

PIERREODENDRON REPLACES MANNIA (SIMAROUBACEAE)

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The generic name Mannia Hook. f. (Simaroubaceae), universally accepted for a genus of 2 species of trees in tropical West Africa, is untenable as a later homonym of Mannia Opiz, also in use for a genus of about 10 species of thalloid liverworts of wide distribution. As names in some groups of lower plants are not systematically indexed, sometimes the same generic name is retained in two widely separated plant groups. This case was noted in a search for homonyms among genera of Hepaticae (1). The simplest way to restrict future usage of the name Mannia to the Hepaticae is to adopt for the genus of Simaroubaceae the next oldest name, Pierreodendron Engler. Accordingly, the two necessary specific transfers are made here.

PIERREODENDRON Engler, Bot. Jahrb. 39: 575. 1907.

Mannia Hook. f. in Benth. & Hook. f., Gen. Pl. 1: 309. 1862.

Non Mannia Opiz apud Corda in Opiz, Beitr. Naturgesch.

12: 646. 1829. (Hepaticae, Rebouliaceae.) Non Mannia

Trevis., Padova Accad. Sci. Riv. Period. Lav. 5: 77. 1857.

(Lichenes, Ascolichenes, Buelliaceae.)

Simarubopsis Engler, Bot. Jahrb. 46: 278. 1911.

PIERREODENDRON AFRICANUM (Hook. f.) Little, comb. nov.

Mannia africana Hook. f. in Benth. & Hook. f., Gen. Pl. 1: 309. 1862.

Pierreodendron grandifolium Engler, Bot. Jahrb. 39: 576. 1907.

This species, the type, is described as a slender tree 10 to 12 meters tall of west tropical Africa in Cameroons, French Equatorial Africa, Congo, southern Nigeria, and Ivory Coast. Dalziel (Useful Pl. West Trop. Africa 314. 1937) listed several native common names in Ivory Coast and southern Nigeria.

PIERREODENDRON KERSTINGII (Engler) Little, comb. nov.

Simarubopsis kerstingii Engler, Bot. Jahrb. 46: 280, fig. 1. 1911.

Mannia simarubopsis Pellegrin, Soc. Bot. de France Bul. 77: 665. 1930.

Mannia kerstingii (Engler) Harms apud Engler in Engler & Prantl, Natürl. Pflanzenfam., Ed. 2, 19a: 371, fig. 168. 1931.

A tall tree of Togo and Ivory Coast. Pellegrin recorded the common name "bléndodiro," and Aubréville (Fl. Forest. Côte d'Ivoire 2: 102, pl. 168. 1936) listed also "dianangboué."

Mannia Hook. f. was properly used under the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature previous to 1930, when the homonym rule was changed to reject all later homonyms (Art. 60 (3), 61). The older name Mannia Opiz was not revived until 1934.

The hepatic genus Mannia Opiz formerly was known as Grimaldia Raddi (Bologna Opusc. Sci. 2: 356. 1818). In 1934 Wheeler (Bryologist 37: 87-88. 1934) observed that Grimaldia Raddi was untenable because of Grimaldia Schrank (Bot. Zeit. Regensb. 4: 184. 1805; Leguminosae), which also had been revived by Britton and Rose (No. Amer. Flora 23: 299-301. 1930) as a segregate genus from Cassia L. with nine North American species. Accordingly, Wheeler adopted Mannia Opiz, which originally had been proposed as a substitute name for Grimaldia because of Schrank's earlier homonym. Published in the same article with Mannia Opiz was another name, Sindonisce Corda (in Opiz, Beitr. Naturgesch. 12: 648. 1829), which might have been adopted instead, as permitted by Art. 56. Frye and Clark (Hepat. No. Amer. 60-68. 1937), Buch, Evans, and Verdoorn (Ann. Bryologici 10: 8. 1938), Evans (Chron. Bot. 4: 223-225. 1938), Little (Bryologist 42: 26. 1939), and students of Hepaticae in general have accepted Mannia Opiz.

Mannia Trevis., which also has priority over Mannia Hook. f., consisted only of the two original species of lichens transferred from Lecidea Ach. and was not adopted by later authors. Zahlbruckner (in Engler & Prantl, Natürl. Pflanzenfam. 1 (1*): 230. 1907; Ed. 2, 8: 254. 1926; Cat. Lichen. Univ. 7: 452. 1931) listed Mannia Trevis. as a synonym of Buellia De Not.

There is also an older, almost identical name, Manna D. Don (Prodr. Fl. Nepal. 246. 1825), apparently not an orthographic variant of Mannia but derived instead from the common name manna. It is a synonym of Alhagi Adans. (1763; Leguminosae).

Mannia Hook. f. was monotypic until a second species was transferred to it in 1930 and scarcely is eligible for conservation. This name was adopted by Bentham and Hooker (in whose work it was published as a monotypic genus), by Index Kewensis, by Engler (in Engler & Prantl, Natürl. Pflanzenfam. 3 (4): 209. 1896) in the separate subtribe Manniinae Engler, by Dalla Torre and Harms, and by Harms (apud Engler in Engler & Prantl, Natürl. Pflanzenfam., Ed. 2, 19a: 369-371. 1931). There are two later generic names, as each of the two species was described independently as the type of a monotypic genus and afterwards united with Mannia.

Pierreodendron grandifolium Engler, the type species, was reduced to synonymy under Mannia africana by Engler himself (Bot. Jahrb. 46: 278. 1911) at the time he described the related

species Simarubopsis kerstingii, also in a monotypic genus. As indicated above, both Pellegrin and Harms placed the latter as a second species of Mannia Hook. f. Harms also reproduced the original plate (loc. cit., p. 371, fig. 168) of the second species (Bot. Jahrb. 46: 280, fig. 1. 1911). A third species, from Ivory Coast, was first described from specimens without flowers and provisionally named Mannia (?) zaizou Aubrév. (Fl. Forest. Côte d'Ivoire 2: 104. 1936). It was later excluded from this genus and placed in a new monotypic genus, Gymnostemon Aubrév. & Pellegr. (Soc. Bot. de France Bul. 84: 183. 1937), in a different tribe of Simaroubaceae, as G. zaizou (Aubrév.) Aubrév. & Pellegr. (loc. cit., p. 184, fig. 1).

Incidentally, Pierreodendron Engler also has a later homonym, Pierreodendron A. Cheval. (Vég. Ut. Agr. Trop. Franç. 9: 257. 1917). This genus of Sapotaceae has a single species, P. durissimum A. Cheval. (loc. cit., p. 258, pl. 27) in French Equatorial Africa and is without a legitimate name. Both genera of trees were dedicated to (Jean Baptiste) Louis Pierre (1833-1905), director of the botanical garden at Saigon, French Indochina. He was author of Flore Forestière de la Cochinchine and of articles on African plants and Sapotaceae.

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(1) Little, Elbert L., Jr. Nomina conservanda proposals in Hepaticae. Bryologist 52: 1-22. 1949.



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Phytologia 3(4), 156–158.

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