

A new combination in *Camphora* (Lauraceae)

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Abstract

Alseodaphne mollis W.W.Sm. is transferred to *Camphora* Fabr. as *Camphora mollis* (W.W.Sm.) Ormerod, supplanting the combination based on the homotypic name *Cinnamomum tenuipile* Kosterm.

Introduction

The genus *Camphora* Fabr. was recently reinstated by Yang *et al.* (2022) based on morphological and phylogenetic analyses. They found that *Camphora* could be diagnosed morphologically by non-reticulate periclinal cell walls of the leaf epidermis, prominent perulate terminal buds, and pinnately veined leaves, while *Cinnamomum* Schaeff. species mainly have reticulate periclinal cell walls of the leaf epidermis, inconspicuous non-perulate terminal buds, and usually 3-veined leaves.

Eighteen species of *Camphora* were accepted by Yang *et al.* (2022), fifteen of which were newly transferred from various Lauraceous genera including *Beilschmiedia* Nees, *Cinnamomum* Schaeff., and *Machilus* Nees. However, Chung and Hsieh (2023), in a synopsis of Taiwanese *Camphora*, found that *C. philippinensis* (Merr.) Y.Yang, Bing Liu & Zhi Yang is properly placed in *Machilus* as *M. philippinensis* Merr. They also removed *Cinnamomum kanahirae* Hayata from the synonymy of *Camphora micrantha* (Hayata) Y.Yang, Bing Liu & Zhi Yang, and transferred it to *Camphora*. Of note for Australia, the widely naturalised Camphor Laurel was transferred to *Camphora*, where it should be known as *Camphora officinarum* Boerh. ex Fabr.

Ormerod (2024) discussed the typification and identity of the names proposed by Lukmanoff (1878) in *Cinnamomum* and *Camphora*. In an appendix to Ormerod (2024), *Cinnamomum blandfordii* M.Gangop. and *Cecidodaphne glaucescens* Nees were transferred to *Camphora*. The combination *Camphora camphorata* (H.Lev.) Ormerod was also made to replace *C. foveolata* (Merr.) Y.Yang, Bing Liu & Zhi Yang for reasons of priority and availability.

Thus, *Camphora*, has about nineteen or twenty species distributed naturally in Nepal, India, Bhutan, Myanmar, China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, and western Indonesia. The uncertainty regarding the number of species in the genus is due to the status of *C. illicioides* (A.Chev.) Y.Yang, Bing Liu & Zhi Yang, a taxon that Kostermans (unpublished in herbarium L) considered a synonym of *Cinnamomum glaucescens* (Nees) Hand.-Mazz. (= *Camphora glaucescens* (Nees) Ormerod). However, this reduction seems not to have been taken up by other authors (e.g. Li *et al.* 2008).

Camphora mollis (W.W.Sm.) Ormerod, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Alseodaphne mollis* W.W.Sm., *Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh* 13: 153 (1921).

Cinnamomum tenuipile Kosterm., *Reinwardtia* 8(1): 74 (1970) (as *tenuipilis*). *Camphora tenuipilis* (Kosterm.) Y.Yang, Bing Liu & Zhi Yang, *Ecol. Evol.* 12(10): e9378: 11 (2022).

Type: China: Yunnan: Shweli-Yunnan divide, 9000 ft [= 2743 m], October 1917, G. Forrest 16021 (lectotype: E [E00123606], image seen; isolectotypes: K [K00035096];

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P [P01978504], images seen), designated by Kostermans (1970: 74) as 'Typus'. Residual syntype: Salween Valley, 4000 ft [= 1220 m], April 1917, G. Forrest 13667 (syntypes: E [E001236605]; K [K000350905], images seen).

Distribution: Nepal; India; Bhutan; China; Laos; Thailand.

Yang *et al.* (2022) transferred this taxon to *Camphora* based on *Cinnamomum tenuipile* Kosterm. However, the basis for *Cinnamomum tenuipile* is *Alseodaphne mollis* W.W.Sm., which is thus the earlier name with an epithet that is available in *Camphora*. Thus, the required combination is made above.

Kostermans (1970) indicated an isotype of *Alseodaphne mollis*, Forrest 16021, could be found in CAL. Dr. Anand Kumar kindly searched for the specimen, but it could not be located.

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