

# Lectotypification of three names in *Aeschynanthus* (Gesneriaceae)

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**Abstract:** Lectotypes are designated here for three names in *Aeschynanthus* Jack (Gesneriaceae), viz., *A. oblanceolatus* (J. Anthony) C.E.C. Fisch., *A. philippinensis* C.B. Clarke and *A. stenosepalus* J. Anthony along with notes on their typification.

**Keywords:** *Aeschynanthus oblanceolatus*, *A. philippinensis*, *A. stenosepalus*, India, Nomenclature.

## Introduction

The genus *Aeschynanthus* Jack (Gesneriaceae) consists of approximately 177 species (POWO, 2020), distributed from Sri Lanka and India through southern China and Northeast India to New Guinea and the Solomon Islands (Weber, 2004; Middleton, 2016; Möller *et al.*, 2017). In India, the genus is distributed in the eastern Himalayan regions (particularly in Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Assam), Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Western Ghats (Bhattacharyya & Goel, 2015). Clarke (1883) in Hooker's *Flora of British India* reported 15 species of *Aeschynanthus* under 4 sections from the present political boundary of India while Bhattacharyya and Goel (2015) reported 26 species and considered *A. kingii* C.B. Clarke a doubtful species. Sinha and Datta (2016) recognized 16 species from Northeast India.

As part of the ongoing revisionary study on *Aeschynanthus* in India, the authors found that types were not designated for three names, viz., *A. oblanceolatus* (J. Anthony) C.E.C. Fisch., *A.*

*philippinensis* C.B. Clarke and *A. stenosepalus* J. Anthony. After consulting the protologues, types and other relevant specimens at A, B, BM, CAL, E, FI, G, GH, K, L, MEL, MO, TR, US and W (acronyms as per Thiers, 2020 continuously updated), lectotypes are designated here for these three names according to Art. 7.3, 7.11 and 9.3 (Turland *et al.*, 2018).

## Typifications

*Aeschynanthus oblanceolatus* (J. Anthony) C.E.C. Fisch., Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1940: 40. 1940. *A. peelii* Hook.f. & Thomson var. *oblanceolatus* J. Anthony, Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 18: 190. 1934. (= *Aeschynanthus linearifolius* C.E.C. Fisch.).

*Lectotype* (designated here): BURMA, N.E. Upper Burma, Western flank of the Chimile N'Maikha, N 26° 23', E 98° 48', 7–8000 ft, September 1924, G. Forrest 24933 (E [E00023687 digital image!]).

Fig. 1

*Notes:* Anthony (1934) in the protologue of *A. peelii* Hook.f. & Thomson var. *oblanceolatus* J. Anthony cited “UPPER BURMA.— G. Forrest 24933, 24980, 27080; F.K. Ward 1893, 3476. TIBET.— G. Forrest 20099, 20124” without assigning any of them as type. We traced the following relevant collections at different herbaria: G. Forrest 24933 at BM (BM000883879 digital image!), E (E00023687 digital image!), K (K000831880 digital image!); G. Forrest 27080 at E (E00096779 digital image!), A (A00423925 digital image!), NY (NY02218966 digital image!), US (US00444737 digital image!),



**Fig. 1.** Lectotype of *Aeschynanthus oblanceolatus* (E00023687 <http://data.rbge.org.uk/herb/E00023687>). © The Board of Trustees for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh. Reproduced with permission.

P (P00606315 digital image!); G. Forrest 20099 at A (A00353709 digital image!), G. Forrest 20124 at P (P00606314 digital image!) and US (US00623796 digital image!), but could not locate G. Forrest 24980 and F. Kingdon-Ward 1893, 3476 in any possible herbaria. While all specimens possess field labels, some lack flowers (specimens from A, NY, P and US). The sheet E00023687 with a flowering twig and dehiscent capsules best represents this taxon and is designated here as the lectotype.

***Aeschynanthus philippinensis*** C.B. Clarke in A.D.C. & C.D.C., Monogr. Phan. 5: 9. 1883. *Lectotype* (designated here): PHILIPPINES, Luzon, 1841, H. Cuming 813 (K [K000831908 digital image!]). **Fig. 2**

*Notes:* *Aeschynanthus philippinensis* was originally described by Clarke (1883) and cited “Ins. Philippinae (Cuming, n. 813, in hh. Kew, Mus. Brit., Paris,



**Fig. 2.** Lectotype of *Aeschynanthus philippinensis* (K000831908). © The Board of Trustees for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Reproduced with permission.

