

## New Names and Record of Urticaceae in Taiwan

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**ABSTRACT:** A new transfer of Urticaceae is made: *Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang. Status of a species is changed: *Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang var. *blinii* (Levl.) Shih & Yang. *Pilea swinglei* Merr. is a new record of the family and its description and line-drawing is provided.

**KEY WORDS:** *Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang., *Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang var. *blinii* (Levl.) Shih & Yang, *Pilea swinglei* Merr., Urticaceae, Taiwan.

### 1. *Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang, **comb. nov.**

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*Pilea wattersii* Hance in J. Bot. 23: 327. 1885.

*Boehmeria blinii* Levl. var. *podocarpa* W. T. Wang in Acta. Bot. Yunnan. 3(3): 323. f.2: 1-2. 1981.

*Pilea wattersii* Hance was described in 1885, based on the type specimen *Watters s. n.* collected in 1882. Since then, the species has never known from this island, because there is no specimen available for examination. Matsumura and Hayata (1906) recorded the species occurring in the island. However, their voucher specimen, *Miyake s. n.* in 1899, was later described as a new species *Pilea miyakei* Yamamoto (currently *P. angulata* (Bl.) Bl.). Liu and Huang (1976) also recorded the species for the flora of Taiwan. The specimen, *Matuda 726*, which they cited actually belong to the species *Pilea angulata*, according to our examination.

Chen (1982) treated *P. wattersii* as a doubtful species while he made a monograph of *Pilea* in China. In the monograph, he mentioned that the species was probably a member of *Boehmeria*. Several years ago, the authors obtained a photo of the type of *P. wattersii* from the herbarium BM. After careful examination, the authors agree with Chen's opinion, and conclude that it is identical to *Boehmeria blinii* Levl. var. *podocarpa* W.-T. Wang.

*Boehmeria blinii* Levl. was first described in 1913. It is obviously a later name of *Pilea wattersii*, if the two species are conspecific or infraspecifically related. Since the authors accept Wang's treatment that both taxa are varietally related, the names of the taxa in Taiwan and mainland China are therefore changed.

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2. **Boehmeria wattersii** (Hance) Shih & Yang var. *blinii* (Levl.) Shih & Yang, **stat. nov.**

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*Boehmeria blinii* Levl. in Rep. Sp. Nov. 11: 551. 1913. *syn. nov.*3. **Pilea swinglei** Merr. in Philipp. J. Sci. 13: 136. 1918.

三角葉冷水麻

Fig. 1

Annual herbs, monoecious, glabrous, erect or ascending; stems succulent, semitransparent, up to 30 cm high, ca. 2 mm thick, with few branches. Leaves membranous, equal or subequal of the same pair, widely ovate, ovate or triangular, 0.8-3 cm long, 0.8-3.5 cm wide, acute at apex, obtuse, rounded to truncate or shallowly cordate at base, sharply serrate to crenulate at margin., trinerved, the nerves impressed on adaxial side, prominent on abaxial side, the cystoliths linear, ca. 0.3 mm long, distinct on adaxial side when exsiccated, the lower leaves subentire or entire; petioles 0.5-3 cm long; stipules deciduous, minute, triangular, ca. 1 mm long. Both sexes of inflorescence grow at same axil. Male inflorescence not branching, the glomerules congested, with several flowers. Female inflorescence with few branches, the glomerules aggregated at the nodes of branching rachis, with many flowers. Male flowers pedicelled or subsessile, obovoid; sepals 4, obovoid, ca. 0.2 mm long, 0.1 mm wide; stamens 4; pistillode obscure. Female flowers pedicelled; sepals 2, very unequal, the larger one oblong-cymbiform, ca. 0.7 mm long, 0.2 mm wide, the smaller one ovoid-cymbiform, ca. 1/5 the size of the larger one; staminodes 2, minute. Achenes laterally depressed ellipsoid, ca. 0.5 mm long, 0.2 mm wide.

Distributed in mainland China (Chen, 1982; Wang & Chen, 1995). In Taiwan, found only at medium altitudes in Nantou County around Tsueifong, growing at moist roadside.

Nantou: Meifong, Wu 242 (NSYSU, NTUF).

Note: This species is a new record in Taiwan. According to Chen (1982) and Wang and Chen (1995), the species is characterized by its female flowers mostly with two sepals and inflorescence always moniliform. The species is quite similar to *Pilea peploides* (Gaudich.) Hook. & Arn. var. *major* Wedd., but can be distinguished by its larger leaves with acute apex and sharply serrate leaf-margin, and moniliform inflorescence. While in the latter species, it has smaller leaves with rounded apex and obscurely serrulate leaf-margin, and dichotomously branched inflorescence.

