

Valid publication of the name *Helicia falcata* (Proteaceae)

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Helicia falcata C. Y. Wu was not validly published in 1977 because two gatherings, one flowering and one fruiting, were simultaneously designated as types in the protologue. This name is validated here by designating the flowering specimen as the holotype.

Helicia Lour., with about 100 species, is one of the largest genera of Proteaceae, primarily distributed in rainforests from southern India, Sri Lanka, China and Japan to southeastern Australia, with its centre of diversity in southeastern Asia and New Guinea (Qiu and Weston 2003, Weston 2007). About twenty species are recorded in China, ten of which are endemic (Qiu and Weston 2003). *Helicia falcata* was first described by C. Y. Wu in 1977 in 'Flora Yunnanica' (Wu 1977, Bartholomew and Zhou 2007). However, this name was not validly published because two gatherings, one flowering and one fruiting, were simultaneously designated as types in the protologue (Xu 1977) contrary to article 37.1 and 37.2 (with article 8.1) of the Vienna edition of the ICBN (McNeill et al. 2006) for a name published after 1 Jan 1958. Unfortunately, this problem was not discovered during the preparation of the Chinese edition of 'Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae' (Kiu 1988) and the English and updated edition of 'Flora of China' (Qiu and Weston 2003).

Both type gatherings are preserved in good order at KUN. Because the most important diagnostic characters of *H. falcata* refer to leaves and flowers, and the fruiting gathering has no fruit on the specimen, this name is validated here by designating the flowering specimen as the holotype. C. Y. Wu published a Latin diagnosis of this taxon in 1977, which is referred to here to satisfy article 36.1. According to article 46.2, the authorship of the name *H. falcata* is still to be attributed to C. Y. Wu.

Helicia falcata C. Y. Wu sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Validating diagnosis: under '*Helicia falcata* C. Y. Wu', Flora Yunnan. 1 (1977, p. 34).

Type: China. Yunnan: Pingbian County, ca 1400 m a.s.l., 17 Jun 1934, H. T. Tsai 60275 (holotype: KUN 0757372!).

Helicia falcata C. Y. Wu is endemic to southern and southeastern Yunnan Province of China and northern Vietnam. It occurs in the moist forests at altitudes between 1200 and 1900 m a.s.l. This species is very similar to *H. longipetiolata* Merr. & Chun and *H. cochinchinensis* Lour. However, *H. falcata* is distinguished from *H. longipetiolata* by having shorter petioles and perianths, smaller fruits, and free hypogynous glands, and from *H. cochinchinensis* by having brown pubescence at the apex of young branches, longer and almost entire leaves, glabrous and longer inflorescences, and larger perianths and fruits.

Additional specimens examined (paratypes)

China. Yunnan: Jinpin, Y. M. Shui 3228 (KUN), 4010 (KUN); Malipo County, K. M. Feng 13752 (KUN), 22773 (KUN), 22862 (KUN, IBSC); Maguan County, Q. A. Wu 8216 (KUN), 8538 (KUN); Pingbian County, H. T. Tsai 55124 (KUN, PE, IBSC); *ibid.*, P. Y. Mao 2622 (KUN, IBSC), 3205 (KUN), 4114 (KUN), 4252 (KUN), 4274 (KUN, IBSC), 4348 (KUN, IBSC); *ibid.*, Y. Y. Hu & S. K. Wen 580276 (KUN).

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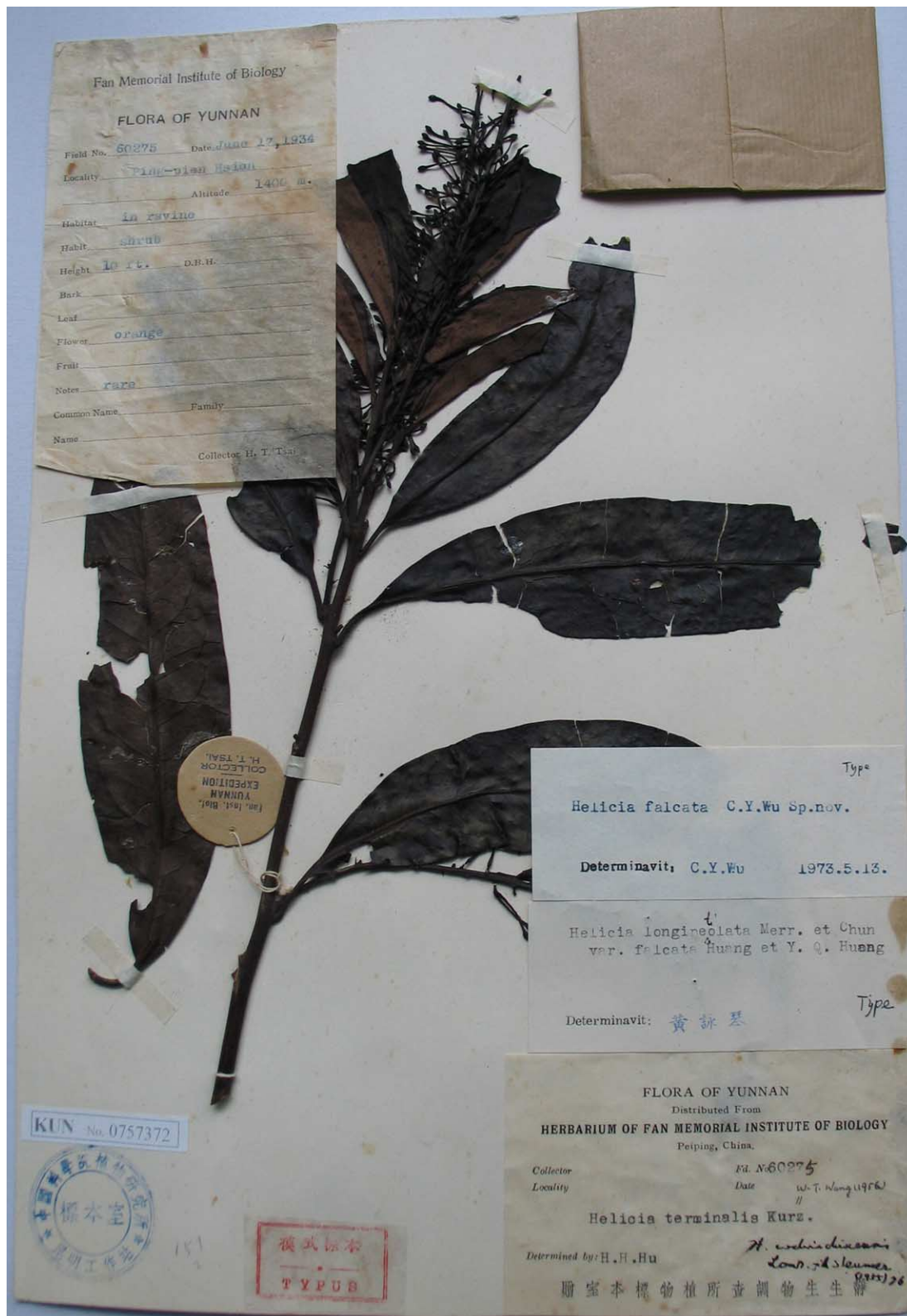


Figure 1. Holotype of *Helicia falcata* C. Y. Wu (H. T. Tsai 60275, KUN 0757372).

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