

**LECTOTYPIFICATION IN *ARDISIA ALATA* H.R. FLETCHER  
(PRIMULACEAE)**

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The genus *Ardisia* Swartz (Primulaceae) consists of about 400-500 species (Chen and Pipoly III, 1996) and it is pantropical, mainly tropical Americas and Asia, a few in temperate Japan (Stahl and Anderberg, 2004). Among these, *Ardisia alata* H.R. Fletcher is an endemic species found in Takuapa and Kapong districts under Phangnga Province of Thailand, as cited in the first protologue. *Ardisia alata* belongs to the subgenus *Pyrgus* Mez of the genus *Ardisia* (Larsen and Hu, 1996). Some of the distinguishing morphological characters of *A. alata* from other members of the subgenus *Pyrgus* include short inflorescence (2-5 cm), branches bearing few florets (1-2 florets) and distinctly winged petiole (Larsen and Hu, 1996).

During a taxonomic revision of the genus *Ardisia* in Thailand, we studied both the protologue and the type specimens of *A. alata* kept in main herbaria (both in Europe and Thailand), we found that when H.R. Fletcher, the author, published the name *A. alata* as a new species, cited the specimens “*Kerr 17125*” (full collector name written on the herbarium sheet was *A. F. G. Kerr*) as the plant from Thailand in Phangnga Province (Takuapa and Kapong districts) (Fletcher, 1937), but did not designate the holotype. We found that there were four duplicates of the specimens “*A.F.G. Kerr 17125*” kept in BK, BM, E and K. The specimen kept in E is a syntype as a detail notes on the herbarium sheet, but there are no notes on the herbarium sheets of the remaining three specimens and all of them were regarded as syntypes [Art. 9.6 of the ICN (Turland *et al.*, 2018)], so the name *A. alata* needs a lectotypification. Among the three duplicates of *A.F.G. Kerr 17125*, the one kept in K (barcode K000756775) was a perfect match to the description given in the protologue and there were both branches and flowers on the herbarium specimen, and therefore, this specimen is selected as the lectotype. The lectotypification of this name is provided as follows:

***Ardisia alata*** H.R. Fletcher, Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1937(1): 26 (1937).

**Lectotype (designated here):** Thailand. Phangnga Province (Takuapa and Kapong districts): alt. ca. 100 m., by stream in evergreen forest, 17 Feb. 1929, *A. F. G. Kerr 17125* (K barcode K000756775 [digital photograph!]); **isolectotype:** BK!, BM [digital photograph!], E [digital photograph!]).

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Fig. 1. *Ardisia alata* H.R. Fletcher [Kerr 17125 (lectotype, K barcode K000756775)]. Reproduced with permission of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K).

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