



Ophiorrhiza loana, a new name for *Ophiorrhiza longipes* H.S.Lo (Rubiaceae)

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Abstract

A new name, *Ophiorrhiza loana* is proposed to replace *Ophiorrhiza longipes* H.S.Lo, a name blocked by *O. longipes* Craib.

Key words: China, nomenclature, *nomen illegitimum*

Introduction

The genus *Ophiorrhiza* Linnaeus (1753: 150) is a notably species-rich, taxonomically complicated genus found in wet tropical forests of SE Asia extending to Australia, New Guinea and the Pacific islands (Darwin 1976, Chen & Taylor 2011). It comprises about 200 species with 70 species in China (Chen & Taylor, 2011). *Ophiorrhiza longipes* Lo (1990: 49) was described by Lo based a collection (*G.Y.Feng 4-10-321*) from Duan Xian, Guangxi, China. It was recognized in recent publications (Lo 1999, Qin & Liu 2010, Chen & Taylor 2011). Unfortunately, it is a later homonym of *O. longipes* Craib (1932: 66), a Thai species. After checking the type material of both names, it is concluded that the two homonyms apply to two totally different unrelated taxa. Therefore, the Chinese species requires a new name proposed below.

Ophiorrhiza loana Y.F.Deng & Y.F.Huang, *nom. nov.* Replaced name: *Ophiorrhiza longipes* Lo (1990: 49), *nom. illeg.*, non *Ophiorrhiza longipes* Craib (1932: 66). **Type:**—CHINA. Guangxi: Duan Xian, Banling Gongshe, Zaochang Dadui, 19 April 1978, *G.Y.Feng 4-10-321* (holotype GXMI! [sheet no. 50466]; isotype GXMI! [sheet no. 50469]).

Etymology:—The specific epithet is named after Professor Lo Hsienshui (1927–2001), a Chinese taxonomist who understood the family Rubiaceae in China well and described this species for the first time.

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