

A NOTE ON THE AUTHOR CITATION FOR *ERIUDAPHUS MUNDII*, BASIONYM OF *SCOLOPIA MUNDII*

There is disagreement about the correct author citation for *Eriudaphus mundii*, the basionym of *Scolopia mundii*. Some authors, for example Warburg (1893) and Gilg (1908, 1925), have attributed *E. mundii* to Arnott. This is quite incorrect: Arnott had nothing to do with the description of *E. mundii* in Ecklon & Zeyher's *Enumeratio plantae africae australis extra-tropicae* 2: 272 (1836).

Sleumer (1972), in his recent monograph of *Scolopia*, regards Nees as the author, but the present author feels that, on the evidence available, Ecklon & Zeyher should rather be accepted as the authors. The situation is that the treatment of *Eriudaphus* in the *Enumeratio* is by Nees but, while two of the species described, *E. zeyheri* and *E. ecklonii*, are clearly attributed to Nees, the third, *E. mundii*, is attributed to no one. Elsewhere in the *Enumeratio*, Ecklon & Zeyher scrupulously give credit to authors whose manuscript names are used, usually at the end of the Latin description, but sometimes after the binomial. In the case of *E. mundii* no author is mentioned at all, which rather suggests that Ecklon & Zeyher inserted the description of this species into Nees's manuscript and are therefore the authors.

Harvey, in his *Genera Plantarum* 1: 417 (1838), wrote under *Eriudaphus*: "Mr Zeyher has lately sent me specimens of *E. zeyheri* and of a new species of this genus, thus characterized:—4. *E. serratus* . . .," which Harvey then proceeded to describe. From this it is clear that Zeyher was aware of the existence of *E. zeyheri* and, if *E. mundii* had already been described by Nees, one would have expected Zeyher to use the name *E. mundii* when communicating with Harvey about the new species.

Unfortunately the destruction of Nees's herbarium in Berlin makes it impossible to ascertain whether Nees annotated the type of *E. mundii*, *Mund* s.n.

Whether to attribute *E. mundii* to Nees or Ecklon & Zeyher is, admittedly, a matter of opinion, but the evidence available does seem to point to Ecklon & Zeyher. The full citation for *Scolopia mundii* would therefore be *S. mundii* (Eckl. & Zeyh.) Warb. This citation will be used in the *Flora of Southern Africa*.

*SCOLOPIA STOLZII*, A NEW RECORD FOR SOUTH AFRICA

In November 1967 Mr R. G. Strey and Dr E. J. Moll of the Botanical Research Unit, Durban, collected sterile specimens of a tree growing in swamp forest at the Sihadla River Crossing in Tongaland, N. Zululand. The plant was tentatively identified in the National Herbarium as "cf. *Flacourtia indica*". A few months later, in April 1968, Mr Strey again visited the area and collected fruiting material of the plant. A further collection was made by Dr Moll and Mr Nel in October 1971. On the author's return from

Kew in 1971, Dr Moll communicated with the author and suggested that the plant might be a *Scolopia*. However, the material did not match any of the known species of *Scolopia* in South Africa. On receipt of flowering material from Dr Moll in December 1972, it was possible to confirm that the plant was a *Scolopia* and further investigations in the National Herbarium revealed that the plant closely resembled several sheets of *S. stolzii* Gilg ex Sleum. var. *stolzii* from tropical Africa.

Specimens were then sent to Dr H. Sleumer in Leiden, who recently revised *Scolopia* in *Blumea* 20: 1-64 (1972). Dr Sleumer reported that the specimens could be referred to *S. stolzii sensu lato* and that he wondered whether there were any real differences between the two varieties *stolzii* and *riparia* (Mildbr. & Sleum.) Sleum., which he had upheld in his monograph.

In his monograph Sleumer distinguishes the two varieties on the grounds of differences in leaf size, texture, margin and pubescence of the ovary. An examination of a wide range of material of *S. stolzii* at Kew and the British Museum (Natural History) by Dr J. H. Ross, and of isotypes of both varieties by the present author, showed that these differences do not hold. Ovary pubescence is a very variable character in *Scolopia*, for example in *S. flanaganii* (H. Bol.) Sim the ovaries range from completely glabrous to densely short-pubescent. In view of the

above, the author will not uphold var. *riparia* in his treatment of *Scolopia* for the Flora of Southern Africa.

*S. stolzii* has several noteworthy characters. The two lowermost pairs of nerves are acutely angled and long-ascending (curved-ascending according to Sleumer), while the rest are obtusely angled. The lowermost pair is sometimes so near the base and so prominent, that at a quick glance the leaf appears to be digitately nerved. Moll & Nell (5608) describe the foliage as pendent and the young leaves as deep pink in colour. The flowers are sessile and solitary or in pairs in the axils of the upper leaves. In this character *S. stolzii* is similar to *S. flanaganii* which, however, has up to five flowers.

South African material of *S. stolzii* in PRE:

NATAL.—2732 (Ubombo): Sihadla River Crossing, Killick & Vahrmeijer 4061; Moll 4724; Moll & Nel 5608; Strey 8187; Strey & Moll 3890.

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