

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

A new name for a ginger endemic to São Tomé

While investigating the typification of taxa of the Zingiberales described by H. N. Ridley, it came to my attention that Ridley's *Alpinia africana* was the earliest name available for a ginger endemic to São Tomé, an island in the Gulf of Guinea, off the West African coast. This species has generally been referred to as *Renealmia grandiflora* Baker. However, Baker's name is a later homonym. Robert Brown used the same combination in 1810 for a member of the *Iridaceae* from New Zealand currently known as *Libertia grandiflora* (R. Br.) Sweet. Unfortunately, Ridley's name cannot provide a combination as this is pre-empted by *Renealmia africana* (K. Schum.) Benth. As there are no other synonyms available, it is necessary to provide a new name for the São Tomé ginger.

Renealmia sancti-thomae I. M. Turner, **nom. nov. pro** *Alpinia africana* Ridl., Bol. Soc. Brot. 5: 203 (1888), **non** *Renealmia africana* (K. Schum.) Benth. (1883). Type: São Tomé, Angolares, *F. Quintas s.n.* (holo., BM!, iso., K!, COI).

Renealmia grandiflora Baker in Dyer, Fl. Trop. Africa 7: 313 (1898), **nom. illegit., non** R. Br. (1810); Exell, Cat. Fl. Pl. S. Tomé 339 (1944). Type: São Tomé, Angolares, *F. Quintas 2* (holo., K!; iso., BM!, COI).

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A new record for Bhutan and Sikkim: *Yushania yadongensis* (Poaceae: Bambusoideae)

Collections of a bamboo from W Bhutan were enumerated and illustrated under the name *Yushania microphylla* (Stapleton, 1994a,b). After inspection of material in Kunming (SWFC), the W Bhutan specimens have been found to belong to another species, recently described from the Chumbi Valley (Yadong) as *Y. yadongensis*. Both species have hollow rhizome nodes and persistent, blackening wax below the culm nodes, and are known only in the vegetative state. *Y. yadongensis* differs from *Y. microphylla* (which is probably restricted to C and E Bhutan) as follows: leaf margin not so strongly thickened; culm internodes more striate, slightly scabrous; nodes slightly hairy; culm sheaths less pubescent; leaf sheath auricles absent, oral setae erect; leaf sheath pubescence sparser and abaxial leaf hairs scarcer, more deciduous. It should be noted that further collections are required to ascertain the identity of specimens from Nepal identified as *Y. microphylla* (Stapleton, 1994a).

The only other bamboo known to have been collected in the Chumbi Valley is

Thamnocalamus spathiflorus (Yatung [Yadong], 16 June 1945 *Bor & Ram* 20115, K).

Yushania yadongensis T.P. Yi, *J. Bamboo Res.* 4(2): 33 (1985). Type: Tibet, Yadong Xian, 19 v 1978, *Cidan Langjie* 2 (herb. For. School of Sichuan Prov., n.v.). Syn.: *Yushania longissima* T.P. Yi, *J. Bamboo Res.* 2(2): 46 (1983) *illeg. hom.*, non *Yushania longissima* K.F. Huang in *Wuyi Sci. J.* 2: 20 (1982). Type: as *Y. yadongensis*.

Additional specimens. BHUTAN. Thimphu, 2500m, 13 ix 1985, *Stapleton* 403 (K, E); Thimphu Dist., Changkaphug, 3100m, 4 vii 1989, *Stapleton* 821 (THIM); Thimphu Dist., Gidakom, 3010m, 30 vi 1989, *Stapleton* 820 (THIM); Paro Dist., Shana, 2800m, 4 xi 1988, *Stapleton* 801 (THIM). TIBET. Yadong, 2700m, 11 vii 1974, *Expedition Group Qinghai-Tibet* 74-2233 (SWFC!). SIKKIM. Jongri, 12000ft, vii 1897, *Phul Sing* s.n. (K).

Distribution: Sikkim; Tibet (Chumbi Valley); W Bhutan.

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References

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