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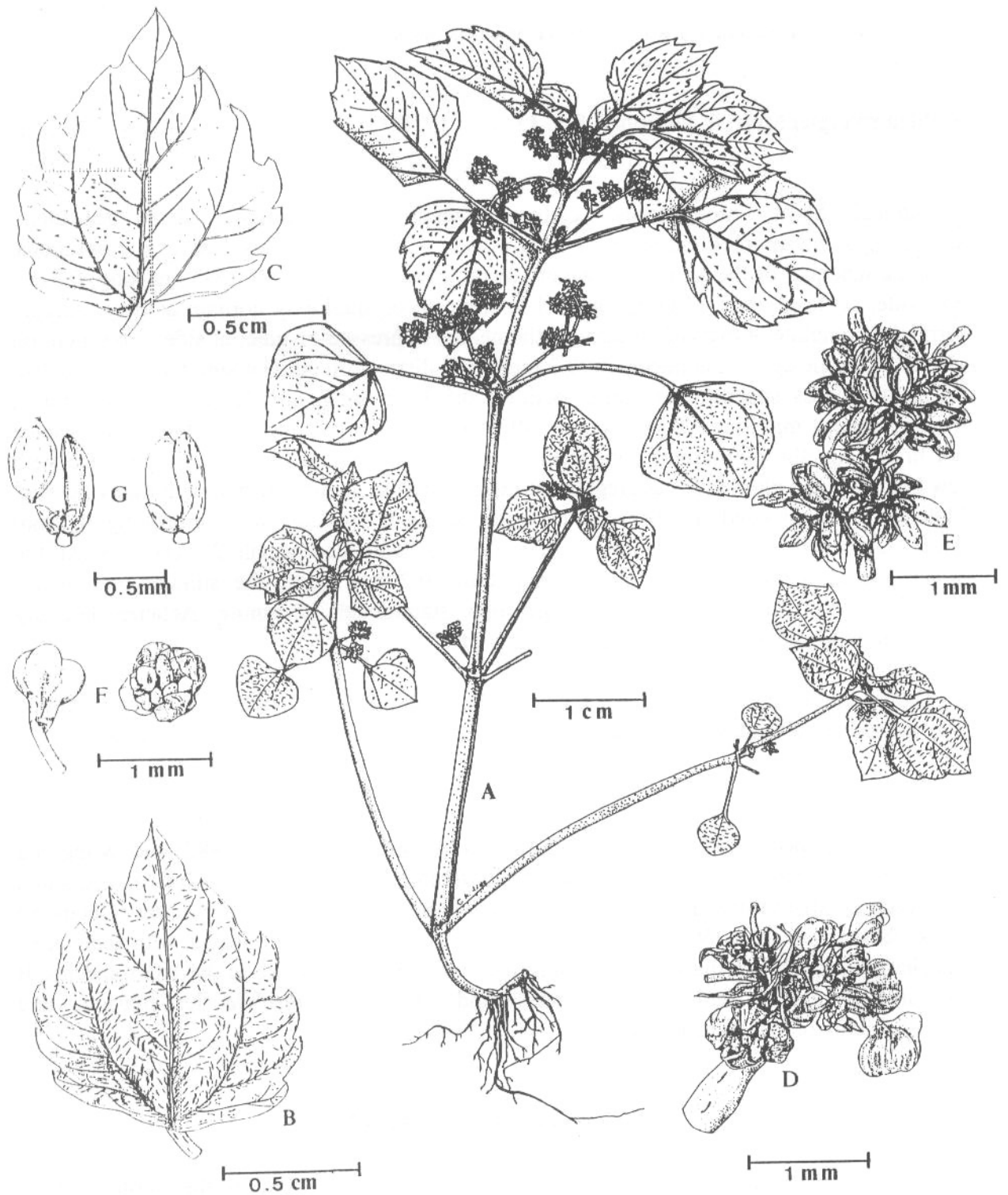


Fig. 1. *Pilea swinglei* Merr., from Wu 242. A. Habit. B. Leaf (adaxial view). C. Leaf (abaxial view). D. Male inflorescence. E. Fruiting inflorescence. F. Male flower. G. Achenes, sepals, and staminodes.

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## 台灣蕁麻科植物之新命名與新紀錄

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### 摘 要

本文中處理蕁麻科一新組合名、一新名及一新紀錄種，分別為 *Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang、*Boehmeria wattersii* (Hance) Shih & Yang var. *blinii* (Levl.) Shih & Yang 與 *Pilea swinglei* Merr.。文中並給予三角葉冷水麻詳細的描述及手繪圖。

關鍵詞：長葉芋麻，黔桂芋麻，三角葉冷水麻，蕁麻科，台灣。

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