Nomenclatural solutions in the Gesneriaceae

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Summary


Following the rejection of the spelling Jankaea versus Jancaea, a new spelling is given for the name of intergeneric hybrids. A new nothogeneric name, xCoracaea Feuillet, is established, with a new combination, xC. bluemelii (Halda) Feuillet. The case of the overlooked generic name Columnea Raf. is presented. The status of Aikinia Wall. vs. Aikinia R. Br. is discussed. Arctocalyx Fenzl and Gesnera Mart. are typified.

In the preparation of an index of generic names in the family Gesneriaceae, several problems need to be solved. Those related to Columnea L. will be treated by J. F. Smith in the near future. Most of the remaining problems are the core of this paper.

Some spelling corrections

The proposal (Skog, 1983) to conserve the widely used spelling “Jankaea” was not recommended (Brummitt, 1987). The re-establishment of the original spelling of Jancaea must be acknowledged in the spelling of the nothogeneric names, the following corrections are proposed for names published by Halda (1979, 1989):

xJancaemonda Halda and xJancaemonda vandedemii Halda (1979: 375, “Jankaemonda”), for a cross between Jancaea heldreichii (Boiss.) Boiss. and Ramonda myconi (L.) Rchb.


xJancaessandra Halda and xJancaessandra bluemelii Halda (1989: 127, “Jankaessandra”), for a cross between Jancaea heldreichii (Boiss.) Boiss. and Didissandra lanuginosa (DC.) C. B. Clarke.

A new nothogeneric name

As noted above, xJancaessandra Halda was based on a cross involving Didissandra lanuginosa (DC.) C. B. Clarke. Burtt (1947) transferred this and published a new combination, Corallodiscus lanuginosus (DC.) B. L. Burtt. According to Art. H.6.1. of the Code (Greuter & al., 1988), the name of a nothogenus is “a condensed formula in which the names adopted for the parental genera are combined into a single word”. As the name xJancaessandra is based on Didissandra, not on Corallodiscus,

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a new generic name is needed for Halda’s hybrid and crosses between *Corallodiscus* Batalin and *Jancsea* Boiss.:  

**×Coracea** Feuillet, *notogen. nom. nov.*  

Note that *×Jancseaandra* Halda does not fall into synonymy but “remains available for use if and when known or postulated plants of ... [Didissandra × Jancsea] should appear” (Art. H.9 Ex. 2), even if unlikely.  

**×Coracea bluemelli** (Halda) Feuillet, *comb. nov.*  


This new combination is proposed for plants of *Corallodiscus lanuginosus* (DC.) B. L. Burtt × *Jancaea heldreichii* (Boiss.) Boiss.

An overlooked generic name, *Columnea* Raf.

The type of *Columnea* L. is *C. scandens* L., the only species placed in this genus by Linnaeus in 1753. Rafinesque (1838) removed *C. scandens* and created an unspecific genus, *Glycanthes*, for it. That made *Glycanthes* Raf. a superfluous name for *Columnea* L. At the same time he designated *C. longifolia*, described in 1767 by Linnaeus, the type of his *Columnea*. By designating a new type, and by excluding Linnaeus’s type, he established the name of a new genus, *Columnea* Raf., that is so different from *Columnea* L. that it belongs to another family (Artanema D. Don with 4 species in the Scrophulariacese). Rafinesque’s *Columnea* belongs to the second of three homonyms of *Achimenes*.

The first *Achimenes* homonym, of Browne, is a synonym of *Columnea* L. The second, of Vahl, is a synonym of *Arianema* (Scrophulariacese), an Old World genus with 4 species. The third, of Persoon, is conserved and is a Central American genus with about 35 species:  


About *Aikinia* Wallich 1832 and *Aikinia* R. Br. in Wallich 1832  

Morton and Denham (1972) concluded that *Aikinia* Wallich (1832: 46, t. 273) (*Poaceae*) was not validly published because it was cited as a synonym. *Index nominum genericorum* (ING; Farr & al., 1979) considered that it is valid. *ING* is right, but an explanation is needed. The key to the problem is that Wallich published his book in 12 fascicles before it was available in three volumes. The illustration
(t. 273) of A. elegans Wall. appeared, with several diagnostic drawings, in fasc. 11 around 15 June 1832, and the text only in fasc. 12 around 15 August 1832.

The text states that Wallich had no intention to publish Aikinia because, when his work was in press, Brown had told him that a description of the plant had already been published by Kunth in November 1831, as Ratzeburgia pulcherrima. So it was not published in synonymy, but was later rejected by the author. Nevertheless the illustration, published two months before, validated Aikinia Wall. and A. elegans Wall.

