

NOMENCLATURE OF SYZYGIUM GRACILE (MYRTACEAE)

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SUMMARY

Syzygium glabratum is the correct name for *Syzygium gracile*.

Key words: *Syzygium glabratum*, *Syzygium gracile*, *Syzygium ramosissimum*, Myrtaceae, Malesia.

Ms. Amshoff (1945) coined the combination *Syzygium gracile* (Korth.) Amshoff, based on *Jambosa gracilis* Korth. (1847). She cited an apparently earlier place where the combination would have been made: the ‘Noodflora voor Java’ (1944). However, all new taxa and combinations found there must be regarded as invalid, as the Noodflora was prepared to safeguard Backer’s manuscripts in a number of places. Hence the publication in 1945 was necessary to validate some new names and taxa.

However, Amshoff also cited *Myrtus glabrata* Blume (1826–1827: 1083, ‘1088’), which is a later homonym of *M. glabrata* Sw. (1788). She was apparently not aware that Blume’s taxon was given a valid name, *Jambosa glabrata*, by De Candolle (1828), i.e. older than Korthals’ name. *Syzygium gracile* (Korth.) Amshoff is superfluous: ‘*glabratum*’ should have been used, as there seems to be no *Syzygium glabratum* then and now (IPNI, May 21, 2003).

The synonymy of the taxon is:

Syzygium glabratum [Blume] (DC.) Veldk., *comb. nov.*

Myrtus glabrata Blume, Bijdr. 17 (1826–1827) 1083, non Sw. (1788). — *Jambosa glabrata* DC., (1828) 287. — *Clavimyrthus glabrata* Blume (1850) 114. — *Eugenia blumeana* Kuntze (1891) 239, nom. nov., non *E. glabrata* DC. (1828). — Lectotype of *Clavimyrthus* Blume, designated by Merr. & Perry [(1939) 141 (‘*Myrtus glabrata* DC.’)]. — Type: *Blume 561* (holo L, sh. 908.146-2999), designated here [Henderson, (1949) 249, said to have seen the type, but no sheet in L is marked by him].

Jambosa gracilis Korth. (1847) 202. — *Eugenia clavimyrthus* Koord. & Valetton (1900) 110, nom. superfl. — *Syzygium gracile* Amshoff in Backer [(1944) 22, nom. inval.], (1945) 500, nom. superfl.; Merr. (1950) 392; Backer & Bakh.f. (1964) 343; I.M. Turner (1996) 15; (1997, ‘1995’) 376. — Type: *Korthals s.n.*, ‘in cultis agri bogoriensis’ [not found, but presence in L cited by Merrill (1950)].

Clavimyrthus marginata Blume (1850) 115. — *Jambosa marginata* Miq. (1855) 428. — Type: *Van Hasselt s.n.* (holo L, not found).

Clavimyrthus virens Blume (1850) 114. — *Jambosa virens* Miq. (1855) 428. — *Eugenia virens* Koord. & Valetton (1900) 113; Henderson (1949) 249, t. 47a. — Type: *Van Hasselt s.n.* (holo L, sh. 898.203-397), designated here.

Eugenia fusiformis Duthie in Hook.f. (1878) 479. — *Syzygium fusiforme* Merr. & Perry (1939) 176.
— Type: *Maingay 743* (holo K).

Eugenia leptogyna C.B. Rob. (1909) 368; Merr. (1923) 368; (1950) 392. — Type: *FB 6839 (Merritt)* (holo PNH†).

Distribution — Malesia: Malay Peninsula (Johor, Malaya, Perak (Singapore), Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Bali, and the Philippines (Luzon, Mindanao, Mindoro, Negros, Palawan, Panay).

Habitat — Forests, 0–1200 m altitude.

In view of the fact that the species was described locally several times it cannot be ruled out that the assertion by the Index Kewensis is correct and that the E Indian *Eugenia ramosissima* (Blume) Duthie belongs here as well:

Clavimyrthus ramosissima Blume (1850) 115. — *Eugenia ramosissima* Wall. [(1831) 3604, nom. nud.] ex Duthie in Hook.f. (1878) 480. — *Jambosa ramosissima* A.M. & J.M. Cowan (1929) 67. — *Syzygium ramosissimum* N.P. Balakrishnan (1982, '1980') 175 ('*ramosissium*'). — Type: Wallich Cat. 3604 (holo L, sh. 898.203-638), designated here.

Distribution — E India, Bangladesh.

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