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New combinations in *Hoya* for the species of *Clemensiella* (Marsdenieae, Apocynaceae)

Abstract

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Clemensiella, with two species in the Philippines, Sumatra and Sarawak, respectively, has traditionally been considered as one of the distinct genera of the tribe Marsdenieae, based on morphological evidence. However, new molecular phylogenetic evidence has demonstrated that Clemensiella is nested within Hoya as sister group to species of H. sect. Eriostemma. Therefore we propose to merge Clemensiella with Hoya and provide the new combinations H. mariae and H. omlori for its two species.

Additional key words: Hoya sect. Eriostemma, phylogenetic relationships, systematics, taxonomy

Schlechter (1915) described the new genus Clemensiella consisting of the single species C. mariae (Schltr.) Schltr. (Fig. 1A–B), endemic to the Philippines. Today, we know that *Clemensiella* is not only restricted to the Philippines but also occurs in Sumatra and Sarawak (Omlor 1998; Meve & al. 2009). However, collections of specimens from the latter regions were shown to belong to a second species of Clemensiella, C. omlori Livsh. & Meve (Fig. 1C) named after R. Omlor (Meve & al. 2009), who first recognised this taxon as distinct from C. mariae. This species is morphologically very similar to C. mariae but the shape of the corolla, which is typically campanulate in C. mariae and salvershaped in C. omlori, as well as characters of the gynostegium clearly separate the two species from each other (Meve & al. 2009). Recently, C. omlori has also been collected in Perak, W Malaysia (S. Somadee & T. Nyhuus, pers. comm.).

Schlechter (1915) placed *Clemensiella* in the tribe *Marsdenieae* next to *Telosma* without giving any explanation for his assessment. Omlor (1998) in his monograph of the tribe, rejected Schlechter's view and instead

pointed out a more isolated position for *Clemensiella* in the *Marsdenieae*, while at the same time discussing the morphological similarity between the pollinia of *Clemensiella* and *Marsdenia* and pointing out the similarity in the epiphytic habit of both *Clemensiella* and *Hoya*. Meve & al. (2009) hypothesised that characters such as adventitious roots, persistent inflorescences and valvate corolla lobes as well as preliminary molecular synapomorphies could support a close relationship between *Clemensiella* and a group including *Hoya* R. Br. and *Dischidia* R. Br. In fact, because of this close morphological evidence, specimens of *C. mariae* have occasionally been described as belonging to the genus *Hoya* (Kloppenburg & Siar 2006).

More recently, a molecular phylogenetic study based on 77 species of *Hoya*, four of *Dischidia* and including one accession of *Clemensiella mariae*, showed that *Clemensiella* is nested inside *Hoya*, clearly separate from *Dischidia*, as the sister group of the species of *Hoya* that are generally attributed to *H.* sect. *Eriostemma* Schltr. (Wanntorp & al. 2011). While discussing characters in common to *Clemensiella* and *HoyalDischidia*, Meve &

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Fig. 1. A–B: *Hoya mariae* (≡ *Clemensiella mariae*); C: *H. omlori* (≡ *C. omlori*); D: *H. ciliata* of *H.* sect. *Eriostemma.* – Photographs all taken from plants in cultivation: A+B by U. Meve (Philippines, s. loc., *P. Gozon s.n.*, UBT), C by S. Somadee (Malaysia, Perak, *Somadee s.n.*), D by A. Boström (ex hort., *Boström s.n.*).

al. (2009) also pointed out characters of Clemensiella that are not typical for Hoya/Dischidia but rather place Clemensiella closer to the other genera of Marsdenieae. Among these characters are flowers having fleshy corollas with valvate lobes and clavate pollinia without pellucid margins attached to small and narrowly oblong corpuscles by long, ribbon-shaped caudicles. Interestingly, these characters are also found in species belonging to the peculiar H. sect. Eriostemma (Fig. 1D), which has been even proposed as a genus on its own (Kloppenburg & Gilding 2001), or as possible sister group to Hoya or the remainder of it (Wanntorp & al. 2006 a, b). Presently, there is no clear evidence supporting this sister relationship and H. sect. Eriostemma is therefore considered as part of *Hoya*. Recently, Wanntorp & al. (2006b) and Wanntorp (2007) provided clear molecular and morphological evidence supporting a nested position of the genera Micholitzia N. E. Br., Absolmsia Kuntze

and *Madangia* P. I. Forst. & al. in the *Marsdenieae* and *Clemensiella* is therefore yet another example of genera that were originally described as monotypic and that cannot be kept separate from *Hoya*, if this genus has to be monophyletic.

Hoya R. Br., Prodr.: 459. 1810. – Type: *Hoya carnosa* (L. f.) R. Br.

= Clemensiella Schltr. in Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg.
13: 566. Sep 1915 ≡ Clemensia Schltr. in Repert.
Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 13: 542. Jun 1915, non Merrill
1908. – Type: Clemensiella mariae (Schltr.) Schltr.

Hoya mariae (Schltr.) L. Wanntorp & Meve, comb. nov. ≡ Clemensiella mariae (Schltr.) Schltr. in Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 13: 566. Sep 1915 ≡ Clemensia mariae Schltr. in Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 13: 543. Jun 1915. – Lectotype (designated by Meve & al. 2009: 450):

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Philippines, Laguna, Luzon, San Antonio, 9.–10.1912, *Ramos 15962* (P; isolectotypes: BM, K).

- = Hoya viracensis Kloppenb. & Siar in Fraterna 19(4): 5. 2006. – Holotype: Philippines, Catanduanes, Virac, Brgy. Kalatagan, secondary forest, soil clay loam, 2.12.1991, Barbon, Garcia & Alvarez PPI 5658 (PNH; isotypes: BISH, BRIT!, CAHUP).
- [- Clemensiella dischidioides Elmer in Merrill, Enum. Philipp. Fl. Pl. 3: 356. 1923 & in Leafl. Philipp. Bot. 10: 3549. 1938, nom. nud.]

Hoya omlori (Livsh. & Meve) L. Wanntorp & Meve, comb. nov.

■ Clemensiella omlori Livsh. & Meve in Edinburgh J. Bot. 66: 454. 2009. – Holotype: Indonesia, Aceh, Gunung Leuser Reserve, Camp Simpang and vicinity, 3–5 km upstream Lau [stream] Ketambe, ca. 35 km NW of Kutatjane, 400–600 m, 19.8.1972, deWilde & deWilde-Duyfjes 14377 (L; isotype: K).

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