



## *Dicranostigma platycarpum*, a new synonym of *Dicranostigma erectum* (Papaveraceae)

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*Dicranostigma* Hooker f. & Thomson (1855: 255), a genus of three species in Papaveraceae (1789: 235), disjunctively distributed in the Loess Plateau and the Hengduan Mountains in China and the neighboring Himalayan Mountains. Species in *Dicranostigma* are typically yellow-lactiferous herbs with four yellow petals, numerous stamens, one-loculed ovary, terete or linear capsule, and tessellate seeds. According to Zhang & Grey-Wilson (2008), there are three species from China, i.e., *D. lactuoides* Hooker f. & Thomson (1855: 255), *D. leptopodum* (Maximowicz) Fedde (1905: 45), and *D. platycarpum* C.Y. Wu & H. Chuang (1985: 87), and the latter two are endemic to China.

Currently, *Dicranostigma platycarpum* is only known from two localities in NW Yunnan, China. Morphologically, this species is readily distinguished from other two species by amplexicaul leaves. Since its publication by Wu & Chuang (1985), the name has been adopted by many other authors (Chuang 1985; Wu & Chuang 1999, Zhang & Grey-Wilson 2008). In the process of our taxonomic studies of this small genus, we found that this species is conspecific with *D. erectum* K.-F. Günther (1975: 233). There is no difference between the type specimens affiliated to two names (Fig. 1), and both specimens have the amplexicaul leaves that are a unique character to separate them from other two species, i.e., *D. lactuoides* and *D. leptopodum*. Besides the morphological similarity, the holotype of *D. erectum* and the paratype of *D. platycarpum* were both collected from Zhongdian, northwestern Yunnan. According to the collection data, they share the similar distributions and elevations. Actually Brückner (1992) considered that they are conspecific, but no formal taxonomic treatment was conducted by him, leaving this problem unresolved to date. Based on field observation and herbarium investigation, herein we treat *D. platycarpum* as a new synonym of *D. erectum*.

### *Dicranostigma erectum* K.-F. Günther, *Flora* 164: 233. 1975

Type:—CHINA. Yunnan: Zhongdian County, elev. 3,657 m, 27°30'N, July 1914, *G. Forrest 12607* (holotype: E-00012615!).

=*Dicranostigma platycarpum* C.Y. Wu & H. Chuang (1985: 87). *syn. nov.* Type:—CHINA. Yunnan: Lijiang County, Zhugu Mountain, rock crevices, elev. 3,300 m, 29 August 1942, *K.M. Feng 9198* (holotype: KUN-0201149!).

Additional specimen examined:—CHINA. Yunnan: Zhongdian County, Haba Mountain, alpine grassland, elev. 3,500 m, 16 September 1937, *T.T. Yu 13545* (KUN!-0201147).

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