



Validation of the name *Aristolochia compressicaulis* and lectotypification of *A. championii* and *A. punjabensis* (Aristolochiaceae)

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Aristolochia Linnaeus (1753: 960) subg. *Siphisia* (Rafinesque 1828: 62) Duchartre (1854: 29) (Aristolochiaceae) comprises about 70 species, 50 of which occur in East and South Asia while the remaining species occur from Central- to North America (Wagner *et al.* 2012, 2014, González *et al.* 2014). In this study, the taxonomic history of *A. championii* Merrill & Chun (1940: 47) and *A. punjabensis* Lace (1911: 273) is discussed, and the lectotypes for these two species are designated. Additionally, the name *A. compressicaulis* Yang (1988: 32) is validated by designating the holotype.

Aristolochia championii Merr. & Chun (1940: 47)

Replaced synonym:—*Aristolochia longifolia* Champion ex Bentham (1854: 116), *nom. illeg.*, non Roxburgh (1832: 490). Type (lectotype, designated here):—CHINA. Hong Kong: *J.G. Champion 155* (K000978969!).

Note:—When Bentham (1854) described *A. longifolia*, he did not indicate the holotype. The epithet “*longifolia*” was earlier used for *A. longifolia* Roxburgh (1832: 490) from India, which itself is a synonym of *A. moluccana* Duchartre (1864: 438). Thus, *A. longifolia* Champ. ex Benth. was illegitimate. Later, Merrill & Chun (1940) proposed the replacement name *A. championii* named after the collector J.G. Champion, without designation of a type. Ma (1989) selected the specimen “*Westland s.n.*” at K as type of this species and thus effectively lectotypified the name. However, choosing the specimen “*Westland s.n.*” was an error because the original description by Bentham (1854) was based on Champion’s collections, from which a lectotype must be chosen. Notably, the specimens “*Westland s.n.*” (K000978992 and K000978993) previously were designated as (syn)types of *A. westlandii* Hemsley (1885: 286). We traced a specimen among the collections at K, labelled as “*J.G. Champion 155*”, collected from Hong Kong Island, consisting of a leafy and flowering branch that fits Bentham’s protologue. Hence, this specimen is here designated as lectotype for the name *A. longifolia* Champ. ex Benth.

Aristolochia compressicaulis Z.L.Yang, *sp. nov.*

Based on:—*Aristolochia compressicaulis* Z.L.Yang, *J. Wuhan Bot. Res.* 6: 32 (1988), *nom. inval.*

Type:—CHINA. Sichuan: Jiangjin Xian, elevation 1300 m, 24 August 1983, *Z. L. Yang 484311* (holotype, EMA!).

Latin diagnosis:—“*Aristolochia compressicaulis* Z.L.Yang” (1988: 32).

Note:—When Yang described *Aristolochia compressicaulis* (1988) the name was not validly published because two gatherings from Sichuan (China), *Jiangjin Exped. 0433* (fruiting specimen) and *Z. L. Yang 484311* (flowering specimen), were indicated as types (Art. 40.2 of the ICN, McNeill *et al.* 2012). Since the reproductive organs, especially the flower, are generally considered having superior diagnostic characters in *Aristolochia*, we here designate the flowering specimen “*Z. L. Yang 484311*” as the holotype of *A. compressicaulis*. According to Art. 46.3 Ex. 21 of ICN (McNeill *et al.* 2012), the authorship of the name *A. compressicaulis* has to be attributed to “Yang” that provided the validating description.

The morphological similarity of this species with *A. championii* has been controversially discussed. While Ma (1989) accepted *A. compressicaulis* as sufficiently different from *A. championii*, Hwang (2003) regarded this species