



Lectotypification of *Merremia rhyncorhiza* (Convolvulaceae)

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Abstract

Merremia rhyncorhiza (Dalzell) Hallier f. (\equiv *Ipomoea rhyncorhiza* Dalzell) (Convolvulaceae) is lectotypified here.

Keywords: Endemic, Lectotypification, *Merremia*

Introduction

The genus *Merremia* Dennst. ex Endl. (Convolvulaceae) is represented by c. 100 species, and distributed in the tropical regions of the world (Mabberley, 2017). In India, over 15 species are reported (Santapau & Henry, 1973) and all of them occur in the Western Ghats (Nayar *et al.*, 2014). As a part of the floristic studies on herbaceous endemic plants of lateritic plateaus of southern Konkan and Goa, senior author has collected a specimen belongs to the genus *Merremia*. A careful scrutiny of literature (Cooke, 1908; Almeida, 1990; Venkanna & Kumar, 2001) revealed its identity as *M. rhyncorhiza* (Dalzell) Hallier f., the only endemic species of this genus found in India confined to seven different localities at low and high elevation lateritic plateaus of northern Western Ghats (Mishra & Singh, 2001; Shimpale, 2010; Nayar *et al.*, 2014; Singh *et al.*, 2015). Further, it was found that the name is yet to be lectotypified.

Merremia rhyncorhiza (Dalzell) Hallier f., Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 16(4–5): 552. 1893 ("*rhynchorrhiza*"); Santapau, J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 47(2): 344. 1947; T. Cooke, Fl. Bombay 2: 239. 1908; S.M. Almeida, Fl. Savantwadi 1: 288. 1990; M.R. Almeida, Fl. Maharashtra IIIA/B: 341. 2001; Venkanna & S. Kumar in N.P. Singh *et al.*, Fl. Maharashtra 2: 477. 2001; Shimpale, J. Swamy Bot. Club 27: 79. 2010.

Ipomoea rhyncorhiza Dalzell, Hooker's J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc. 3: 179. 1851. **Lectotype** (designated here): INDIA, Maharashtra, Talkat Ghat (as

Tulkut-Ghât), Dalzell s.n. (K000830863, image!; isolecto, K000830865, K001081776, images!). **Fig. 1**

Dalzell (1851) described *Ipomoea rhyncorhiza* based on his collection from Tulkut-Ghât (Talkat Ghat) from Banda in Maharashtra without citing the details of specimen. During the study, authors found three specimens of Dalzell's collections from Tulkut-Ghât housed at K [K000830863, K000830865, K001081776] with proper annotation of name by the author. Of these, the specimen bearing the barcode number K000830863 is complete and agrees well with the details provided in the protologue. Hence, it is designated here as the lectotype for the name, *Ipomoea rhyncorhiza* (\equiv *Merremia rhyncorhiza*) as per the Art. 9.2 of Melbourne Code (McNeill *et al.*, 2012) and the other two specimens [K000830865, K001081776] can be considered as isolectotypes.

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Fig. 1. Lectotype of *Ipomoea rhyncorhiza* Dalzell (K000830863).

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