

## Valid publication of the name *Atalantia acuminata* (Rutaceae), endemic to southwestern China and northern Vietnam

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*Atalantia acuminata* C. C. Huang, originally described in 1991, was an invalidly published name, because two collections were designated as the type and the herbarium in which the type was conserved was not specified. The name is validated here, with the flowering specimen kept in IBSC designated as the holotype.

*Atalantia* Corrêa is a small genus of the rue family (Rutaceae) with about seventeen species endemic to southern and southeastern Asia (Huang 1997, Zhang and Hartley 2008). There are seven species recognized in China (Zhang and Hartley 2008). Among these, two species, i.e. *A. kwangtungensis* and *A. fongkaica*, are endemic to China.

According to art. 37.1 and 37.2 (with art. 8.1) of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (McNeill et al. 2006), a name published after 1 Jan 1958 is not validly published if more than one collection is indicated as type. *Atalantia acuminata* was not validly published because two collections, one flowering and one fruiting, were simultaneously designated as types in the protologue (Huang 1991). Moreover, the herbarium in which the types were conserved was not specified, contrary to requirements of art. 37.7 for names published on or after 1 Jan 1990. Unfortunately, this problem was not discovered in the Chinese edition of 'Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae' (Huang 1997), and in the English and updated edition of 'Flora of China' (Zhang and Hartley 2008).

In the present paper, the name *A. acuminata* is validated by designating the flowering specimen kept in the Herbarium of South China Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IBSC) as the holotype. According to art. 46.2, the authorship of the name *A. acuminata* is still to be attributed to C. C. Huang.

### *Atalantia acuminata* C. C. Huang sp. nov.

Validating description and diagnosis: those of '*Atalantia acuminata* C. C. Huang' in Guihaia 11: 6–7 (1991).

**Type:** China. Yunnan: Funing County, Zhajie, ca 700 m a.s.l., 23 May 1940, C. W. Wang 89491 (holotype: IBSC 0001855, IBSC image online).

*Atalantia acuminata* C. C. Huang is endemic to southwestern China, i.e. southeastern Yunnan Province and

southwestern Guangxi Province, and northern Vietnam, and it occurs in the forests and thickets on limestone mountains at an altitude between 700 and 900 m a.s.l. This species is very similar to *A. guillauminii* and *A. dasycarpa* in unifoliolate leaves and globose or subglobose scabrous fruits. However, it differs from these species in glabrous young branchlets, leaves, pedicels and inflorescence axes, acuminate leaf apex, and fruits 1.2–1.5 cm in diameter.

### Additional specimens examined (paratypes)

China. Yunnan: Funing County, Zhajie, 14 May 1940, Wang C. W. 89230 (IBSC, KUN); same locality, 17 May 1940, Wang C. W. 89316 (IBSC, KUN), 89317 (IBSC); Guangxi: Jingxi County, ca 920 m, 11 Dec 1958, Chang C. C. 12620 (IBSC).

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