Lijndenia meeusei, the correct name for the species previously known as L. lutescens (Melastomataceae, Olisbeoideae)

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Abstract

STONE, R.D. (2018). Lijndenia meeusei, the correct name for the species previously known as L. lutescens (Melastomataceae, Olisbeoideae). *Candollea* 73: 257–259. In English, English and French abstracts. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15553/c2018v732a10

Under the principle of priority, the new combination *Lijndenia meeusei* (H. Perrier) R.D. Stone (Melastomataceae, Olisbeoideae) is the correct name for the species previously known as *Lijndenia lutescens* (Naudin) Jacq.-Fél. Use of the superfluous name *Lijndenia memecyloides* R.D. Stone must therefore be abandoned.

Résumé

STONE, R.D. (2018). Lijndenia meeusei, le nom correct pour une espèce précédemment connue comme L. lutescens (Melastomataceae, Olisbeoideae). *Candollea* 73: 257–259. En anglais, résumés anglais et français. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15553/c2018v732a10

Selon le principe de priorité, la nouvelle combinaison *Lijndenia meeusei* (H. Perrier) R.D. Stone (Melastomataceae, Olisbeoideae) est le nom correct pour l'espèce connue précédemment sous le nom *Lijndenia lutescens* (Naudin) Jacq.-Fél. L'utilisation du nom illégitime *Lijndenia memecyloides* R.D. Stone doit être abandonnée.

Keywords

MELASTOMATACEAE – *Lijndenia* – *Memecylon* – Madagascar

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Introduction

Lijndenia Zoll. & Moritzi *(Melastomataceae, Olisbeoideae)* is a paleotropical genus of about 16 species of evergreen shrubs and small to medium-sized trees (Bremer, 1982; Stone, 2006; Stone & Luke, 2015). For Madagascar, the treatment by Jacques-Félix (1985) recognized six species. In a recent revision (Stone, 2017), I added three new species and also found that the species previously known as "L. lutescens (Naudin) Jacq.-Fél." was based on an illegitimate name, *Memecylon lutescens* Naudin (Naudin, 1852: 269), this being a later homonym of *M. lutescens* C. Presl based on a different type (Presl, 1851: 208). However, in proposing the replacement name *Lijndenia memecyloides* R.D. Stone, I overlooked the fact that the current circumscription of this species includes the type of another legitimate name, *Memecylon meeusei* H. Perrier (Perrier de la Bâthie, 1945: 106).

When determining the correct name in such cases, one must consider not only the legitimacy of basionyms, but also their priority as well as whether a combination of the epithet with the currently accepted generic name has been published (Nicolson, 1978). Because the basionym *M. lutescens* Naudin is illegitimate, it does not enter into considerations of priority. However, in accordance with Article 58.1 of the ICN (Turland et al., 2018), the name *Spathandra lutescens* Jacq.-Fél. (Jacques-Félix, 1978: 228) and the combination *Lijndenia lutescens* (Jacq.-Fél.) Jacq.-Fél. (Jacques-Félix, 1985: 44) are both legitimate, but their priority would shift from 1852 to 1978. Given these circumstances, the basionym *Memecylon meeusei* (first published in 1945) must be adopted since it has the earliest available epithet, and *Lijndenia meeusei* would be the correct name (ICN: Art. 11.4) once a new combination is published. The name *L. lutescens* would thus become a taxonomic (heterotypic) synonym, and my proposed replacement name *L. memecyloides* is superfluous and must be rejected (ICN: Art. 52.1).

Nomenclature

Lijndenia meeusei (H. Perrier) R.D. Stone, **comb. nova.**

≡ *Memecylon meeusei* H. Perrier in Notul. Syst. (Paris) 12: 106. 1945.

Lectotypus (designated by Stone, 2017: 80): **Madagascar. Prov. Toamasina:** Soanierana-Ambahoabé, 75 m, 3.XII.1938, fl., *Lam & Meeuse 5624* (L [L0009293]!; isolecto-: BR [BR000000626121]!, P [P00057569, P00057570]!, WAG [WAG0002347]!).

= *Lijndenia memecyloides* R.D. Stone in Candollea 72: 80. 2017 [nom. illeg.]. ≡ *Memecylon lutescens* Naudin in Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot., ser. 3, 18: 269. 1852 [nom. illeg.] [non *M. lutescens* C. Presl]. ≡ *Spathandra lutescens* Jacq.-Fél. in Adansonia ser. 2, 18 : 228. 1978. ≡ *Lijndenia lutescens* (Jacq.-Fél.) Jacq.-Fél. in Bull. Mus. Natl. Hist. Nat., B, Adansonia 7: 44. 1985. **Lectotypus** (designated by Stone, 2017: 80): **Madagascar**: *sine loco,* s.d., fl., *du Petit-Thouars s.n.* (P [P00057566]!; isolecto-: P [P00057567]!; BR [BR000000626115] fragment!).

Notes. – The leaf shape and peduncle length of *Lam & Meeuse 5624* (type of *Memecylon meeusei*) are unusual in comparison to the remaining collections assigned to *Lijndenia lutescens* (Stone, 2017). Because of this, it is rather unfortunate that the new combination *L. meeusei* must be taken up in accordance with the rule of priority. Under the present circumscription, however, these plants are regarded as conspecific. If future workers determine that the type of *Memecylon meeusei* belongs to a different species, then *L. lutescens* (Jacq.-Fél.) Jacq.-Fél. would become the correct name for the plants previously known as *L. lutescens* (Jacq.-Fél.) Jacq.-Fél. The replacement name *L. memecyloides* R.D. Stone was illegitimate when published and will remain so unless conserved (ICN: Art. 6.4).

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