

A NEW NAME IN NEW WORLD *CYNANCHUM* (APOCYNACEAE, ASCLEPIADOIDEAE)

A. RAPINI

Departamento de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana, Av. Transnordestina s.n., Feira de Santana, Bahia, 44036-900, Brazil. e-mail: rapinibot@yahoo.com.br

ABSTRACT

The new name *Cynanchum caudiculatum* Rapini is proposed to transfer *Roulinia ekmanii* Malme to *Cynanchum*, replacing the later homonym *Cynanchum ekmanii* (Malme) Sundell, non *C. ekmanii* Alain.

During the revision of *Cynanchum* subg. *Mellichampia* (A.Gray ex S.Wats.) Woodson, Sundell (1981) transferred *Roulinia ekmanii* Malme to *Cynanchum*, proposing *C. ekmanii* (Malme) Sundell. This combination, however, is a later homonym of *C. ekmanii* Alain, which was used to transfer *Astephanus schlechterianus* Urb. to *Cynanchum* (non *C. schlechterianum* Warb.). Fontella-Pereira & Schwarz (1981) considered *Roulinia* Decne., *nom. illeg.* (non *Roulinia* Brongn.), and its substitute name *Rouliniella* Vail., synonyms of *Telminostelma* E.Fourn., and proposed the combination *T. ekmanii* (Malme) Fontella & E.A.Schwarz.

Telminostelma has been considered synonym of *Cynanchum* (e.g. Liede 1997, Rapini 2003) and, despite the fact that relationships in Cynanchinae are unresolved, its position in *Cynanchum* subg. *Mellichampia* is highly supported (e.g. Liede & Kunze 2002, Liede & Täuber 2002, Rapini et al. 2003). Therefore, to avoid the maintenance of *Telminostelma* in the forthcoming list of Asclepiadoideae of Mata Atlântica (Rapini & Fontella-Pereira in prep.) for the single species *T. ekmanii* and the use of an illegitimate name in *Cynanchum*, I am proposing here the new name *Cynanchum caudiculatum*.

***Cynanchum caudiculatum* Rapini, nom. nov.**

Basionym: *Roulinia ekmanii* Malme, Ark. Bot. 16(15): 18. 1920. Type: ARGENTINA. Misiones: District of Posadas, vicinity of Bonpland, *Ekman 406* (S, 3 sheets, n.v.).

Cynanchum ekmanii (Malme) Sundell, Evol. Monogr. 5: 37. 1981, *nom. illeg.* *Telminostelma ekmanii* (Malme) Fontella & E.A.Schwarz, Bol. Mus. Bot. Munic. 45: 5. 1981.

COMMENTS. The species is reported to Argentina, Paraguay (Sundell 1981) and possibly Brazil, in Rio Grande do Sul State (Fontella-Pereira & Schwarz 1981). According to Sundell (1981), it is similar to *Cynanchum cubense* (A.Rich.) Woodson, and the two species were considered in *Cynanchum* sect. *Metalepis* (Griseb.) Sundell. Morillo (1997) proposed a broader concept of *Metalepis* Griseb., considering it a distinct genus. *Cynanchum cubense* has not been up to now included in any phylogenetic study and the position of *Metalepis* remains controversial (Krings et al. 2008).

The epithet '*caudiculatum*' is a reference to the pollinaria with long translator arms (ca. 0.6 mm long), a feature found only in *C. cubense* and *C. jaliscanum* (Vail) Woodson, two species of *Cynanchum* subg. *Mellichampia*, from Cuba and Mexico, respectively.

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