

Lectotypification of three names of *Teucrium* L. (Lamiaceae)

Thittayil Puthusseri KRISHNARAJ,
Alan THOMAS S.
& Purayidathkandy SUNOJKUMAR

DIRECTEUR DE LA PUBLICATION / *PUBLICATION DIRECTOR*: Gilles Bloch
Président du Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle

RÉDACTEUR EN CHEF / *EDITOR-IN-CHIEF*: Thierry Deroin

RÉDACTEURS / *EDITORS*: Porter P. Lowry II; Zachary S. Rogers; Mathieu Gardère

ÉDITEUR TECHNIQUE (SUIVI ÉDITORIAL) / *DESK EDITOR (EDITORIAL PROCESS)*: Emmanuel Côté (adanson@mnhn.fr)

ÉDITEUR TECHNIQUE (PRODUCTION) / *DESK EDITOR (PRODUCTION)*: Fanny Herman

COMITÉ SCIENTIFIQUE / *SCIENTIFIC BOARD*:

F. Blasco (CNRS, Toulouse)
M. W. Callmander (Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de Genève)
J. A. Doyle (University of California, Davis)
P. K. Endress (Institute of Systematic Botany, Zürich)
P. Feldmann (Cirad, Montpellier)
L. Gautier (Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de Genève)
F. Ghahremaninejad (Kharazmi University, Téhéran)
K. Iwatsuki (Museum of Nature and Human Activities, Hyogo)
A. A. Khapugin (Tyumen State University, Russia)
J.-Y. Lesouef (Conservatoire botanique de Brest)
J. Munzinger (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, Montpellier)
S. E. Rakotoarisoa (Millenium Seed Bank, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Madagascar Conservation Centre, Antananarivo)
P. H. Raven (Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis)
G. Tohmé (Conseil national de la Recherche scientifique Liban, Beyrouth)
J. G. West (Australian National Herbarium, Canberra)
J. R. Wood (Oxford)

COUVERTURE / *COVER*:

Réalisée à partir des Figures de l'article/*Made from the Figures of the article.*

Adansonia est indexé dans / *Adansonia is indexed in*:

- Science Citation Index Expanded (SciSearch®)
- ISI Alerting Services®
- Current Contents® / Agriculture, Biology, and Environmental Sciences®
- Scopus®

Adansonia est distribué en version électronique par / *Adansonia is distributed electronically by*:

- BioOne® (<http://www.bioone.org>)

Adansonia est une revue en flux continu publiée par les Publications scientifiques du Muséum, Paris
Adansonia is a fast track journal published by the Museum Science Press, Paris

Les Publications scientifiques du Muséum publient aussi / *The Museum Science Press also publish: Geodiversitas, Zoosystema, Anthropozoologica, European Journal of Taxonomy, Naturae, Cryptogamie* sous-sections *Algologie, Bryologie, Mycologie, Comptes Rendus Palevol*

Diffusion – Publications scientifiques Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle
CP 41 – 57 rue Cuvier F-75231 Paris cedex 05 (France)
Tél.: 33 (0)1 40 79 48 05 / Fax: 33 (0)1 40 79 38 40
diff.pub@mnhn.fr / <http://sciencepress.mnhn.fr>

Les articles publiés dans *Adansonia* sont distribués sous licence CC-BY 4.0/*Articles published in Adansonia are distributed under a CC-BY 4.0 license.*
ISSN (imprimé / *print*): 1280-8571/ ISSN (électronique / *electronic*): 1639-4798

Lectotypification of three names of *Teucrium* L. (Lamiaceae)

Thittayil Puthusseri KRISHNARAJ

Alan THOMAS S.

Purayidathkandy SUNOJKUMAR

Angiosperm Taxonomy Division, Department of Botany, University of Calicut,
Calicut University P. O., Malappuram, Kerala, 673 635 (India)

krishnarajtp@gmail.com

permafrostalan06@gmail.com

drsunoj@gmail.com (corresponding author)

Submitted on 11 May 2025 | accepted on 7 July 2025 | published on 8 April 2026

Krishnaraj T. P., Thomas S. A. & Sunojkumar P. 2026. — Lectotypification of three names of *Teucrium* L. (Lamiaceae). *Adansonia*, sér. 3, 48 (8): 55-60. <https://doi.org/10.5252/adansonia2026v48a8>. <http://adansonia.com/48/8>

ABSTRACT

KEY WORDS
Lamiaceae,
nomenclature,
Teucrium,
lectotypifications.

Teucrium L. is one of the largest genera in the family Lamiaceae. In India, ten species have been reported so far. While revising the genus *Teucrium* in India, it was found that three names require lectotypification. Accordingly, lectotypes are designated here for *Teucrium wattii* Prain, *Teucrium plectranthoides* Gamble and *Teucrium quadrifarium* Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don.

RÉSUMÉ

MOTS CLÉS
Lamiaceae,
nomenclature,
Teucrium,
lectotypifications.

Lectotypification de trois noms de Teucrium L. (Lamiaceae).

