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**NOTE**

# Lectotypification of *Garcinia imberti* Bourd. (Clusiaceae)

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ABSTRACT: Lectotype of *Garcinia imberti* Bourd. is designated here.

KEY WORDS: Endemism, India, Southern Western Ghats, T. F. Bourdillon.

## INTRODUCTION

Based on the collections from Strathmore estate and Chemunji hills in southern Travancore, T. F. Bourdillon erected *Garcinia imberti* (Bourdillon, 1899). Later Bourdillon (1908), Rama Rao (1914) and Gamble (1915) included this species in their floristic treatments and commented that the distribution of this taxon is restricted locally to the southern Western Ghats of India. During the taxonomic revision of Indian *Garcinia* L., Maheswari (1964) and Singh (1993) also included this species, however examined very few old herbarium specimens only. There was no authentic collection after Bourdillon, until the rediscovery from Kerala part of Agasthyamala region after a lapse of 97 years (Mohanan *et al*. 1997). Two years later, Sasidharan (1999) reported its occurrence in Shenduruny Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district. Subsequently, several botanists collected this species from Bonaccord and Chemunji hills of Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve, Thiruvananthapuram district. After Beddome even though many floristic explorations were carried out in Tamil Nadu, especially in Thirunelveli hills, failed to locate this species from this region.

Stafleu & Mennega (1993) reported that types and specimens of T.F. Bourdillon were housed at TBGT, K, CAL and MH. Referred to this, the authors contacted to these herbaria for the specimens of *Garcinia imberti* Bourd. The Kew Herbarium (K) is having the specimens and sent the details of the historical specimens to us. But, CAL and MH are not having the Bourdillon's collection and it is evident in the database (http://bsienvis.nic.in/Database/Type-specimens_BSI_16547.aspx) about the type specimens housed in the respective herbaria. Finally, the authors could receive an image of the Bourdillon collection of *Garcinia imberti* Bourd. housed at FRC and it also included in their herbarium catalogue (Venkatasubramanian, 2011). On the sheet, somebody written as 'isotype', but it is not possible to consider it as isotype as per the rules of ICN (McNeill *et al.*, 2012), however belongs to the original materials of Bourdillon collection and best to consider as syntype (Art.9.3). Neither Bourdillon nor any subsequent authors designated a lectotype from the known syntypes of *G. Imberti* Bourd., kept at Kew Herbarium (K), Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute Herbarium (TBGT) and Fischer Herbarium (FRC) (Table 1).

Among the known syntypes, we designate the specimen at TBGT (collection no. 603, Acc. no. 02242 TBGT!) from Strathmore estate as the lectotype and its duplicate (collection no. 603) housed at K as the isolectotype in accordance with the Art.9.12 of International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi and Plants (McNeill *et al.*, 2012).

*Garcinia imberti* Bourd. is common in the evergreen forests of southern Western Ghats and mainly associated with *Garcinia morella* (Gaertn.) Desr., and shows close similarities with the latter by the occurrence in the evergreen forests between 900-1100m. alt., tree habit, brownish bark, yellowish wood, leaves with cuneate base, shorter petiole and globose fruits. However *G. Imberti* Bourd. differs from the latter by the presence of terminal fascicle of 3-9 male flowers (versus axillary fascicle of 3), solitary, terminal female flowers (versus solitary, axillary) and the fruits with 1-2 seeds (versus 4-seeded).

## TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

***Garcinia imberti*** Bourd., in J. Bomb. Nat. Hist. Soc.12: 349, t. I. 1899.

Lectotype (designated here) (Fig.1): **INDIA**: Kerala. Travancore, Strathmore estate, 3500 ft., 17 April 1895, *T.F.Bourdillon* 603, accession No.02242 (TBGT!); Isolectotype: Kerala, Strathmore estate, Travancore, 17 April 1895, Bourdillon 603 (K!)

Flowering & Fruiting: April-August.



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**Table1. Syntypes of Bourdillon's collection housed at K, TBGT and FRC.**

| | Collection | | Herbarium |
|---|---|---|---|
| NO. | Locality | Date | |
| 603 | **Strathmore estate** | **17 Apr. 1895** | **K, TBGT!** |
| 608 | **Strathmore estate** | **17 Apr. 1895** | **K, FRC photo!** |
| s.n. | **Chemunji hills** | **16 May 1896** | **TBGT!** |
| 867 | ***s.l.*** | ***s.d.*** | **K000677617 photo!** |
| 871 | ***s.l.*** | ***s.d.*** | **K000677616 photo!** |

**Distribution and status**: *Garcinia imberti* is endemic to the southern Western Ghats of Kerala (Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam & Idukki districts) and Tamil Nadu (Tirunelveli district).

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**Fig. 1. Lectotype of *Garcinia imberti* Bourd.**

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