

Short Communication

***Piper velayudhanii* (Piperaceae), a New Name for *P. Pseudonigrum* Velay. & Amalraj**

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**Abstract**

A new name, *Piper velayudhanii*, is proposed for *Piperpseudonigrum* described by K. C. Velayudhan and V. A. Amalaraj from Kerala, India, which happens to be a later homonym of *P. pseudonigrum* C.DC. from Vietnam.

*Keywords:* *Piper velayudhanii*; New name; India.

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Velayudhan and Amalraj [1] described the new species, *Piper pseudonigrum* based on the specimens collected from Silent Valley, Idukki, Pathanamthitta and Parambikkulam forests of Kerala, Coorg in Karnataka and upper Kodayar in Tamilnadu States. The name is preoccupied by *P. Pseudonigrum* C.DC. [2] collected by Balansa from Mont-Bavi, Tonkin, Vietnam (Type: *B. Balansa*3635P!). Thus, *P. Pseudonigrum* Velay. & Amalraj is a later homonym and illegitimate. Hence a new name is required for the species described by Velayudhan and Amalraj as per ICN [3]. This species is named after Dr. K. C. Velayudhan for his outstanding contribution to the Indian Piperaceae.

***Piper velayudhanii*** E. S. S. Kumar *et* S. P. Mathew, *nom. nov.*

*P. pseudonigrum* Velay. & Amalraj, J. Econ. Taxon. Bot. 16 (1), 247 (1992). Type: India, Kerala, Palghat district, Silent Valley, 06.04.1988, AV 202(MH!).

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