Teucrium L. est l'un des plus grands genres de la famille des Lamiacées. En Inde, dix espèces ont été signalées jusqu'à présent. Lors de la révision du genre *Teucrium* en Inde, il a été constaté que trois noms nécessitent une lectotypification. En conséquence, des lectotypes sont désignés ici pour *Teucrium wattii* Prain, *Teucrium plectranthoides* Gamble et *Teucrium quadrifarium* Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don.

INTRODUCTION

Teucrium L. is one of the largest genera in the subfamily Ajugoideae of the family Lamiaceae (Harley *et al.* 2004). It is a polymorphic and cosmopolitan genus (Tutin & Wood 1972) comprises approximately 295 species worldwide (POWO 2025). Interestingly about 95 % of all taxa are found in the Mediterranean region, which is the core distribution area of this genus (Cantino 1992; Mabberley 2017). While most species of *Teucrium* are native to Mediterranean region, some are found in Australia, Central Asia, and the Americas, and occupy diverse habitats ranging from the dry rocky soils to woodlands and grasslands (Navarro 2020).

Linnaeus (1753) first described the genus *Teucrium*, with 27 species. Hooker (1885) recorded eight species in the *Flora of British India* and Mukerjee (1940) reported 18 species in *Revision of the Labiatae of the Indian Empire*. Recently, Sampath Kumar *et al.* (2020) and Pandey & Singh (2024) reported ten species and two varieties from India. In this article, three names of *Teucrium* are lectotypified according to ICN Shenzhen code Article 9.12 (Turland *et al.* 2018).

SYSTEMATICS

Family LAMIACEAE Martinov
Genus *Teucrium* L.

Teucrium plectranthoides Gamble

Flora of the presidency of Madras: 1158 (Gamble 1924).

TYPE MATERIAL. — **India** • Sengaltheri, Tinnevely; 25.IX.1916; *s.coll.*; *s.n.*; lectotype: [K000821627]! digital image, **here designated** (Fig. 1) • isolectotypes: [CAL0000020524]! digital image, [MH00002428, MH00002429, MH00002430, MH00002431, MH00002432]!, NYBG [NY0044453]! digital image.

NOTES

Teucrium plectranthoides was described by Gamble (1924) based on specimens collected from the Western Ghats near Sengaltheri in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. There was no collection number mentioned in the protologue, and no holotype was designated. After an exhaustive search, one sheet at CAL [CAL0000020524], five sheets at MH [MH00002428, MH00002429, MH00002430, MH00002431, MH00002432], one at K [K000821627], and one at NYBG [NY0044453] were found. All eight sheets were annotated with the collection locality “Sengaltheri-Tinnevely”, with the collection date 25.Sep.1916, and of a single gathering. However, the sheet found at K [K000821627] is well preserved and has an additional label including the mounted parts of inflorescence, flowers, corolla, and calyx separately, with drawings of flower parts in Gamble’s hand. This specimen matches well with the description provided in the protologue. Therefore, the herbarium specimen K000821627 is designated here as lectotype according to ICN Shenzhen code Article 9.12 (Turland *et al.* 2018).

Teucrium wattii Prain

Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Part 2. Natural History 59 (4): 317 (Prain 1891).

TYPE MATERIAL. — **India** • Manipur-Kassome Summit; 1882; *George Watt 5127*; lectotype: [CAL0000020523]! digital image, **here designated** (Fig. 2) • isolectotypes: [CAL0000020521, CAL0000020522]! digital image, [K000821628]! digital image, [G00402072]! digital image, [E00301966]! digital image.

NOTES

Teucrium wattii was described by Prain in 1890 based on specimens collected by George Watt with collection number 5127 from Manipur, Kassome summit region, and no holotype was designated. While searching for type specimens, six specimens collected by Watt were found in different herbaria. Of these, three sheets were deposited in CAL [CAL0000020521, CAL0000020522, CAL0000020523], one each at K [K000821628], G [G00402072], E [E00301966]. All the herbarium specimens are based on a single gathering with collection number 5127. The specimen at CAL [CAL0000020523] is well preserved and matches well with the description provided in the protologue, and some fully opened corollas with stamens were also found well-mounted on the herbarium sheet. Additionally, a comparative illustration of the corolla of different *Teucrium* species is included. Therefore, the herbarium specimen CAL0000020523 is designated here as the lectotype for the name *Teucrium wattii* Prain in accordance with Article 9.12 of ICN (Turland *et al.* 2018).

Teucrium quadrifarium Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don

Prodromus Florae Nepalensis: 108 (Don 1825).

TYPE MATERIAL. — **Nepal** • 27.VIII.1802; *Buchanan Hamilton s.n.*; lectotype: [BM000521963]! digital image, **here designated** (Fig. 3) • syntypes: [K001114913, K001114914, K001114915, K000821620]! digital image, [E00634434]! digital image, [P00686398, P00686399, P00686460]! digital image.

