



Neotypification of *Pancratium sanctae-mariae* (Amaryllidaceae)

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The genus *Pancratium* was established by Linnaeus (1762: 417). This genus is represented by ca. 20 species, mainly distributed in the Canary Islands, West Africa, Mediterranean, and Namibia (Mabberley 2008). Hooker (1892) enumerated 6 species and Karthikeyan *et al.* (1989) enumerated 7 species from India. At present the genus is represented by 8 species including the newly described *Pancratium nairii* Sasikala & Kumari (2013: 543). *Pancratium sanctae-mariae* Blatter & Hallberg (1921: 52) is endemic to Western Ghats in India (Ahmedulla & Nayar, 1986). An examination of specimens at BLAT, BSI and CAL (acronyms according to Thiers 2015) and scrutiny of literature shows that the name *P. sanctae-mariae* is lacking nomenclatural type.

Typification of the name

Blatter & Hallberg (1921) described *Pancratium sanctae-mariae* on the basis of specimen collected by McCann (McCann 19854) from St. Mary's Villa in Khandala, Maharashtra. During the present study, the search of type specimen at various herbariums across India corroborates the observation of Santapau (1967), that it is not traceable and missing. However, rather than type, this species is known by four different collections [*Santapau* (BLAT 516, 526); *Merchant* (BLAT 1104, 1107) from Khandala; *Hemadri* (BSI 89954) from Durga killa, Junnar and *Lakshmin.* (BSI 167694) from Anjaneri hill, Nasik]. Of these specimens, *Lakshmin.* (BSI 167694) is designated here as neotype, since it is one of the best preserved material and also agrees with the description provided in the protologue. It is a single plant specimen containing bulb with two flowering scapes: one scape with four flowers and another without flowers, a small paper envelop is attached containing loose flowers (Fig. 1). The selected neotype is in agreement with the current application of the name (Ahmedulla & Nayar, 1986, Karthikeyan *et al.* 1989).

Pancratium sanctae-mariae Blatter & Hallberg (1921: 52)

Type (neotype designated here):—INDIA, Maharashtra, Nasik, Anjaneri hill, 15 May 1985, *Lakshminarasimhan s.n.* (BSI 107633 BSI-167694!).

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