

Comment on Pharmacokinetics and Urine Metabolite Identification of Dehydroevodiamine in the Rat: From *Boymia ruticarpa* A. Juss. to *Tetradium ruticarpum* (A. Juss.) T.G. Hartley

Editor: this letter replies to a query from a reader with taxonomic knowledge in Asian floras, who has written to me regarding a statement made in our paper (*J. Agric. Food Chem.* **2012**, *60*, 1595–1604).¹ The problem that the reader has raised is that *Evodia rutaecarpa* does not exist. According to the reader, the sole possible plant that could be used here is *Tetradium ruticarpum* (A. Juss.) T.G. Hartley (Rutaceae Juss.)

Our response is that in the botanical field, the original name is sometimes assigned without sufficient knowledge of the plant's characteristics; thus, a change of plant name is sometimes inevitable. Botanists studying a particular group of plants will often find that the relationships between individual species are different from what has been previously published. For instance, the name of *Douglas fir*, an evergreen coniferous tree, was changed to *Pseudotsuga menziesii* over 150 years, leaving 19 different names in history.² *T. ruticarpum* (A. Juss.) T.G. Hartley also serves as an example. The vernacular names for *T. ruticarpum* are *Evodia*^{3,4} and *Wu-Zhu-Yu*. Although the correct generic name is spelled “*Euodia*”, *Evodia* is also considered as an orthographic variant of the original spelling, *Euodia*.^{4,5} The very first publication was found in 1825, where it was first named *Boymia ruticarpa* A. Juss.⁶ in a French journal, *Mémoires du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle*. Later, in 1861, a famous British botanist, George Bentham, renamed this plant *Euodia ruticarpa* (A. Juss.) Benth.⁷ Finally, in 1981, due to a revision of the genus *Tetradium*, necessary name changes were performed.⁸ Upon its official introduction to the Western botanical society, this plant's official name was changed to *Tetradium ruticarpum* (A. Juss.) T.G. Hartley.^{8,9}

Sharleen Cheng

Institute of Traditional Medicine, School of Medicine,
 National Yang-Ming University, Taipei 112, Taiwan

Lie-Chwen Lin

National Research Institute of Chinese Medicine, Taipei
 112, Taiwan

Chi-Hung Lin

Institute of Microbiology and Immunology, National
 Yang-Ming University, Taipei 112, Taiwan

Tung-Hu Tsai*

Institute of Traditional Medicine, School of Medicine,
 National Yang-Ming University, Taipei 112, Taiwan;
 Department of Education and Research, Taipei City
 Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan

■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

Corresponding Author

*E-mail: thtsai@ym.edu.tw.

Notes

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