

## Lectotypification of three Indian endemic taxa of *Pittosporum* (Pittosporaceae)

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**Abstract:** Three recognized Indian endemic taxa of *Pittosporum* Banks. ex Gaertn. are lectotypified, namely *Pittosporum dasycaulon* Miq., *P. humile* Hook. f. & Thomson, and *P. neelgherrense* Wight & Arn.

**Key words:** Endemic, India, isolectotype, lectotype, *Pittosporum*, syntype

### 1. Introduction

The genus *Pittosporum* Banks. ex Gaertn. consists of about 200 species worldwide (Mabberley, 2008). Ten recognized species are presently found in India (Nayar and Giri, 1993; Singh and Diwakar, 2009), of which four species are endemic to different states (Singh and Diwakar, 2009). During systematic studies of the genus *Pittosporum* in India, the author realized the necessity to lectotypify three species endemic to India, because no specific herbarium sheet was cited as holotype in their protologues and the taxa were also not lectotypified earlier (Gowda, 1951; Nayar and Giri, 1980, 1993; Singh and Diwakar, 2009). Therefore, the three binomials of these endemic taxa were lectotypified here to avoid any ambiguity in the application of these names. The guidelines of Art. 9.2 and recommendations 9A, 9C, and 9D of the Melbourne Code (McNeill et al., 2012) have been followed while designating the lectotypes.

### 2. Materials and methods

The three recognized Indian endemic species *Pittosporum dasycaulon* Miq., *P. humile* Hook. f. & Thomson and *P. neelgherrense* Wight & Arn. were critically studied taxonomically and it was found necessary to select the lectotypes for these names. Pertaining to the specifications given in protologues of these three species, type specimens were traced from different herbaria (CAL, E, FI, GHU, HAL, JE, K, L, NY, P, and U) and by following the guidelines of Art. 9.2 and recommendations 9A, 9C, and 9D of the Melbourne Code (McNeill et al., 2012), the lectotypes for these three names were designated here. The distribution of these three species in Indian states is also provided.

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### 3. Results and discussion

***Pittosporum dasycaulon*** Miq., Anal. Bot. Ind. 3: 5. 1852. Type citation: "Hab. in ora *Canara* prope *Hoobly*, m. Jan. florens (METZ. n°. 775)."

Lectotype (designated here): India, Karnataka state, Dharwad district, Hoobly [Hubballi], January [without year], Metz 755 (U1478368!); isolectotypes: E00265111!, FI005781!, HAL0118532!, JE00002866!, JE00002867!, K000356568!, L0019965!, P00698005!, P00698006! and P00698007! (Figure 1).

Distribution: India, endemic (Western Ghats area of Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu states).

Notes: Miquel (1852) described *Pittosporum dasycaulon* based on collections of Metz 755 from Hubballi, Karnataka, but, while keeping with the practice of those times, he did not designate a holotype nor did he mention the name of the herbarium where the specimens were housed. Eleven herbarium specimens of collection number 755 of Metz from Hubballi, Karnataka were traced. Of these, the best one and better preserved sheet, U1478368, is designated here as the lectotype, as it agrees well with the protologue and also belongs to Miquel's herbarium.

***Pittosporum humile*** Hook. f. & Thomson, Fl. Brit. India 1(1): 198. 1872.

Type citation: "KHASIA HILLS, banks of the Borpani river, alt. 5000 ft., *H. f. & T.*"

Lectotype (designated here): India, Meghalaya state, Khasia, 2000 ft., without date, Hook. f. & Thomson s.n. (K000356471!); isolectotypes: CAL!, L1873578! and P02567092! (Figure 2).

Distribution: India, endemic (Meghalaya state).

