NOMENCLATURAL UPDATES IN VARRONIA (CORDIACEAE, BORAGINALES) FROM SOUTH AMERICA

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Abstract. Two new combinations in Varronia (Cordiaceae, Boraginales) are proposed, both species endemic to Colombia: V. fuertesii and V. ramirezii.

Resumo. Duas novas combinações em Varronia (Cordiaceae, Boraginales) são propostas, ambas as espécies endêmicas da Colômbia: V. fuertesii e V. ramirezii.

Keywords: Boraginales, Colombia, Cordia, nomenclature

The genus Varronia P. Browne (Cordiaceae) currently comprises ca. 125 Neotropical species, occurring from the United States (Arizona) to Argentina, mainly in the northern Andean region, Mexico, and Brazil (Miller, 2013). Since it was originally described by Browne (1756), Varronia has been treated in various ways: as a subgenus or section of Cordia and as a distinct genus. Borhidi et al. (1988) treated Varronia and published a list of new combinations. However, until the first decade of the 21st century, floristic works continued treating the species of Varronia under Cordia sensu lato, for example, Taroda and Gibbs (1986), Vitta (1992), Estrada Sánchez (1995), Melo and França (2003), and Melo and Sales (2005). Recently, morphological and molecular data confirmed Varronia as a genus distinct from Cordia (Miller and Gottschling, 2007) and belonging to the Cordiaceae family (BWG, 2016).

To update the names in Varronia, new combinations were proposed recently by Miller (2007, 2013), Stapf (2010), and Feuillet (2016). However, because of the representativeness of the genus and of Cordiaceae in the Neotropics, the correct names of several taxa of Varronia still need to be reevaluated or re-assigned in the genus.

During a taxonomic study of Varronia species from South America, we found the need to propose new combinations for two Colombian species that Estrada Sánchez (1995) originally described under Cordia, and they are proposed herein. Tropicos (http://www.tropicos.org), JSTOR Global Plants (https://plants.jstor.org), and Plants of the World Online (http://www.plantsoftheworldonline.org/) were consulted for the protologues and type specimens. The acronyms of herbaria are based on Thiers’s Index Herbariorum (Thiers, 2019).

Varronia fuertesii (Estrada) T.S. Silva & J.I.M. Melo, comb. nov.

Distribution: Colombia.

Varronia ramirezii (Estrada) T.S. Silva & J.I.M. Melo, comb. nov.
Basionym: Cordia ramirezii Estrada, Flora de Colombia 14: 147–148. 1995. TYPE: COLOMBIA. Nariño: Road to Buesaco, ca. 10 km NE of Pasto, 2600–2850 m, 11 January 1981, A. Gentry, M. Mulampy, S. Libenson, M. Olson & A. Cogollo 30429 (Holotype: COL [000004059]; Isotype: JAUM [0000142]).

Distribution: Colombia.

Literature Cited


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