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A NOTE ON *EUONYMUS BULLATUS* (CELASTRACEAE)

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The place of publication and typification of *Euonymus bullatus* is briefly revised in light of recent nomenclatural decisions.

Keywords. Bangladesh, India, lectotype, validation, Wallich.

In his vast list of herbarium specimens gathered under the auspices of the East India Company (Wallich, 1829–1849), Nathaniel Wallich included as number 4299, *Euonymus bullatus*, represented as a collection made by Francis De Silva in the region of Sylhet in 1824. The original field ticket written by De Silva, still on the sheet in the East India Company Herbarium (K-W) at Kew, gives the locality as Pondawah Hill. This is likely to be a variant spelling of Pundua, a locality often given for the Sylhet region in the Wallich collections (C. B. Clarke in Anonymous, 1913). It equates to Pandua in modern Bangladesh, just south of the border with India. As Clarke noted, De Silva's specimens from Pundua are most likely to have been made in the Khasia Hills to the north of Pundua, in what is now the Indian state of Meghalaya.

Wallich's species name as published in the *Numerical List* is not valid, because there is no accompanying description or reference to one. The species must have soon been brought into cultivation by Wallich at Calcutta and material sent to Europe, where it was taken up as a glasshouse plant. In 1831, the nursery firm of Conrad Loddiges & Sons, of Hackney, included *Euonymus bullatus* in their periodical, the *Botanical Cabinet* (scientific author, George Loddiges; Turner, 2016). A plate and brief account of the plant appeared as follows:

> A native of Napal, introduced by Dr. Wallich to the Horticultural Society, who gave it to us with this name. It thrives in the greenhouse, potted in loam and peat, and flowers in May and June. The flowers, though not splendid, have a pleasing and rather singular appearance. The leaves are evergreen, and very large and handsome.

Recent revisions of *Euonymus* (Ramamurthy, 2000; Ma, 2001) have cited *Euonymus bullatus* as validated in the *Botanical Cabinet*. However, the descriptive content of the text by Loddiges is very slight. I therefore requested a binding decision (Turner, 2015:

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1334) under ICN Art. 38.4 (McNeill *et al.*, 2012) on whether the descriptive statement was adequate to validate the name. The Nomenclature Committee for Vascular Plants made the decision that the descriptive statement was not adequate to validate the name (Applequist, 2017: 512). The General Committee came to the same judgement (Wilson, 2017: 743). Therefore, *Euonymus bullatus* Wall. ex G.Lodd. must be considered a *nomen nudum*. Apparently, Wallich's name was not validated until more than forty years later, when Lawson provided a description in the *Flora of British India*. The only gathering cited directly by Lawson was the original De Silva collection, and the sheet in K-W is here designated as the lectotype.

Euonymus bullatus Wall. ex M.A.Lawson in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1(3): 610 (1875). – Type: [Bangladesh or India] Sylhet, Pondawah Hill, February 1824, *F. De Silva* 1323 [EIC 4299] (lecto K-W [barcode: K001038651], designated here; iso BM, K, NY).

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