus in spicis densis dispositis caulibus novis terminaliter orientibus superatis) differt.

Type: Zambia, Barotseland, 40km west of Mankoya, fr. 11 xi 1965, *Robinson* 6705 (holo. LISC; iso. K, SRGH).