Validation of the Name Pararuellia alata (Acanthaceae)

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ABSTRACT. During preparation of a treatment of Acanthaceae for the *Flora of China*, it was determined that *Pararuellia alata* H. P. Tsui from Yunnan, China, was not validly published because the herbarium in which the type is conserved was not specified. The name is herein validated with the herbarium now specified. The species can be distinguished from other Chinese *Pararuellia* Bremekamp by its winged inflorescence rachis.

Key words: Acanthaceae, Pararuellia.

Pararuellia Bremekamp (Acanthaceae, Ruellieae) consists of about 10 species that occur in southeastern Asia and insular Malesia (Bremekamp & Nannenga-Bremekamp, 1948; Hossain, 1973; Mabberley, 1997; Tsui, 2002). In China, Tsui (2002) recognized four species: P. alata H. P. Tsui, P. cavaleriei (H. Léveillé) E. Hossain, P. delavayana (Baillon) E. Hossain, and P. hainanensis C. Y. Wu & H. S. Lo. Among these, P. alata was described as a new species in the addenda to volume 70 of the Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae, but the herbarium in which its type is conserved was not specified. According to Article 37.7 of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (McNeil et al., 2006), in order to effect valid publication on or after 1 January 1990 for the name of a new species or infraspecific taxon whose type is a specimen or unpublished illustration, the herbarium or institution in which the type is conserved must be indicated. Therefore, Tsui's P. alata was not validly published, despite meeting all of the other requirements for publication of this new taxon. Because this species will be recognized in the forthcoming account of Acanthaceae for the Flora of China, it is necessary to validate Tsui's name in accordance with the Code, Article 46.2 (Ex. 9), which permits retention of the original authorship. Tsui did include a Latin description in 2002, which constitutes the validating reference, sensu the Code's Art. 36.1.

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Pararuellia alata H. P. Tsui, sp. nov. Pararuellia alata H. P. Tsui in C. C. Hu & H. P. Tsui, Fl. Reip. Pop. Sin. 70: 346. 2002, nom inval. TYPE: China. Yunnan: Shuangjiang xian, 14 Sep. 1957, Xin Jingsan 916 (holotype, PE; isotype, KUN). Figure 1.

This species, which is known only from Yunnan, China, is readily distinguished from other Chinese *Pararuellia* by its winged inflorescence rachis. Figure 1 shows the holotype with a detail of the winged rachis.

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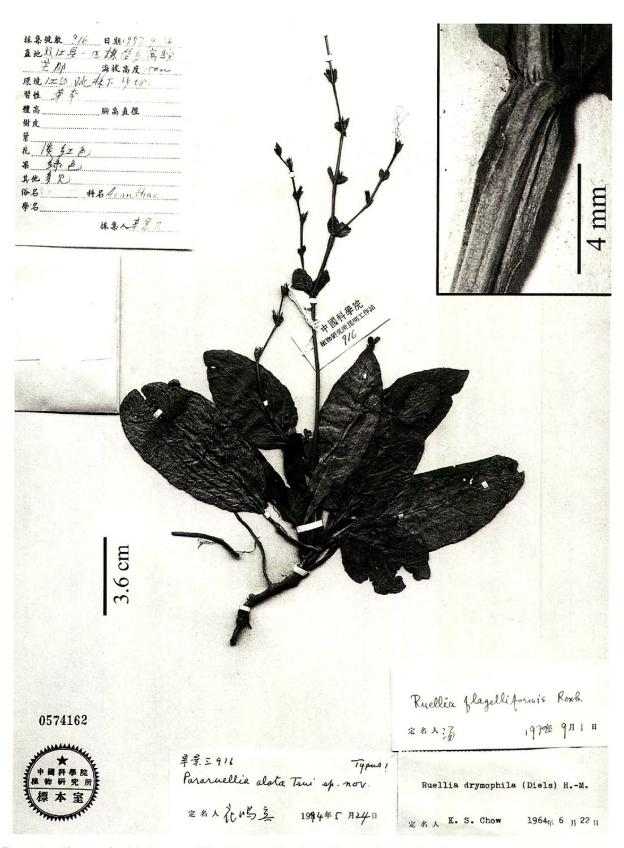


Figure 1. Photograph of holotype at PE of Pararuellia alata (Xin Jingshan 916) with enlargement showing the winged inflorescence rachis.



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