

VALIDATION OF THE NAME *SYMPLOCOS PENTANDRA* (SYMPLOCACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

We validate the name ***Symplocos pentandra*** (Mattos) Occhioni (*Symplocos* section *Barberina* (Vell.) A. DC., Symplocaceae), a name not validly published in 1974 because when it was raised to the rank of species the basionym was not fully cited. The name *S. pentandra* represents a new combination and new status for the entity originally described as *S. itatiaiae* Wawra var. *pentandra* Mattos.

KEY WORDS: Brazil, nomenclature, Symplocaceae, *Symplocos*

RESUMO

Nós validamos o nome ***Symplocos pentandra*** (Mattos) Occhioni (*Symplocos* seção *Barberina* (Vell.) A. DC., Symplocaceae), um nome não validamente publicado em 1974, já que quando foi elevado ao nível de espécie o basônimo não foi completamente citado. O nome *S. pentandra* representa uma nova combinação e um novo status para a entidade originalmente descrita como *S. itatiaiae* Wawra var. *pentandra* Mattos.

PALAVRAS CHAVE: Brasil, nomenclatura, Symplocaceae, *Symplocos*

Symplocos section *Barberina* (Vell.) A. DC. (sensu Fritsch et al. 2008) comprises ca. 25 species distributed in eastern Asia and the Americas. Species within this section are recognized by their hermaphroditic or dioecious breeding system, basally connate corolla, stamens that are adnate to the corolla only at the base, terete filaments that are either distinct or united only at the base, 3-carpellate ovary, 1–(2–3) locular fruit with 1(2–3) seeds, and an embryo with the radicle usually longer than the cotyledons (rarely shorter; Brand 1901; Fritsch et al. 2008). One of the species within this section is the Brazilian endemic *Symplocos pentandra* (Mattos) Occhioni. This species was originally described as a variety of *S. itatiaiae* Wawra by Mattos (1971) and subsequently raised to species rank by Occhioni (1974). Specimens of this species are housed in many herbaria and the name *S. pentandra* is commonly used in publications on the flora of Brazil (e.g., Sobral et al. 2006).

In the course of revising the South American species of sect. *Barberina* we have agreed with Occhioni (1974) that *S. pentandra* should be treated as a species and not a variety of *S. itatiaiae*. Therefore, we accept *S. pentandra* in our treatment. When raising *S. itatiaiae* var. *pentandra* to species rank, however, Occhioni (1974) did not indicate the page where it was validly published and therefore did not fully cite the reference of the basionym. Thus, under article 33.4 of the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (ICBN; McNeill et al. 2006), *S. pentandra* cannot be considered a validly published name. In his unpublished revision of the Brazilian species of Symplocaceae, Bidá (1995) suggested that Occhioni's name *S. pentandra* can be treated as a validly published new species because Occhioni provided a holotype that was different than that of *S. itatiaiae* var. *pentandra* and described the plant in Latin. It is clear, however, that Occhioni intended to raise *S. itatiaiae* var. *pentandra* to the species rank, because of the author citation "*Symplocos pentandra* (Mattos)

Occhioni, stat. nov.” Nonetheless, due to his omission in providing the page where the basionym was validly published and his direct reference to the basionym work, *S. pentandra* is consequently still not validly published. This is because, according to the article 33.8 of the ICBN, on and after 1 January 1953 if an author claims to be publishing a new combination but fails to provide all the requirements under article 33.4 the name is not validly published even if the author provided at the same time other information that would have resulted in valid publication as the name of a new taxon (McNeill et al. 2006).

We also studied specimens identified as *S. caparaensis* by Schwacke, which has been considered a validly published name (e.g., Mattos 1969) and cited as *S. caparaensis* Schwacke ex Gürke. Our observations of these specimens suggest that *S. caparaensis* makes reference to the same entity as *S. pentandra*. However, Gürke (1891) provided neither diagnosis nor illustration with analysis for *S. caparaensis*, which is therefore a nomen nudum. Thus, *S. caparaensis* is not validly published under articles 32.1(d) and 42.3 of the ICBN, respectively (McNeill et al. 2006).

We here validate the name *S. pentandra*. We choose to validate this name instead of *S. caparaensis* because *S. pentandra* is based on a validly published name.

Symplocos pentandra (Mattos) Occhioni ex Aranha, comb. et stat. nov. BASIONYM: *Symplocos itatiaiae* Wawra var. *pentandra* Mattos [*“Symplocos itatiaiae* Wawra var. *pentandra* Mattos”], *Loefgrenia* 54:1. 1971. TYPE: BRAZIL. PARANÁ: Piraquara, Florestal, 930 m, 7 Nov 1946, G. Hatschbach 358 (HOLOTYPE: MBM; ISOTYPES: PACA, SP!).

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