



## TYPIIFICATION OF SEVEN SPECIES OF *LITSEA* (LAURACEAE) ENDEMIC TO INDIA

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### Abstract

This paper deals with the typification of seven species of *Litsea* Lamarck endemic to India: *Litsea bourdillonii* Gamble, *L. floribunda* (Blume) Gamble, *L. keralana* Kostermans, *L. laevigata* (Nees) Gamble, *L. mysorensis* Gamble, *L. nigrescens* Gamble, and *L. travancorica* Gamble.

**Key Words:** Lectotype, neotype, syntype

### Introduction

The family Lauraceae comprises 52 genera with about 2550 species, distributed especially in the tropical and warm regions of south-east Asia and America (Mabberley 2008). The genus *Litsea* Lamarck (1792: 574) consists of more than three hundred species worldwide, especially in the tropical Asia and Australia (Mabberley 2008; Bhuinya *et al.* 2010). In India there are about forty five species, occurring in moist deciduous, semi-evergreen, and evergreen forests at 200–3650 m altitude, with eighteen species endemic to different states (Bhuinya *et al.* 2010). As part of the revisionary studies of genus *Litsea* in India, I realized the necessity for typification of some species, therefore typified seven endemic species (six lectotypified and one neotypified) of the genus in the present paper. While designating lectotypes and neotype, I followed the guidelines of Art. 9.2 and 9.6 of the Melbourne Code (McNeill *et al.* 2012).

### Taxonomy

1. *Litsea bourdillonii* Gamble (1925a: 131).

**Type:**—INDIA. Kerala, Travancore, Dec. 1887, *T.F. Bourdillon 57* (lectotype K-000793248!, here designated).

**Syntypes:**—INDIA. Kerala, Travancore, 3000 ft., *s.d.*, *T.F. Bourdillon 18* (K-000793250!); Kerala, Travancore, Idukki district, Vandamettu, 2 Feb. 1895, *T.F. Bourdillon 507* (MH!); Kerala, Travancore, Udambansholay, Dec. 1910, *A. Meebold 13242* (K-000793249! and MH!); Tamil Nadu, Anamalais (Anaimalai), Coimbatore district, Monica, 31 Oct. 1901, *C.A. Barber 3912* (MH!); Tamil Nadu, Anamalais (Anaimalai), Coimbatore district, Andiparai, 8 Nov. 1901, *C.A. Barber 4002* (MH!); Tamil Nadu, Anamalais (Anaimalai), Erode district, between Poonachi and Monica, 26 May 1903, *C.A. Barber 5968* (MH!).

**Distribution:**—India, endemic (Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu).

**Notes:**—When *Litsea bourdillonii* was published, many gatherings—Travancore hills, in evergreen forests, 1000 m alt., 1887 to 1898, *T.F. Bourdillon 18, 57, 61, 447, 507, 569, 948*; 1500 to 1700 m alt., Peermade and Udambansholay, Dec. 1990, *A. Meebold 12880, 13242*; Munaar, 1500 m alt., May 1915, *K. Venkoba Row 3269*; Tinnevely District, Kannikatti, 800 m alt., Feb. 1913, *Hooper & Ramaswami 39407*; Anamalai hills, Monica, Andiparai, etc., 1200 m alt., 1901 to 1903, *C.A. Barber 3912, 4002, 5968*; April 1914, *C.E.C. Fischer 3721* were cited in protologue, but no specific herbarium sheet was designated as holotype. Except *K. Venkoba Row, Hooper & Ramaswami* and *C.E.C. Fischer*



FIGURE 7. Lectotype of *Litsea travancorica* Gamble (K-000793259).

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