NOTES

Teucrium quadrifarium was first published in *Prodromus Florae Nepalensis* in 1825 by David Don. The author cited herbarium specimens of Hamilton and Wallich in the protologue, that were collected from Nepal. While searching for the herbarium specimens nine sheets were found, which are distributed in BM [BM000521963], K [K001114913, K001114914, K001114915, K000821620], and E [E00634434] and P [P00686398, P00686399, P00686460]. The sheets deposited in K and E and P (except [P00686460] are collected from Nepal bearing the Wallich catalogue number 2024.1. The herbarium specimen found at BM [BM000521963], which was collected by Hamilton, is in accordance with the protologue and designated here as the lectotype of *Teucrium quadrifarium* according to Article 9.12 of ICN (Turland *et al.* 2018).



Fig. 1. — Lectotype of *Teucrium plectranthoides* Gamble (K000821627). RBG Kew (reproduced with permission).



Fig. 2. — Lectotype of *Teucrium wattii* Prain (CAL0000020523). Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata (reproduced with permission).



FIG. 3. — Lectotype of *Teucrium quadrifarium* Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don (BM000521963). The Trustees of The Natural History Museum, London (reproduced with permission).

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to the Board of Trustees of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K), Natural History Museum, London (BM), Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata (CAL), for providing the images of the selected lectotypes. We thank the Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment for the research grant support (Order No.333/2022/KSCSTE dated 8.10.2022). The first author is indebted to the University of Calicut and the second author is indebted to the UGC for the Research Fellowship. We appreciate the reviewers Thierry Deroin (MNHN) and Dr. V. Sampath Kumar (Botanical Survey of India Southern Regional Center) for their valuable suggestions and comments.

REFERENCES

- CANTINO P. D. 1992. — Evidence for a polyphyletic origin of the Labiatae. *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 79: 361-379. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2399774>
- DON D. 1825. — *Prodromus Florae Nepalensis* J. Gale Press, London: 107-109. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.86>
- GAMBLE J. S. 1924. — *Flora of the Presidency of Madras*, Volume 3. Adlard & Son, London: 1156-1158. https://bsi.gov.in/uploads/documents/Public_Information/publication/books/miscellaneous/Flora%20of%20the%20Presidency%20of%20Madras%20vol%203.pdf [accessed 27 March 2026].
- HARLEY R. M., ATKINS S., BUDANTSEV A. L., CANTINO P. D., CONN B. J., GRAYER R., HARLEY M. M., DE KOK R., KRESTOVSKAJA T., MORALES R., PATON A. J., RYDING O. & UPSON T. 2004. — Labiatae, in KADEREIT J. W. (ed.). *The Families and Genera of Vascular Plants*. Volume 7. Springer Nature, Berlin: 167-257.
- HOOKE J. D. 1885. — *The Flora of British India*. Volume 4. L. Reeve and Co., London: 700-702. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.678>
- LINNAEUS C. 1753. — *Species Plantarum* Volume 2. Impensis Laurentii Salvii, Holmiae, 562 p. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.669>
- MABBERLEY D. 2017. — *Mabberley's Plant-book: A Portable Dictionary of Plants, their Classification and Uses* (4th ed.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 915 p. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316335581>
- MUKERJEE S. K. 1940. — A revision of the Labiatae of the Indian Empire. *Records of Botanic Survey of India* 14: 1-228.
- NAVARRO T. 2020. — Systematics and biogeography of the genus *Teucrium* (Lamiaceae). *Teucrium species: biology and applications*: 1-38. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-52159-2_1
- PANDEY R.P. & SINGH V. 2024. — *Teucrium*, in SAMPATH KUMAR V., KUMAR A., KRISHNA G. & MAO A. A. (eds). *Flora of India*, Volume 21. Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata: 652-661.
- POWO 2025. — *Plants of the World Online*. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. <https://powo.science.kew.org/> [retrieved 18 March 2025].
- PRAIN D. 1891. — Some additional species of *Labiatae*. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Part 2, Volume 59. Asiatic Society, Park Street: 294-318.
- SAMPATH KUMAR V., SRAVANI B., SINGH V., PANDEY R. P., SUNOJKUMAR P. & LODH P. 2020. — Lamiaceae, in DASH S. S. & MAO A. A. (eds). *Flowering plants of India: An annotated checklist* (Dicotyledons) Volume 2. Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata: 376.
- TURLAND N. J., WIERSEMA J. H., BARRIE F. R., GREUTER W., HAWKSWORTH D. L., HERENDEEN P. S., KNAPP S., KUSBER W. H., LI D. Z., MARHOLD K., MAY T. W., MCNEILL J., MONRO A. M., PRADO J., PRICE M. J. & SMITH G. F. 2018. — *International code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants (Shenzhen Code)*. *Regnum Vegetabile* 159. Koeltz Botanical Books, Glashütten, 254 p. <https://doi.org/10.12705/Code.2018>
- TUTIN G. & WOOD D. 1972. — *Teucrium*, in TUTIN T. G. & HEYWOOD H. (eds). *Flora Europaea*. Volume 3, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge: 129-135.

*Submitted on 11 May 2025;
accepted on 7 July 2025;
published on 8 April 2026.*