

FLACOURTIACEAE

TRIMERIA ROTUNDIFOLIA OR T. GRANDIFOLIA?

For a long time *Trimeria rotundifolia* (Hochst.) Warb. and *T. grandifolia* (Hochst.) Warb. have been considered conspecific and there seems to be no doubt that this is the case. *Monospora rotundifolia* Hochst. and *M. grandifolia* Hochst. were published simultaneously in the same publication, namely Flora 24: 661 (1841). In choosing one or other of the epithets, it is obligatory, according to Article 57 of the Code (1966), to accept the choice of the first author who sunk one of the species under the other. Milne-Redhead in Kew Bull. 1939: 34 (1939) presented a good case for the adoption of the epithet *rotundifolia*, since this was the epithet chosen by Gilg in Engl., Pflanzenw. Afr. 3,2: 582 (1921) who, according to Milne-Redhead, was the first to unite *Trimeria rotundifolia* and *T. grandifolia*. Subsequently most botanists seem to have used the name *T. rotundifolia*.

However, during discussions with Dr. H. Sleumer of the Rijksherbarium, Leiden, who is revising the Flacourtiaceae for the Flora of Tropical East Africa, it was learned that Gilg was not the first to unite *T. rotundifolia* and *T. grandifolia*: it was actually Durand and Schinz in their Consp. Fl. Afr. 1: 226 (1898), 23 years earlier, and they chose the epithet *grandifolia*. The name *T. grandifolia* must therefore be used for the combined species. The author is indebted to Dr. Sleumer for pointing this out to him.

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