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ANEW STATUS FOE *DESMODIUM OVALIFOLIUM* (PAPILIONACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

Based on differences in anatomical and morphological characters, the new combination *Desmodium heterocarpon* (L.) DC. subsp. *heterocarpon* var. *ovalifolium* (Wall, ex Prain) Rugayah is proposed to accommodate some specimens formerly included in *D. heterocarpon* var. *heterocarpon*,

ABSTRAK

Berdasarkan perbedaan ciri anatomi dan morfologinya, kombinasi baru *Desmodium heterocarpon* (L.) DC. subsp. *heterocarpon* var. *ovalifolium* (Wall, ex Prain) Rugayah diusulkan untuk mewadahi beberapa spesimen yang sebelumnya dimasukkan dalam *D. heterocarpon* var. *heterocarpon*.

In a recent study on the *D. heterocarpon* (L.) DC. complex (Rugayah 1986), some specimens were found to fit with the concept of *D. ovalifolium* (Wall, ex Prain) Gagnep. which some recent authors (van Meeuwen, van Steenis & Stemmerik 1961; Knaap-van Meeuwen 1962; Ohashi 1973) would include in *D. heterocarpon* var. *heterocarpon*. Based on anatomical and morphological evidences they are considered to belong to a separate taxonomic entity, as can be recognized from the key presented below.

- 1 a. Stem and rachis strigosely-hairy, pods hairy at the margin only; the upper leaf epidermis thicker than the lower one.....var. *strigosum*
- b. Stem and rachis with hooked hairs, pods evenly hairy; the upper leaf epidermis as thick as the lower one.....2
- 2 a. Flowers loose, 3-4 mm long, pedicel 4-7 mm; leaflets obovate or elliptical; papilla on both lower and upper epidermis, epidermal cells slightly sinuous; stomata 13,75-16,25 X 10 - 12,5 μ m.....var. *heterocarpon*
- b. Flowers dense, more than 4 mm long, pedicel 2-3 mm; leaflets broadly elliptical to almost orbicular; papilla on the lower epidermis only, epidermal cells very sinuous; stomata 16,25 - 21,25 X 12,5 • 13,75 μ m.....var. *ovalifolium*

Consequently a new combination is proposed to accommodate this taxon as a variety of *D. heterocarpon* subsp. *heterocarpon*.

Desmodium heterocarpon (L.) DC. subsp. *heterocarpon* var. *ovalifolium* (Wall, ex Prain) Rugayah, *comb. nov.*

Desmodium ovalifolium Wall. cat. no. 5730, *nom. nud.* —*D. polycarpum* DC. var. *ovalifolium* (Wall, ex Prain) in King, J. As. Soc. Beng. 66 (2) : 141. 1897 (basionym). —*D. ovalifolium* (Wall, ex Prain) Gagnep., Fl. Indo-China 2 : 587. 1920.

DISTRIBUTION : Siam, Indo-China, Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes and Java.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. Siam : *Holtum 9714.* - Indo-China : *Squires 104.* - Malay Peninsula : *Henderson 38116.* — Sumatra : *Bunnemeijer 1361, 1592, 2274, 2307, 2376, 5774; Kostermans 473; L'drzing 11626; Ouwehand 300; Rutten-Kooistra 57; Teysmann s.n.; de Voogd 137, 152; van der Voort 3; van Steenis 1146.* — Borneo : *Jaheri s.n.; J. & M.S. Clemens 205 78; Mondih 281; Tandom 2818.*—Celebes : *Kjellberg 1 746*— Java.: *Backer 1890, 4242, 4609, 9026, 32042; Bakhuizen v/d Brink f. 810; Huitema s.n.; Karta 186.*

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CONTENTS
VOL. 10 No. 3

	Page
E.A. WIDJAJA & R.N. LESTER. Morphological, anatomical and chemical analyses of <i>Amorphophallus paeoniifolius</i> and related taxa	271
E.A. WIDJAJA & R.N. LESTER. Experimental taxonomy of the <i>Gigantochloa atter</i> — <i>Gigantochloa pseudoarundinacea</i> complex	281
E.A. WIDJAJA. A revision of Malesian <i>Gigantochloa</i> (Poaceae — Bambusoideae)	291
RUGAYAH. A new status for <i>Desmodium ovalifolium</i> (Papilionaceae)	381