
Original Paper

***Cissus elmerii* R. Kr. Singh & Sanjeet Kumar, a replacement name for *C. suberosa* Elmer (Vitaceae)**

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Article Details: Received: 2024-03-07 | Accepted: 2024-07-12 | Available online: 2024-07-15



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Abstract: A new name, *Cissus elmerii* R. Kr. Singh & Sanjeet Kumar, is proposed herein to replace the illegitimate name *C. suberosa* Elmer, being a later homonym of *C. suberosa* (Welw. ex Baker) Planch. In addition, lectotype is designated here for the name *C. suberosa* Elmer.

Keywords: Endemic, Illegitimate, Later homonym, Lectotype, New name, Philippines

Introduction

The genus *Cissus* L. (Vitaceae) consists of about 280 species, distributed along tropical and subtropical regions (POWO, 2024). In Philippines, the genus is represented by 11 species, namely *Cissus adnata* Roxb., *C. aristata* Blume, *C. assamica* (M.A.Lawson) Craib, *C. discolor* Blume, *C. hastata* Miq., *C. luzoniensis* (Merr.) C.L.Li, *C. nodosa* Blume, *C. oblongifolia* Merr., *C. quadrangularis* L., *C. repens* Lam. and *C. suberosa* Elmer, of which *C. oblongifolia* and *C. suberosa* are endemic (POWO, 2024). However, the name *C. suberosa* Elmer (1908: 493) is illegitimate because it is a later homonym of *C. suberosa* (Welw. ex Baker) Planch. (1887: 481) in accordance with Article 53.1 of the ICN (Turland et al., 2018). Therefore, a replacement name is herein proposed. Additionally, lectotype is designated for the name *C. suberosa* Elmer, and the guidelines and recommendations of Article 9 of ICN (Turland et al., 2018) were followed.



Figure 1: Lectotype of *Cissus suberosa* Elmer (E00499983, © Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh)



Figure 2: Isolectotype of *Cissus suberosa* Elmer (BM000838478, © The Natural History Museum, London)

