

RUTACEAE

THE CORRECT NAME FOR *FAGARA OVATIFOLIOLATA*

The taxonomic position of the genera *Zanthoxylum* L. and *Fagara* L. has for years been the cause of considerable confusion. In 1959 Fosberg in Taxon 8: 105 declared "that for those who combine the genera with one and two perianth whorls the correct name is *Zanthoxylum* L., whereas, for those who separate them, the tropical genus with two whorls has the correct name *Fagara* L. (*nom. cons.*) with *F. pterota* L. as type, while the temperate genus with one perianth whorl still bears the name *Zanthoxylum* L. typified by *Z. fraxineum* Willd. (= *Z. americanum* Mill.)". Morphological studies [e.g. Hartley in J. Arn. Arbor. 47: 171-221 (1966)] on the two genera are still in progress. In an attempt to clarify the position, Fish & Waterman studied the genera chemotaxonically and their results suggested that *Fagara* should be sunk under *Zanthoxylum* [Taxon 22: 177-203 (1973)].

Accordingly, Waterman in Taxon 24: 363-366 (1975) published several new combinations under the

genus *Zanthoxylum*. However, the second author and Mrs E. Brink of the Botanical Research Unit, Grahamstown, discovered that *Fagara ovatifoliata* Engl. was not among the species transferred to *Xanthoxylum*, probably because the name *Xanthoxylum citriodorum* Welw. ex Hiern already existed for the taxon. Both names were validly published in 1896, but preference must be given to the specific epithet *ovalifoliolata*, since it was published in September 1896, whereas the name *Z. citriodorum* appeared in December of the same year. A new combination is therefore made under the genus *Zanthoxylum*:

***Zanthoxylum ovatifoliolatum* (Engl.) Finkelstein, comb. nov.**

Fagara ovatifoliolata Engl. in Bot. Jb. 23: 150 (Sept. 1896).

Zanthoxylum citriodorum Welw. ex Hiern, Cat. Afr. Pl. Welw. 1: 114 (Dec. 1896).

ELIZABETH RETIEF & N. FINKELSTEIN