

## CUCURBITACEAE

### ORTHOGRAPHIC AMBIGUITY CLARIFIED

*Acanthosicyos* Welw. ex Hook. f. was published in Benth. & Hook.f., *Genera plantarum* 1: 824 in September 1867 and although Welwitsch described the genus it only appeared in *Transactions of the Linnean Society* 27:30, two years later.

The type species, *A. horrida* was published as a descriptio generico-specifica in accordance with Art. 42.1 (Sydney Code) but this was an orthographic error. Art. 75 in Ex. 1 of recommendation 75A.1 is quite specific that the classical gender of

-sicyos is masculine and this should be retained in the epithet as *A. horridus*.

The name has been published correctly both in Index Kewensis and by Jeffrey (1962) in *Kew Bulletin* 15,3:340; but it has been consistently misused in the South African literature.

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