



Flacourtia turbinata (Salicaceae: Flacourtiaceae), a new species from Yunnan, China

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Abstract

A new species of *Flacourtia* from Yingjiang, SW Yunnan, China, bordering with Burma, is described and illustrated. *Flacourtia turbinata* is similar to *F. jangomas* in leaf and flower shape, but can be easily distinguished for its triplinerved leaf venation, extraordinary long sepals, turbinate fruit and pubescent leaves and twigs when young.

Introduction

The genus *Flacourtia* Comm. ex L'Héritier (1786: 59) is the type of Flacourtiaceae (previously placed in Flacourtiaceae, now Salicaceae) (Leskinen & Alström-Rapaport 1999, Chase 2002, Angiosperm Phylogeny Group 2009, Reveal & Chase 2011). It consists of 15 to 17 species, distributed in tropical Asia and Africa. There are 5 species in China with one endemic, 4 of them extending to Yunnan (Yang & Zmarzty 2007). There were 8 species recorded for British India (Hooker & Thomson 1872), 7 species for British Burma (Kurz 1877), and there are as many as 79 names of *Flacourtia* listed in the PlantList, only 8 of them currently accepted (The Plant List 2010), but no modern systematic study on this genus has been published so far. Based on the coalition of styles and presence or absence of the ridges on the fruit, Chinese *Flacourtia* have been divided into two sections: sect. *Connatistylatae* Fan & Xu (1988: 131) and sect. *Flacourtia*.

In April 2007, some specimens were collected by the authors during an exploration of Yingjiang, SW Yunnan. The flowering specimens of *Flacourtia* aroused our interest. In July 2012, we investigated the same place again, and this time fruiting specimens were obtained. After consulting relevant literature (Hooker & Thomson 1872, Kurz 1877, Lai 1999, Yang & Zmarzty 2007), we concluded that it is a separate species new to science, and should be placed in sect. *Connatistylatae*.

Taxonomy

Flacourtia turbinata H. J. Dong & H. Peng, *sp. nov.* (Figures 1 & 2)

It differs from *F. jangomas* in the triplinerved leaf venation, extraordinary long sepals, turbinate fruits, and leaves and twigs with pubescence when young.

Type:—CHINA. Yunnan: Yingjiang county, Tongbiguan village, elevation ca. 1100 m, 7 July 2012 (fr), Peng Hua & Dong Hongjin 2813 (holotype KUN!, isotype KUN!).

Rampant shrub, 1–1.5 m tall, deciduous; branches usually armed with tortuous spines; bark yellow-brown or light brown, young branches green, smooth, sparsely pubescent, and later glabrescent. Petiole 3–6 mm long, pubescent or glabrescent; leaf blade thinly leathery to papery, narrowly ovate, ovate-elliptic, or ovate-oblong,