

The correct name for *Atuna excelsa* (Chrysobalanaceae)

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ABSTRACT. A correction is made for the use of the name *Atuna excelsa* (Jack) Kosterm. which has been erroneously placed as a subspecies of *A. racemosa* Raf. despite being described sixteen years earlier. *Atuna excelsa* is restored as the correct name for this species and *A. racemosa* is reduced to subspecific rank. Since the holotype of *Atuna racemosa* is an old illustration, an epitype is proposed for this name.

Keyword. *Atuna*, Chrysobalanaceae, nomenclature

Introduction

In various publications (Prance, 1989, 2012) I overlooked the priority of names in the genus *Atuna* Raf. This short note is to correct the nomenclature of *Atuna excelsa* (Jack) Kosterm. versus *A. racemosa* Raf. In previous work I have treated *Atuna excelsa* as a subspecies of *A. racemosa* Raf. that was published in 1838. The oldest name for this species, however, is *Petrocarya excelsa* Jack, published in 1822 and transferred to *Atuna* by Kostermans (1969). When the two are treated as synonyms in *Atuna*, *A. excelsa* has priority over *A. racemosa*. The necessary nomenclatural changes are given below. There is no original material of *Petrocarya excelsa* and Kostermans (1965) selected a neotype for it. Since the type of *Atuna racemosa* is a Rumphius illustration, I have also selected an epitype, designating a collection that is widely distributed in several herbaria. Both subspecies have numerous synonyms that are listed in Prance (1989) and so are not repeated here.

Atuna excelsa (Jack) Kosterm., Reinwardtia 7: 422 (1969). – *Petrocarya excelsa* Jack, Malayan Misc. 2(7): 68 (1822). – *Cyclandrophora excelsa* (Jack) Kosterm., Candollea 20: 132 (1965). – TYPE: Sumatra, Banka, Lobok Besar, 20 m alt., 11 Oct 1949, Kostermans & Anta 1136 (neotype BO, designated by Kostermans (1965); isoneotypes A, K, L, PNH, SING).

This species is divided into two subspecies.

Key to the subspecies of *Atuna excelsa*

- 1a. Leaves 4.5–12 cm long, usually ovate or oblong-ovate, subcoriaceous or coriaceous, the apex bluntly acuminate, 3–10 mm long; petioles thin; flowers 8–11 mm long; large trees with a cylindrical bole subsp. *excelsa*
- 1b. Leaves 10–25(–35) cm long, usually elliptic, oblong or lanceolate, rarely ovate, chartaceous or thickly coriaceous, the apex long finely acuminate, 6–25 mm long; petioles thick; medium sized trees often with a fluted bole subsp. *racemosa*

Atuna excelsa Jack subsp. *racemosa* (Raf.) Prance, **comb. nov.** – *Atuna racemosa* Raf., Sylva Tellur. 153 (1838); Kostermans, Reinwardtia 7: 422 (1969). – TYPE: Plate in Rumphius, Herb. Amboin. 1: pl. 66 (1741), lectotype designated here. EPITYPE: Indonesia, West Ceram [Seram], Kairatu, Gemba, *Kuswata & Soepadmo 94* (epitype SING [SING0252043]; isopitypes A, BO, CANB, K, L, LAE, P).

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