

## A Correction in *Cleistocalyx* (Myrtaceae)

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### Abstract

*Cleistocalyx nervosus* (DC.) Kosterm. is an illegitimate later homonym of *Cleistocalyx nervosus* (Lour.) Blume. Therefore, the new combinations *Cleistocalyx cerasoides* (Roxb.) I.M. Turner and *C. cerasoides* var. *paniala* (Roxb.) I.M. Turner are proposed. *Eugenia cerasoides* Roxb. is lectotypified.

### *Cleistocalyx nervosus*

When Blume described the genus *Cleistocalyx* in 1850 he included two species. These were *Cleistocalyx nitidus* (Korth.) Blume, based on *Jambosa nitida* Korth., and *Cleistocalyx nervosus* (Lour.) Blume, based on *Eugenia nervosa* Lour. Merrill and Perry (1937) resurrected Blume's genus from obscurity, including 21 species in their revision. One of these was *Cleistocalyx operculatus* (Roxb.) Merr. & L.M. Perry based on *Eugenia operculata* Roxb. Roxburgh first used this name in his *Hortus Bengalensis* published in 1814, but lacking a description the name was not properly validated until the posthumous publication of the second edition of *Flora Indica* that appeared in 1832. However, before that in 1828, De Candolle had described the species as *Syzygium nervosum*, referring to Roxburgh's *nomen nudum* *Eugenia operculata*. Thus the oldest valid name for this species is *Syzygium nervosum* DC. Panigrahi and Mishra (1985) argued that the 1832 publication of *Eugenia operculata* Roxb. represents an illegitimate renaming of *Syzygium nervosum* DC.

Recognising *Syzygium nervosum* DC. as the oldest name available, Kostermans (1987) made the transfer of the epithet to *Cleistocalyx*. However, *Cleistocalyx nervosus* (DC.) Kosterm. is an illegitimate later

homonym of Blume's second species of the genus *Cleistocalyx nervosus* (Lour.) Blume. Unfortunately, Kostermans' name has, incorrectly, been taken up by several workers (Turner 1995, Chantaranonthai & Parnell 2002, Kress *et al.* 2003). As this is a wide-ranging (India to Australia) and quite common species, it is important to clarify and correct its nomenclature. While Merrill and Perry intended to transfer *Eugenia operculata* Roxb. to *Cleistocalyx*, their combination, *Cleistocalyx operculatus* Merr. & L.M. Perry, can be considered as a *nomen novum* for *Syzygium nervosum* DC. as they cited this name in the synonymy. However, there are a number of synonyms of *Syzygium nervosum* DC. that have priority over *Cleistocalyx operculatus* Merr. & L.M. Perry. The oldest available appears to be *Eugenia cerasoides* Roxb. and this is formally transferred to *Cleistocalyx* below. The correct name for the species in *Syzygium* remains as *Syzygium nervosum* DC. For those who maintain *Eugenia* in the widest sense, the species is correctly *Eugenia cerasoides* Roxb.

A new combination is also made for the variety of the species based on *Eugenia paniala* Roxb. Valid combinations for variety *paniala* have yet to be made in either *Syzygium* or *Eugenia*.

*Cleistocalyx cerasoides* (Roxb.) I.M. Turner, *comb. nov.*

**Basionym:** *Eugenia cerasoides* Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. 1832, 2 (1832) 488. *Syzygium cerasoides* (Roxb.) Raizada, Ind. Forester 84 (1958) 478.

**Type:** Ic. Roxb. no. 2256 (lecto, designated here, K) (reproduced as Wight Ic. 615).

*Syzygium nervosum* DC, Prod. 3 (1828) 260. *Cleistocalyx nervosus* (DC.) Kosterm., Bull. Bot. Surv. India 29 (1989) 17 *sphalm. nervosum, comb. illegit, non Cleistocalyx nervosus* (Lour.) Blume, Mus. Bot. 1 (1850) 85. *Cleistocalyx operculatus* Merr. & L.M. Perry, J. Arn. Arb. 18 (1937) 337, *nom. nov. pro S. nervosum* DC.

**Type:** Roxburgh s.n., herb. Lambert 1816 (holo, G-DC).

*Eugenia operculata* Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. 1832, 2 (1832) 486, *nom. illegit. Syzygium operculatum* Nied., Nat. Pflanzenfam. 3(7) (1893) 85, *nom. illegit.*

**Type:** Roxburgh s.n., herb. Lambert 1816 (lecto, designated by Panigrahi & Mishra 1985, G-DC).

var. *paniala* (Roxb.) I.M. Turner, *comb. nov.*

**Basionym:** *Eugenia paniala* Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. 1832 (1832) 489. *Eugenia operculata* Roxb. var. *paniala* (Roxb.) Duthie, Fl. British India 2 (1879) 498, *comb, illegit. Cleistocalyx operculatus* Merr. & L.M. Perry var. *paniala* (Roxb.) P. Chantaranonthai & J. Parn., Kew Bull. 48 (1993) 591. *Cleistocalyx nervosus* (DC.) Kosterm. [*non* (Lour.) Blume] var. *paniala* (Roxb.) P.

Chantaranothai & J. Parn., Novon 6 (1996) 201, *comb. illegit.*

**Type:** *Ic. Roxb. no. 2255* (lecto, designated by Chantaranothai & Parnell (1993), K).

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