

Lectotypification of *Argyrea bella* (Convolvulaceae)

Selvaraj Shalini^{1,4}, Pakshirajan Lakshminarasimhan² and Wilson Arisdason³

¹Central National Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, AJC Bose Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah 711103, West Bengal, India

²Botanical Survey of India, Western Regional Centre, 7, Koregaon Road, Pune 411001, Maharashtra, India

³Botanical Survey of India, CGO Complex, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 700 064, West Bengal, India

⁴Author for correspondence: hai_jane@yahoo.co.in

Abstract

Lectotype of *Argyrea bella* (C.B. Clarke) Raizada (basionym: *Lettsomia bella* C.B. Clarke) is designated here.

Introduction

The genus, *Argyrea* Lour., belonging to the family Convolvulaceae, is represented by 90 species, and distributed chiefly in tropical Asia (Fang and Staples 1995; Mabberley 2008). Clarke (1883) reported 25 species of *Argyrea* and 21 species of *Lettsomia* from then flora of British India, including species from Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Nepal, Myanmar (Burma), and Malay Peninsula regions, of which 5 species of *Argyrea* and 15 species of *Lettsomia* were described by him as new. However, almost all those *Lettsomia* species are now treated under *Argyrea*. According to Santapau and Henry (1976), the genus is represented by 40 species within the present political boundaries of India, and it is the second largest genus in Indian Convolvulaceae.

Clarke (1883) described *Lettsomia bella* based on his own collection from Chota Nagpur. The protologue provides only the place of collection (Chota Nagpore) and the elevation (2000'). According to Stafleu and Cowan (1976), the "Indian herbarium and mss" of C.B. Clarke are chiefly housed at K, with duplicates in many herbaria. In India, many duplicate specimens of Clarke's are housed at CAL.

As part of a taxonomic revision of Tribe Ipomoeae in India, attempts were made to trace type specimens at K, as well as at CAL. In the Kew Herbarium Catalogue (<http://www.kew.org/herbcat>), images of two specimens (Bundgao, 2000', Singbhoom, Chota Nagpore, 28 Oct 1873, C.B. Clarke 20452 A, K000830701, image!; Ranchi, 1500', Chota Nagpore, 22 Oct 1873, C.B. Clarke 21351 A, K000830702, image!) were located. Similarly, at CAL two specimens (Bundgao, 2000', Singbhoom, Chota Nagpore, 28 Oct 1873, C.B. Clarke 20452 E, CAL0000018485!; Ranchi, 1500', Chota Nagpore, 22 Oct 1873, C.B. Clarke 21340 D) were traced. All these specimens were collected by Clarke prior to publishing the name *Lettsomia bella* and would be considered original material. However, the two specimens collected from Bundgao and presently housed at K (C.B. Clarke 20452 A, K000830701) and at CAL (C.B. Clarke 20452 E, CAL0000018485) are considered as syntypes of *Lettsomia bella*, as the elevation (2000') of the place of collection given on these two sheets is an exact match with the protologue. Of these, the specimen housed at K (C.B. Clarke 20452 A, K000830701) is designated here as the lectotype of *Lettsomia bella* (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. *Argyreia bella* (C.B. Clarke) Raizada (basionym: *Lettsomia bella* C.B. Clarke) (C.B. Clarke 20452 A, K000830701, image!) (Lectotype) (<http://specimens.kew.org/herbarium/K000830701>) [© The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Reproduced with the consent of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew].

Nomenclature

Argyreia bella (C.B. Clarke) Raizada, *Indian Forester* 84(7): 472 (1958).

Lettsomia bella C.B. Clarke in Hook.f., *The Flora of British India* 4: 192 (1883).

Lectotype (designated here): Bundgao, 2000', Singbhoom, Chota Nagpore, 28 Oct 1873, C.B. Clarke 20452 A (K000830701, image!); isolecto: C.B. Clarke 20452 E (CAL0000018485!) – **Fig. 1.**

Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to Dr. Paramjit Singh, Director, Botanical Survey of India, for facilities. They are also thankful to the Board of Trustees of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for permission to publish the image of the selected lectotype.

References

- Clarke CB (1883). *Convolvulaceae*. pp. 179–228. In: Hooker JD (ed.), *The Flora of British India*. vol. 4 (L. Reeve & Co., London)
- Fang R, Staples G (1995). *Convolvulaceae*. pp. 271–325. In: Wu Z, Raven PH, Deyuan H (eds.), *Flora of China*. vol. 16 (Science Press, Beijing & Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis)
- Mabberley DJ (2008). *Mabberley's Plant-Book. A portable dictionary of plants, their classification and uses*. Third edition (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge)
- Santapau H, Henry AN (1973). *A Dictionary of the Flowering Plants in India* (Publication & Information Directorate, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Delhi)
- Stafleu FA, Cowan RS (1976) *Taxonomic Literature*. Second edition. *Regnum Vegetabile* 94 (Bohn, Scheltema & Holkema, Utrecht)

Manuscript received 12 September 2015, accepted 23 September 2015