



Lectotypification of the name *Aconitum naviculare* (Ranunculaceae)

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Aconitum naviculare was first described by Brühl in Brühl & King (1896) as a variety of *Aconitum ferox* Wall. ex Ser. i.e. *Aconitum ferox* var. *navicularis*. Later on, Stapf (1905) published the new combination, citing Brühl's var. *navicularis* as the basionym. This taxon is distributed in the alpine zones of India, China, Nepal and Bhutan. During revisionary studies on the tribe Delphineae from India, it was found that no type has been designated for this taxon. Therefore, a lectotype for *A. naviculare* is selected here from amongst the original material.

***Aconitum naviculare* (Brühl) Stapf, *Ann. Roy Bot. Gard (Calcutta)* 10: 154, 155, t. 101 (1905).**

Type:—Kung-met, Chumbi, 3.8.1884, *Dr. King's Collector* 307 K (lectotype [scan seen], designated here; K (barcode K000692294);
isolectotypes: CAL (CAL0000004032, K (K000692295). ≡ *Aconitum ferox* Wall. ex Ser. var. *navicularis* Brühl in Brühl & King, *Ann. Roy Bot. Gard (Calcutta)* 5(2): 111, t. 111, f. 2, 14 (1895). *Aconitum creagromorphum* Lauener, *Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh* 25: 12 (1963). *Aconitum naviculare* var. *leiocarpum* Tamura, *Acta Phyt. Geobot.* 23: 28 (1968). *Aconitum bhutanicum* Kadota, in Ohba & Malla, *Himalayan Pl. I (Univ. Mus. Univ. Tokyo Bull., 31)* 211 (1988). Fig.1.

Brühl in Brühl & King (1896), while describing *Aconitum ferox* Wall. ex Ser. var. *navicularis* cited 'Chumbi: near Kung-met', in the caption to Plate 111, as the type locality for this variety. He also illustrated two figures of floral parts (Plate 111, figs. 2, 14) of this variety but never mentioned the collector's name and number for the vouchers in his protologue. Stapf (1905) published a new combination, *A. naviculare*, citing Brühl's var. *navicularis* as the basionym, on the basis of several specimens from Sikkim (India) and from 'Chumbi: near Kung-met', the locality mentioned by Brühl (1896) in his protologue. Stapf's *A. naviculare*, although indicated in the protologue as '*sp. nov.*', is nothing but a *stat. nov.* of the existing var. *navicularis*, thus, only vouchers relating to Brühl's var. *navicularis* are taken into consideration for the purpose of typifying this taxon (Arts. 7.3, 9.12, ICN, McNeill *et al.*, 2012). Stapf mentioned two vouchers from Kung-met, Chumbi having different collection numbers 306 and 307, deposited in CAL and K. We could find three specimens of *A. naviculare* conserved in K and CAL, collected on 3.8.1884 by *Dr. King's Collector* from Kung-met, Chumbi all having same collection no. 307, whereas specimen number 306 could not be traced at any herbarium likely to hold original material studies by Brühl, therefore, specimen number 307 is the only available material that can be selected as the lectotype of *A. naviculare*.

In summary, there are three vouchers of specimen number 307, two in K and one in CAL, out of two specimens in K, one voucher with a single specimen and accession number K000692294 is annotated as *A. ferox* var. *navicularis* Brühl and is also annotated by Stapf indicating that this specimen could have been studied by both Brühl and Stapf and clearly corresponds to the current species concept of *A. naviculare* (stem glabrescent below, leaves small, deeply 3 partite, inflorescence few flowered, sepals reddish blue, helmet navicular), thus, this specimen (Figure 1) is chosen as the lectotype of *A. naviculare* and the other documented original material at K with Accession number K000692295 and at CAL with accession number CAL0000004032 are the isolectotypes (Art. 9.2, ICN, McNeill *et al.*, 2012).

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