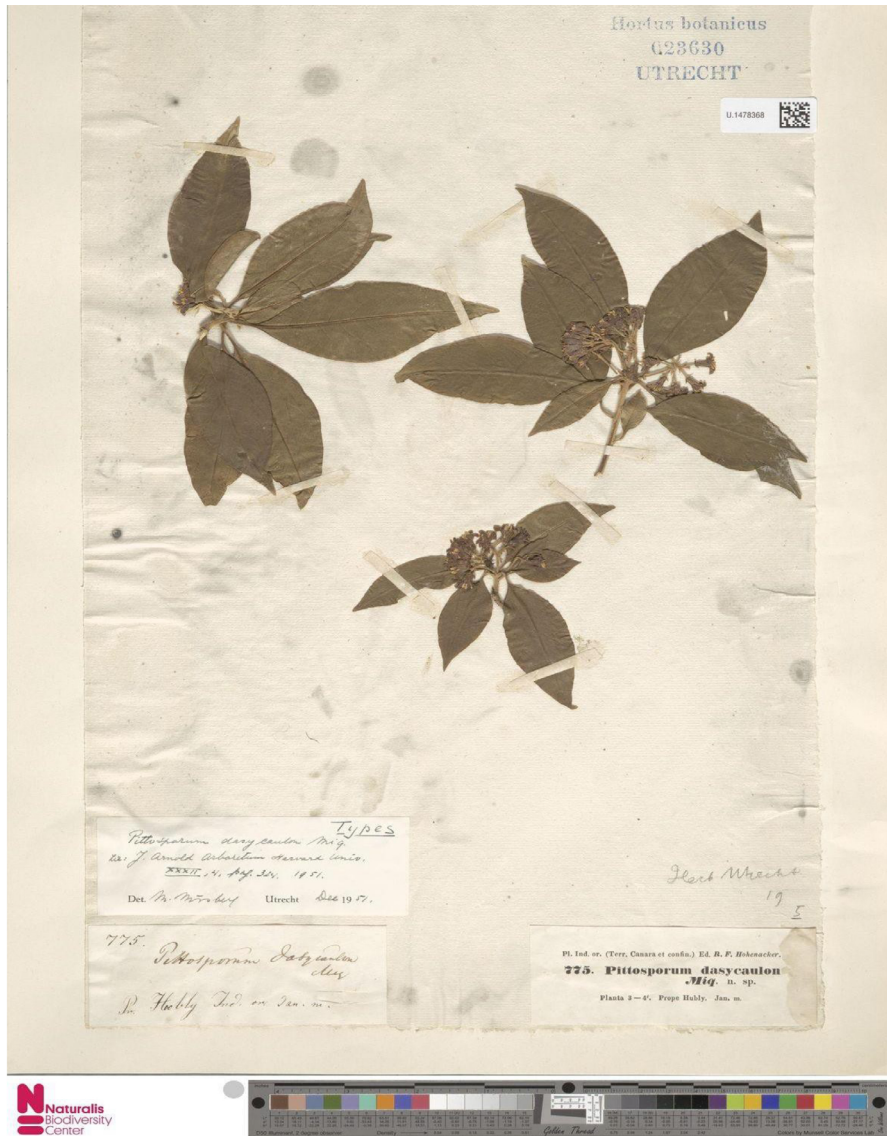


Figure 1. Lectotype of *Pittosporum dasycaulon* Miq. (U1478368).

Notes: Hooker and Thomson (1872) described *Pittosporum humile* on the basis of specimens collected from the Khasia hills, but did not mention any specific sheet as the holotype nor the name of the herbarium where the specimens were housed. Four specimens of *P. humile* collected by Hook. f. & Thomson from Khasia were traced. The best one and better preserved sheet, K000356471, is designated here as the lectotype, as it agrees well with the protologue and also belongs to the herbarium Hookerianum.

***Pittosporum neelgherrense*** Wight & Arn., Prodr. Fl. Ind. Orient. 1: 154. 1834 [10 Oct 1834].

Type citation: "Wight! cat. n. 141, 544.—Neelgherries."

Lectotype (designated here): India, 1833, Wight 141 (E00174314!). (Figure 3).

Residual syntypes: India, Peninsula Ind. orientalis, without date, Wight 141 (E00174315!, GHU000273233!, K000356477!, NY00388148!, P00698057!, and P00698058!); Peninsula Ind. orientalis, without date, Wight 544 (E00174316!).

Distribution: India, endemic (Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu states).

Notes: Wight and Arnott (1834) described *Pittosporum neelgherrense* based on the collections of Wight cat. n. 141 and 544, but no specific herbarium sheet was designated as the holotype. In the protologue, they mentioned the locality and number of collections, but did not provide collection date nor the name of the herbarium where the specimens were housed. Pertaining to the type specification provided in the protologue, seven specimens



Figure 2. Lectotype of *Pittosporum humile* Hook. f. & Thomson (K000356471).

of Wight cat. n. 141 were traced (E00174314, E00174315, GHU000273233, K000356477, NY00388148, P00698057, and P00698058) and one of Wight cat. n. 544 (E00174316). Of these, E00174314 is better preserved and more complete than the other specimens and best represents the species description given in the protologue; hence it is designated here as the lectotype.

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Figure 3. Lectotype of *Pittosporum neelgherrense* Wight & Arn. (E00174314).

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