

# Clarifying the typification and orthography of *Garcinia jelinekii* (Clusiaceae), with notes on Anton Jelinek's collections on the Nicobar Island

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**Abstract:** The designation of a lectotype for the name *Garcinia jelinekii* was erroneously attributed to Marinho (2017) and this error is clarified here with the effective designation of a lectotype, perhaps a holotype. Also, the orthographic error in a few studies for specific epithet as “*G. jelinckii*” instead of “*G. jelinekii*” is addressed.

**Keywords:** *Garcinia*, lectotypification, nomenclature, Novara Expedition, spelling.

## Introduction

*Garcinia* L. (Clusiaceae: Garcinieae) is a monophyletic genus with a Pantropical distribution (Gaudeul *et al.*, 2024) and about 400 species (POWO, 2024). Eleven sections are recognized in the genus, of which seven are reported for the Indomalayan region, which makes the Asian continent the center of the diversity of *Garcinia* (Gaudeul *et al.*, 2024). In order to understand this diversity, several taxonomic treatments (e.g. Shameer *et al.*, 2016, Mohanan *et al.*, 2023; Ngernsaengsaruy *et al.*, 2023), genetic diversity investigations (e.g., Gogoi *et al.*, 2021), and new species descriptions (e.g., Sarma *et al.*, 2016; Shameer *et al.*, 2017; Ngernsaengsaruy *et al.*, 2022) have been published with focus on the Indomalayan species including taxa widely known

for their commercial value, such as *G. mangostana* L. and *G. celebica* L.

*Garcinia jelinekii* Kurz is a tree species known only from its type collection with its distribution restricted to the Nicobar Islands. This little-known species has often been treated as doubtful or unplaced in previous studies (Maheshwari 1964, Mohanan *et al.*, 2023, Gaudeul *et al.* 2024). The name *G. jelinekii* was validly published by Wilhelm Sulpiz Kurz (1876), German botanist based in India (Stafleu & Cowan, 1979). The specific epithet honors Anton Jelinek, an Austrian botanist and horticulturist associated with the Novara Expedition (Stafleu & Cowan, 1976), based on whose collection the name was described. The spelling of *G. jelinekii* is frequently rendered incorrectly as “*Garcinia jelinckii*”, in several online repositories, including Tropicos (2024), POWO (2024), and IPNI (2024), despite the orthographic correction made by Marinho (2017). This error has been propagated in floristics (Vasudeva Rao, 2021), taxonomic revisions (Mohanan *et al.*, 2023) and phylogenetic studies (Gaudeul *et al.*, 2024). Here, we correct the spelling to *Garcinia jelinekii*, in accordance with the protologue (see Kurz, 1876) and the Article 60.1 of the Shenzhen Code (Turland *et al.*, 2018).

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## Materials and Methods

The Shenzhen Code (Turland *et al.*, 2018) was followed for all nomenclatural conclusions. Protologues were accessed through the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL, 2024) and Taxonomic Literature II (Stafleu & Cowan, 1976; 1979) was consulted for details on the nationality and collection history of collectors and authors.

## Typification

***Garcinia jelinekii*** Kurz, J. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, Pt. 2, No. III, Nat. Hist. 45(2): 118. 1876. *Lectotype* (perhaps holotype, designated here): INDIA, **Andaman Islands**, Tillangchong, [Expedition] Novara 169, [23.02.1858], *A. Jelinek 106* (W [W-0073375!]).

Fig. 1

*Notes:* The Novara Expedition was on the Nicobar Islands between 23 February and 26 March 1858 (Scherzer, 1862). Collections made during this expedition, particularly by Anton Jelinek, are housed at W (Stafleu & Cowan, 1979; JACQ, 2024). Since the labels are printed with the wording for the Novara Expedition as in the extant material in Vienna, the specimens were likely prepared in W and substantially distributed to other herbaria (H. Rainer, pers. comm.). However, duplicates of specimens collected by Jelinek on this expedition are rare or non-existent. Among these, only one specimen, *Elatostema novarae* Kurz, is currently available at CAL (CAL0000014628). Curiously this specimen is not available in W, since Urticaceae collection burned during the WWII.

During an investigation at CAL, the specimen CAL 47010, cited by Maheshwari (1964) as the type of *Garcinia jelinekii*, was examined. However, this specimen (CAL0000047010) was identified as *Impatiens bicolor* Royle (Balsamiaceae), collected by S.A. Hariss. The protologue of *G. jelinekii* describes only the vegetative part and fruits, which agreeing with the collection housed at W, which is here lectotypified, but as a possible holotype, following McNeill (2014) recommendations.

Mohanan *et al.* (2023) erroneously attributed the lectotype designation for *Garcinia jelinekii* to

Marinho (2017). However, Marinho (2017) did not effectively designate a lectotype but merely listed type specimens of *Garcinia* housed at W. His work did not fulfill the requirements for lectotypification, as he did not use the phrase “designated here” or a similar expression, as required for lectotype designation after 1 January 2001 (Art. 7.11 of the ICN, Turland *et al.*, 2018).

Jones (1980) did not assign *Garcinia jelinekii* to any of the seven sections for the Indomalayan region, likely due to the absence of flowers in the type material. Gaudeul *et al.* (2024) considered it as an unplaced name. Further investigations into the morphological characteristics of *G. jelinekii* are essential for its taxonomic placement. A key question remains: if no specimens of *G. jelinekii* are held at CAL, how did Kurz access the material? two possibilities arise:



Fig. 1. Lectotype of *Garcinia jelinekii* Kurz housed at W and labeled as a type by Marinho in 2016. Image made available by JACQ consortium under the license CC-BY 4.0.

1) the specimens were deposited at W long after the expedition, or at least after 1876, the year *G. jelinekii* was described; or

2) Kurz visited W between 1858 and 1876 and described the species based on material housed there.

These questions remain unresolved and also warrant further inquiry.

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