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## On the taxonomical status of *Aquilegia kansuensis* (Ranunculaceae)

### О таксономическом статусе *Aquilegia kansuensis* (Ranunculaceae)

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**Ключевые слова:** новая комбинация, *Aquilegia*, Ranunculaceae, Китай.

**Key words:** new combination, *Aquilegia*, Ranunculaceae, China.

**Аннотация.** Для рода *Aquilegia* L. (Ranunculaceae) предложена новая номенклатурная комбинация – *A. kansuensis* (Brühl) Erst.

**Summary.** A new combination in the genus *Aquilegia* L. (Ranunculaceae) – *A. kansuensis* (Brühl) Erst have been proposed.

Paul Brühl (1892) described *A. vulgaris* L. subsp. *oxysepala* Trautv. et C.A. Mey. var. *kansuensis* Brühl from the southeast of China. Henrich Handel-Mazzetti (1931) listed this taxon as a variety of *A. oxysepala* Trautv. et C.A. Mey. Philip Munz (1946) followed Handel-Mazzetti's opinion, outlining three varieties: *A. oxysepala* var. *oxysepala*, *A. oxysepala*

var. *kansuensis* and *A. oxysepala* var. *yabeana* (Kitag.) Munz. In fact, *A. oxysepala* var. *kansuensis* is closely related not only to *A. yabeana* Kitag., but to *A. rockii* Munz as well. These taxa are similar such in features as purple sepals equalling or slightly exceeding the petal limbs; not overlapping, elongated, narrowly obovate, rounded at the end, with concolorous or whitish tip of petal limb; straight, thin or circinate at the end, spurs swollen or thickened at the base; bright stamens that do not protrude from the flower. Unlike *Aquilegia rockii* group, species belonging to *A. oxysepala* group (*A. oxysepala*, *A. buergeriana* Sieb. et Zucc., *A. ganboldii* Kamelin et Gubanov) are characterized by brown, dark

purple or white sepals, which are equal to or longer than a petal limb; overlapping, with yellow or white, blunted at the end petal limbs; brown, dark purple or white, equal to or slightly longer than the petal limbs, straight or circinate at the end, gibbous at the base spurs; black stamens that do not protrude from a flower. Different authors distinguished taxonomic groups, which include these species: *Aquilegia grex Campilocentrae* Borb. (Borbás, 1882), *Aquilegia* ser. *Vulgares* Bulavk. (Bulavkina, 1937) and *Aquilegia* sect. *Auranticae* Kamelin (Kamelin, 1973). Recent molecular phylogenetic studies have indicated that *A. oxysepala* s. l. is a polyphyletic taxon: *A. oxysepala* and *A. buergeriana* belong to the same clade, and *A. oxysepala* var. *kansuensis*, *A. rockii*, *A. ecalcarata* and *A. yabeana* form a separate branch (Fiore et al., 2013). Based on all available information, we present here a new nomenclatural combination for *Aquilegia* species from China.

***Aquilegia kansuensis*** (Brühl) Erst **comb. et stat. nov.** – *A. vulgaris* L. subsp. *oxysepala* Trautv. et C.A. Mey. var. *kansuensis* Brühl, 1892, Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, Pt. 2, Nat. Hist. 61, 3: 285. – *A. oxysepala* Trautv. et C.A. Mey. var. *kansuensis* (Brühl) Hand.-Mazz. 1931, Symb. Sin. 7, 2: 271.

### Conclusion

Taxonomic rank of *Aquilegia kansuensis* is confirmed by the morphological and molecular phylo-

genetic data. This species is distributed in the southeastern China, in the provinces of Gansu, Guizhou, S Ningxia, E Qinghai, S Shaanxi, Sichuan, N Yunnan (Dezhi, Robinson, 2001); due to its misinterpretation, the range of distribution and diagnostic features for identification should be clarified. For these purposes we present a diagnostic key for *A. rockii* group.

### Key to the delimitation of species of *A. rockii* group in China

1. Petal spur absent ..... *A. ecalcarata*  
+ Petal spur present ..... 2
2. Petal limb and a spur unicoloured (purple) ..... *A. yabeana*  
+ Petal limb and a spur differently coloured (cream, white) ..... 3
3. The petal limbs much longer than the spurs, straight, thinly white limbate on the outside edges, 1/3 white on the inside, there is a gap between them; the spurs not swollen or thickened at the base, thin, straight, falcate, induplicate ..... *A. rockii*  
+ The petal limbs longer than spurs, incurved, edges almost merge, cream colored nearly half on the inside and on the outside; the spur is swollen or thickened at the base, circinate ..... *A. kansuensis*

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