The collection Wallich 8868 (no holotype designated, from near Pagan, upper Burma) was used by Lindley to make, at Wallich’s request, the drawing that was engraved as plate 273. Wallich 8868 is also the type of Ratzeburgia and R. pulcherrima. Kunth did not designate a holotype, but said that he worked on material received from Lindley, probably a duplicate of the type of Aikinia elegans. As Kunth moved from Paris to Berlin in 1829, and since his Révision des graminées was finished when he was in Berlin, it is very likely that this specimen was part of his personal herbarium and ended at B. It was probably destroyed there along with an other duplicate ex herb. Nees (fragment US).

This is of concern to those who study the Gesneriaceae because a different Aikinia was published in the same book. After warning Wallich about the new genus of Poaceae (Aikinia versus Ratzeburgia), Brown described, in the same fasc. 12 of Wallich’s book, a new Aikinia in the Gesneriaceae. It was probably done at the request of Wallich who noted under Brown’s description: “He [Brown] has ... permitted me to dedicate this very curious genus to my highly esteemed friend Arthur Aikin ...” (two years before, Wahlenbergia Schrad. ex Roth sect. Aikinia Salisb. ex DC. had already honored John Aikin, Arthur’s father).

Because of the validity of Aikinia Wall. in June 1832, Aikinia R. Br. published in August 1832, is an illegitimate later homonym. It is currently considered to be a synonym of Epithema Blume.

**Lectotypifications**

During this study, it was found that some generic names have not been typified. The following lectotypes are here designated:

Arctocalyx was described twice by Fenzl (1848a, after 8 Jun 1848; 1848b, 23 Sept 1848). The two same species were included in both papers: A. insignis (M. Martens & Galeotti) Fenzl (Besleria insignis M. Martens & Galeotti) and A. endlicherianus Fenzl, and no generic type designated. The author of the second species has been cited as “Heller”, but Heller never published it, and by later authors as “Heller ex Fenzl”, but Fenzl gave credit to Heller only in the second paper, so the author citation must be “Fenzl”. Fenzl studied the type specimen of A. insignis, Galeotti 1910, as stated in Fenzl (1848b). For A. endlicherianus, he worked also on living material grown from the seeds received from Heller, with the type specimen, Heller s.n. (holotype W; isotype F, W), as stated in Fenzl (1848a). For that reason, A. endlicherianus Fenzl is here designated as the lectotype of Arctocalyx Fenzl. The two species are now considered to be species of Solenophora Benth., as indicated by Hanstein (1865: 314-315) who made the two new combinations.

Gemera Mart. is a genus different from Gesneria L., with a distinct distribution and with affinities in another tribe (Gloxiniae and not Gesneriae). Martius (1829),
using Plumier's (1703) spelling, *Gesnera*, excluded the Caribbean species: "exclusis speciebus Plum. et Swartz" (Swartz, 1788), i.e. *Gesneria* sensu Linnaeus (1753). He emended the description, defining the genus in the sense of Kunth (1818) and Lindley (1827) to accommodate the South American species described by Kunth, Lindley and himself. Martius said he was understanding the genus the way Kunth and Lindley did before him. In fact Kunth did not define the genus, but all the new species he described in *Gesneria* were from South America and misplaced in the Linnean genus. On the contrary, Lindley (1827) commented on the subject when he described *Gesneria douglasii*. In his treatment of *Gesnera*, Martius described 12 species, including six new ones, and gave an illustration with diagnostic drawings of four of them. He simply cited species described by Kunth, but he described four of Lindley's species, and illustrated only one of them, *G. douglasii* Lindl. One can presume that Martius based his concept of *Gesnera* around this species, the same one used by Lindley to argue for the necessity of splitting *Gesneria*. This species, currently named *Sinningia douglasii* (Lindl) Chautems, type Cult. Hort. Soc. s.n. (holotype: CGE), is here selected as the lectotype of *Gesnera* Martius (1829), non *Gesneria* Linnaeus (1753).

As Martius adopted the original Plumier's spelling on which *Gesnera* L. was based, it could be argued that, because of the small difference in spelling, *Gesnera* Martius (1829) is a confusable later homonym (Art. 64.3), and is therefore illegitimate. *Gesnera* Mart. is a synonym of *Sinningia* Nees.

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Literature cited

Platycodoneae, a new tribe in Campanulaceae

P. F. Yeo

Summary


A new tribe, Platycodoneae, is described in Campanulaceae; it is equivalent to subtribe Platycodoninae Schönland.

In a separate publication (in preparation) I accept Kovanda’s (1978) concept and subdivision of the Campanulaceae but wish to avoid the anomaly of recognizing subtribes but not tribes. It appears that subtribe Platycodoninae Schönland (1889: 48, 59, as “Platyco dineae”) has never been treated as a tribe – it was outside the scope of Rosatti’s recent (1986) work – and I therefore publish the appropriate tribal name below.

Platycodoneae Yeo, trib. nov. – Typus: Platycodon A. DC.

Ovarium inferum quinqueloculare, loculis cum sepalis alternantibus. (Ovary inferior, five-locular, with the cells alternating with the sepals.)

Literature cited


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