Boissier, Wien)”, without indicating the holotype. A thorough search in the above herbaria revealed one specimen at P (P00606332 digital image!), two each at K (K000831907, K000831908 digital images!) and W (W1889-0119557, W2006-0016684 digital images!), but none at BM or G as mentioned in the protologue. Besides these, we found a few specimens of Cuming at FI (FI009834 digital image!), L (L0281672 digital image!) and MEL (MEL2088158 digital image!).

Sinha and Datta (2016) mentioned a sheet at K as the type (the collection number 318 given by the authors might be an error) without indicating the barcode or including the phrase “designated here” (hic designatus). According to Art. 7.11 (Turland *et al.*, 2018) this cannot be accepted as an inadvertent lectotypification.



The lone sheet at K has three collections with individual barcodes, of which two belong to Cuming's collections (K000831907, K000831908) and the remaining one (K000831909) belongs to Vidal's collection. Clarke (*l.c.*) in the protologue mentioned “saepius 2-floris”. The sheets K000831908 and P00606332 alone satisfy this condition while all others lack flowers or bear only a single flower. Among them, K000831908 with flowers and mature fruits and annotation by the author, is selected here as the lectotype of the name.

***Aeschynanthus stenosepalus*** J. Anthony, Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 18: 191. 1934. *Lectotype* (designated here): UPPER BURMA, **Htawgaw**, July 1924, G. Forrest 24773 (E [E00096780 digital image!]).

Fig. 3

**Notes:** Anthony (1934) in the protologue of *A. stenosepalus* cited for the type “UPPER BURMA.—Shrub of 2–3 ft. Flowers brilliant crimson. Pendent from rocks and ledges of cliffs in side valleys. Hills

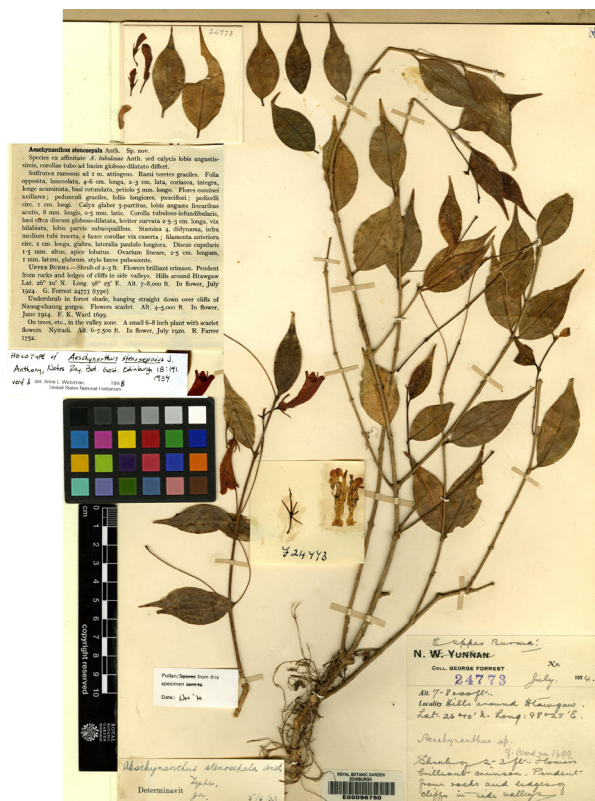
around Htawgaw Lat. 26°10' N. Long. 98°25' E. Alt. 7–8,000 ft. In flower, July 1924. G. Forrest 24773 (type)”. According to Stafleu and Cowan (1976) Anthony's herbarium and types are housed at A, B, BM, CAL, E, GH, K, MO, TR and US, and our search resulted in locating two relevant sheets, one each at E (E00096780 digital image!) and K (K000831882 digital image!). The sheet with barcode K000831882 bears three leaves and two flower buds mounted separately. Whereas the sheet with barcode E00096780 bears two specimens: the one on the left is a complete specimen with flowers and fruit while the right one without flowers or fruits. An annotation by A.L. Weitzman on the sheet as ‘holotype’ in 1998 is not correct, because Anthony in the protologue didn't assign specifically the specimen at K or E as the holotype. The specimen at E (E00096780) best represent the protologue and is chosen here as the lectotype according to Art. 9.3 (Turland *et al.*, 2018).

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**Fig. 3.** Lectotype of *Aeschynanthus stenosepalus* (E00096780 <http://data.rbge.org.uk/herb/E00096780>). © The Board of Trustees for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh. Reproduced with permission.

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