

Lectotypification and a new synonym of *Neothorelia laotica* (Resedaceae)

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The genus *Neothorelia* Gagnep. (1908a: 269) is represented by only one species *Neothorelia laotica* (1908a: 269). The type specimens were collected from Luang Prabang in Laos, and later several specimens were collected from Chiang Mai in northern Thailand. No specimens have been recorded from other countries.

During a systematic study of *Stixis* Lour. (1790: 295) and *Neothorelia* in Asia, the author noted that Raghavan (1986) described a new species, *Stixis nayarii* Sundararagh. (1988: 191) from Tenasserim district, Borwa, Myanmar. *Stixis nayarii* has three compound leaves and its flowers have petals, differing in these respects from all other species of *Stixis* which have simple leaves and apetalous flowers. The description and the illustration (Fig. 1A) provided by Raghavan for his new species closely match the illustration (Fig. 1B), type specimens (Fig. 1C, picture downloaded from GBIF (2021)) and protologue of *Neothorelia laotica* (Gagnepain 1908a, 1908b). These observations support my conclusion that *Stixis nayarii* is conspecific with *Neothorelia laotica*. Because *N. laotica* was published earlier than *S. nayarii*, it has priority.

Gagnepain (1908a) described *Neothorelia laotica* based on the gathering of *Thorel 3280*. He provided a detailed description, type locality as “Laos, Luang Prabang, Muong Mai, Pak-Lay, La-khon”. There are six specimens of *Thorel 3280*, five in P (barcode P05426900, P05426899, P05426898, P05426897, P05426896), and one in MPU (barcode MPU635325). According to Art 9.6 of the ICN (Turland et al. 2017), these specimens all are syntypes, since none was indicated as the holotype (Gagnepain 1908a). I here designate P05426900 (Fig. 1C) as the lectotype, because it together with the line drawing attached to it, best show the features described in the protologue.

Taxonomy

Neothorelia laotica Gagnep. Bull. Soc. Bot. France 55: 269. 1908. Fig.1

Type: Laos, Luang Prabang, Muong-mai, Pak-lay, la-khon, 1866–1868, *Thorel 3280* (lectotype, P05426900!, designated here, Fig. 1C; isolectotypes, P05426899!, P05426898!, P05426897!, P05426896!, MPU635325!).

Stixis nayarii Sundararaghavan Bull. Bot. Surv. India 28(1–4): 191. 1988. Type: Myanmar, Borwa, Tenasserim district. *Meebold 15046* (Holotype, CAL). *syn. nov.*

Distribution: Laos, Myanmar, Thailand.

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FIGURE 1. A. Line illustrations of *Stixis nayarii* (Raghavan 1986). B. Line illustrations of *Neothorelia laotica* (Gagnepain 1908b), 14–20 are this species. C. Lectotype of *Neothorelia laotica*. D–E. Living plant of *Neothorelia laotica*. (D: Photographed by Preecha Karaket. E: Photographed by Sukontip Sirimongkol)

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