

REVALIDATION OF THE GENUS *BENZINGIA* (ZYGOPETALINAE: ORCHIDACEAE)

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ABSTRACT: The orchid genus *Benzingia* was published in 1989 without explicitly indicating the type. The name is therefore invalid under article 37 of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. Two species thus far assigned to the genus, *B. estradae* and *B. hirtzii*, are likewise not validly published. The genus *Benzingia*, *B. estradae* and *B. hirtzii* are herein validated.

THE ORCHID GENUS *Benzingia* Dodson was published in 1989 without explicitly indicating the type (Davies, 1991: 43). The name is therefore invalid under article 37 of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature ("Publication on or after 1 January 1958 of the name of a new taxon of the rank of a genus or below is valid only when the type of the name is indicated;" Greuter, 1994: 50). Two species thus far assigned to the genus, *B. estradae* (Dodson) Dodson and *B. hirtzii* Dodson (illustrated in Dodson & Escobar, 1993) are likewise not validly published under article 47 ("A name of a taxon below the rank of genus is not validly published unless the name of the genus or species to which it is assigned is validly published at the same time or was validly published previously;" Greuter, 1994: 53).

The genus *Benzingia* and the two species thus far referred to the genus are herein validated. *Benzingia litense* Dodson & Chase, cited in Dodson and Escobar (1993), is a *nomen nudum*.

Benzingia Dodson ex Dodson, *gen. nov.*

Benzingia Dodson, *nom. illeg.*, *Icon. Pl. Trop.*, Ser. 2, 5: t. 406. 1989.

Type species—*Benzingia hirtzii* Dodson.

Benzingia estradae (Dodson) Dodson ex Dodson, *sp. nov.*

Basionym—*Chondrorhyncha estradae* Dodson, *Icon. Pl. Trop.* 1: t. 22. 1980.

Benzingia estradae (Dodson) Dodson, *nom. illeg.*, *Icon. Pl. Trop.*, Ser. 2, 5: sub t. 406. 1989.

Benzingia hirtzii Dodson ex Dodson, *sp. nov.*

Benzingia hirtzii Dodson, *nom. illeg.*, *Icon. Pl. Trop.*, Ser. 2, 5: sub t. 406. 1989.

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