

Taxonomic And Nomenclatural Notes On Malesian Araceae I — Resolving *Homalomena ovata*, and a new name in *Homalomena* for *Chamaecladon ovatum*

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ABSTRACT

Corrections and updates are made to the taxonomy and nomenclature of *Homalomena ovata* Engl., *Homalomena borneensis* Ridl, and *Chamaecladon ovatum* Schott. *Homalomena hostifolia* Engl. is treated as a homotypic superfluous name for *H. ovata* Engl. *Homalomena ovatum* (Schott) Hook.f., an illegitimate name, is renamed *Homalomena nathanielii* and treated as a Singapore endemic in the *Homalomena Griffithii* complex.

Keywords: *Homalomena*, *Chamaecladon*, Singapore, Sarawak, Borneo.

***Chamaecladon ovatum* Schott, *Homalomena ovata* Engl. (1879) and *Homalomena ovata* (Schott) Hook.f. (1893).**

When transferring Schott's *Chamaecladon ovatum* (Schott, 1859), based on a Nathaniel Wallich collection from Singapore, to *Homalomena*, Hooker (1893: 536) was apparently unaware of Engler's earlier *Homalomena ovata* (Engler, 1879), based on an Odoardo Beccari collection from Matang, Kuching, Sarawak, with the consequence that *H. ovata* (Schott) Hook.f. is illegitimate. However, Engler evidently took the view that the earlier date of the basionym in *Chamaecladon* of Hooker's combination conferred on it priority in *Homalomena*. He therefore renamed his *Homalomena ovata* Engl. as *H. hostifolia* Engl. (Engler, 1912: 70), thereby creating a superfluous homotypic name under modern nomenclatural rules. *Homalomena ovata* Engl. therefore stands, as follows:



Figure 1. Holotype of *Homalomena ovata*. O. Beccari p.b. 1780 in the Herbarium Beccarianum-Malesia (FI-B), of the Natural History Museum of the University of Florence