



Correspondence

Rhamnus liboensis, a replacement name for *Rhamnus calcicola* Q. H. Chen (Rhamnaceae)

YUNFEI DENG

Key Laboratory of Plant Resources Conservation and Sustainable Utilization, South China Botanical Garden, The Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guangzhou, 510650, People's Republic of China; E-mail: yfdeng@scbg.ac.cn

Rhamnus Linnaeus (1753: 193) is the largest genus of Rhamnaceae. It consists of about 150 species distributed in temperate to tropical regions of the Northern hemisphere, mainly in E Asia and North America, and a few species in Europe and Africa (Madan & Schirarend 2004, Mabberley 2008). Fifty-seven species are currently recognized in China (Chen & Schirarend 2007).

Rhamnus calcicola Q. H. Chen was described by Chen (1985: 413) based on some collections from Libo Xian, Guizhou Province, China. In the protologue, the specific epithet was spelled as "*calcicolus*", but it might be corrected to "*calcicola*" because *Rhamnus* is feminine according to Article 62.1 of the ICBN (McNeill *et al.* 2006). Unfortunately, Chen (1985) overlooked that the name *Rhamnus calcicola* had already been used for another and different Japanese species, *Rhamnus calcicola* Hatusima (1956: 21). Therefore, the Chinese species requires a new name, which is proposed here.

Rhamnus liboensis Y. F. Deng, *nom. nov.* Replaced name: *Rhamnus calcicola* Chen (1985: 413), *nom. illeg.*, non *Rhamnus calcicola* Hatusima (1956: 21). Type:—CHINA. Guizhou: Libo Xian, Mogan, in forest on the limestone hills, 850 m, 29 April 1984, *Chen Qianhai 2321* (holotype KUN!).

Etymology:—The specific epithet "liboensis" refers to the type locality, Libo Xian.

Distribution and habitat:—The species is now only known from its type locality, Libo Xian, Guizhou Province, China. It grows in the thickets on limestone hills at 600–900 m.

Notes:—*Rhamnus liboensis* was not treated by Chen & Schirind (2007) in the recently published *Flora of China*. It is closely related to *R. bodinieri* Léveillé (1912: 473), but differs in the leaves being obovate to oblong, $0.8-3 \times 0.6-1.4$ cm (vs. elliptic or oblong, $2.5-10 \times 1.2-3.5$ cm), petioles only to 2 mm long (vs. 3–9 mm), seeds broad at both ends (vs. broader at base), abaxially narrowly furrowed at middle part (vs. longitudinally furrowed in upper part). It is also similar to the Himalayan species *R. procumbens* Edgeworth (1846: 43), but differs in its pedicels to 2 mm long, nearly equaling the petioles (vs. 5–6 mm, longer than the petioles) (Chen 1985, Chen & Schirind 2007).

References

Chen, Y.L. & Schirarend, C. (2007) Rhamnaceae. *In*: Wu, Z.Y., Raven, P.H. & Hong, D.Y. (eds.) *Flora of China* 12. Science Press, Beijing & Missouri Botanical Garden Press, St. Louis, pp. 115–168.

Chen, Q.H. (1985) New plants of Rhamnaceae and Anacardiaceae from Guizhou. Acta Botanica Yunnanica 7: 413–416.

Edgeworth, M.P. (1846) Description of some unpublished species of plants from North-Western India. *Transactions of the Linnean Society of London* 20: 23–92.

- Hatusima, S. (1956) New and noteworthy plants from the Ryukyu Islands and Formosa. *Science Bulletin of the Agriculture & Home Economics Division, University of the Ryukyus* 3: 19–33.
- Léveillé, H. (1912) Decades plantarum novarum LXXXVII–LXXXVIII. Repertorium Specierum Novarum Regni Vegetabilis 10: 473–476.