

# A NEW NAME FOR *HUPERZIA* *ARUNACHALENSIS* (LYCOPODIACEAE) FROM INDIA

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**Abstract:** Type specimens of *Urostachys vorwerkii* were detected in CAL herbarium. These specimens clarified that *Urostachys vorwerkii* is actually a synonym of earlier name *Huperzia ceylanica*. Due to illegitimacy of the name *Huperzia arunachalensis*, a replacement name is proposed.

**Key words:** *Huperzia arunachalensis*, India, Isotypes, Lycopodiaceae, nomen novum, *Urostachys vorwerkii*.

## 1. Introduction

Pant & Pandey (1985) first discovered and described the species *Lycopodium arunachalense* D.D.Pant & P.S.Pandey (Lycopodiaceae) from Arunachal Pradesh, India. Fraser-Jenkins et al. (2015) made the new combination *Huperzia arunachalensis* (D.D.Pant & P.S.Pandey) Fraser-Jenk.

Mazumdar (2015) noticed the name *Urostachys vorwerkii* Nessel (synonym: *Huperzia vorwerkii* (Nessel) Holub). Nessel (1934) in the protologue mentioned that the holotype specimen of *Urostachys vorwerkii* was collected from Himalayan region of India by King's Collectors. Due to resemblance of Nessel's photo (t. 170) in the protologue and the type locality Himalayas, Mazumdar (2015, 2016) treated *Huperzia arunachalensis* as synonym of earlier name *Urostachys vorwerkii* and typified with a specimen of *Huperzia arunachalensis* from Eastern Himalayas.

During a recent visit to CAL herbarium, a herbarium sheet in CAL (India. Tamil Nadu: Parampare Swamp, Annamalai Hills, 7500 ft, 2 April 1912, C.E.C. Fischer 3317, Accession no. 29156) is reexamined. This sheet carries two specimens of *Huperzia ceylanica* (Spring) Trevis. in lower part. There was a specimen in upper part, but cut out and annotated as "sent to H. Nessel, 1929". The other two specimens closely matched with Nessel's photo of the protologue of *Urostachys vorwerkii*.

Thus holotype specimen that Nessel (1934) used to describe his new species *Urostachys vorwerkii* actually came from South India, not Himalayas as Nessel thought and wrote. This sheet clarifies that *Urostachys vorwerkii* is actually a synonym of *Huperzia ceylanica*.

*Huperzia arunachalensis* is a distinct species having close affinity with *Huperzia herteriana* (Kümm.) T.Sen & U.Sen. But *Huperzia arunachalensis* (D.D.Pant & P.S.Pandey) Fraser-Jenk. is an illegitimate later homonym of *Huperzia arunachalensis* Mazumdar & R.Mukhop. Thus a replacement name (*nom. nov.*) is proposed here after present second author for his contribution on taxonomy of Indian Lycopodiaceae.

## 1. Taxonomy

### 1.1. *Huperzia mazumdariana* Chandan Das, *nom. nov.*

*Lycopodium arunachalense* D.D.Pant & P.S.Pandey, Phyt. Monogr. 3: 11–13. 1985 [as "arunachalensis"]. *Huperzia arunachalensis* (D.D.Pant & P.S.Pandey) Fraser-Jenk., Ferns Fern-allies Nepal 1: 45. 2015 [12 Apr 2015] *nom. illeg.*, non Mazumdar & R.Mukhop., Bionature 34(2): 33. 2014 [15 Dec 2014].

**1.2. Holotype:** India. Arunachal Pradesh: Sewak Pass, Lohit Division, about 5700-6200 ft, 1978, *P.S. Pandey 2101-2103* (Herb. of Deptt. of P.G. Studies in Botany, Feroze Gandhi College, Rae Bareli, India ex Herb. Allahabad University– photo in Fraser-Jenkins et al., 2016: 523).

**1.3. Distribution:** India (Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura).

**1.4. Additional specimens examined:** India. Arunachal Pradesh: W. Kameng Dt., on the way to Sela, 4000 ft, 8.11.1995, *B. Ghosh & R.K. Ghosh 68218* (CAL two sheets), Meghalaya: Khasia hills, 6000 ft, 31 May 1911, *I.H. Burkill & S.C. Banerji 135* (CAL Acc. no. 29175), Tripura: *B.D. Deb 1533* (CAL Acc. no. 8715).

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