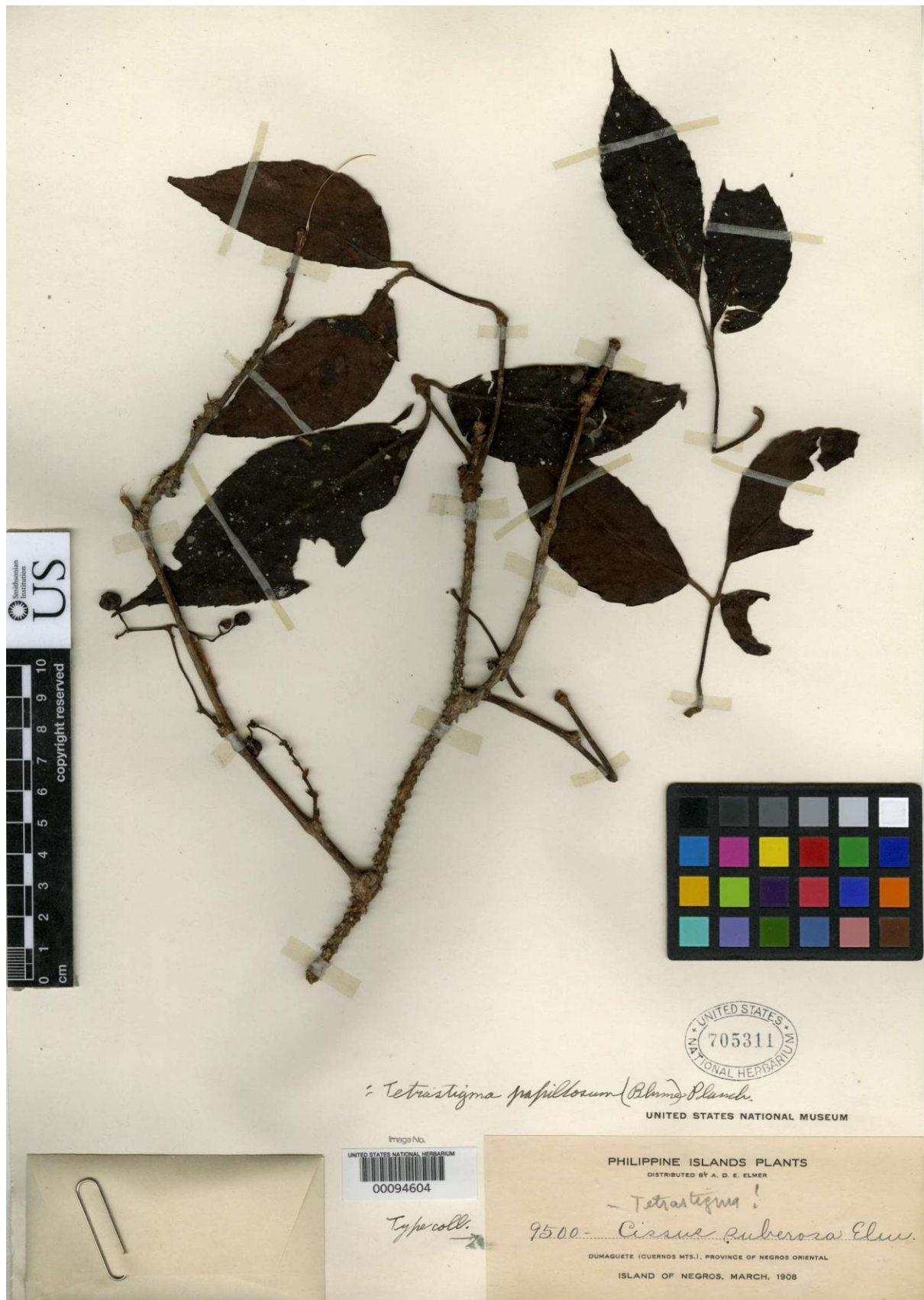


Figure 3: Isolectotype of *Cissus suberosa* Elmer (US00094604, © Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.)



Figure 4: Herbarium specimen of *Cissus suberosa* Elmer (GH00051602, © The Gray Herbarium, Harvard University)



Figure 5: Herbarium specimen of *Cissus suberosa* Elmer (GH00051603, © The Gray Herbarium, Harvard University)

Nomenclature

Cissus elmerii R.Kr.Singh & Sanjeet Kumar, *nom. nov.*

≡ *Cissus suberosa* Elmer, Leaflet Philipp. Bot. 2: 493. 1908, *nom. illeg., non* (Welw. ex Baker) Planch., Monogr. Phan. [A.D.C. & C.D.C.] 5: 481. 1887.

Lectotype (designated here): Philippines, Negros, Dumaguete, Cuernos Mountains, March 1908, A.D.E. Elmer 9500 (E00499983!, Figure 1); isolectotypes BM000838478! (Figure 2), US00094604! (Figure 3).

Distribution: Endemic to Philippines.

Etymology: Named after Adolph Daniel Edward Elmer, American Botanist.

Notes: Elmer (1908) mentioned type information for *Cissus suberosa* as “Type specimen 9500, A. D. E. Elmer, Dumaguete, Cuernos Mountains, province of Negros Oriental, Negros, March, 1908. This looping climber was only once seen in damp moss covered woods at 4500 feet, on the north side of the lesser peak. In September to October of 1906, Mrs. Clemens apparently collected this same species in flower at lake Lanao, central Mindanao”. Three specimens (syntypes) were traced for the name *C. suberosa* Elmer (BM000838478, E00499983 and US00094604). Among these, the better-preserved specimen E00499983, is designated here as the lectotype as it agrees well with the protologue. Two more specimens collected A.D.E. Elmer from Mount Apo, Island of Mindanao, Philippines in September 1909 were traced at GH [GH00051602 (Figure 4) and GH00051603 (Figure 5)], these specimens contain well-developed inflorescence and leaves.

Acknowledgements

The lead author is thankful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata for facilities and encouragement. We are grateful to the curators of BM, E, GH and US for the images and information of herbarium specimens.

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