New combinations in *Persicaria* and *Podophyllum*

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In the course of checking names of plants in cultivation from a variety of sources, such as plants added to the RHS’s living and dried (herbarium) collections, those exhibited at RHS shows and those submitted by nurseries for the annual compilation of the RHS Plant Finder, inconsistencies between modern generic concepts and the current nomenclature are sometimes found. Major discrepancies are considered by the RHS’s Advisory Panel on Nomenclature and Taxonomy (APONAT), which provides advice on the treatments that allow for the greatest stability of nomenclature for users while recognising those changes that increase our understanding of the natural relationships of the plants. These changes are reflected in the RHS Plant Finder. Minor changes which are necessary to bring overlooked names into line with well established treatments are published in *Hanburyana*. The first of these (Cubey, 2006) dealt with *Actaea*, *Justicia*, *Persicaria* and *Androsace*. The present paper tidies up some names in *Polygonum sensu lato* and *Podophyllum*.

*Persicaria* (L.) Mill.

The segregation of *Persicaria* from *Polygonum* L. proposed by Ronse De Craene and Akeroyd (1988) has been accepted by Wilson (1990), Brummitt (1992) and Mabberley (1997). In following this, as well as Brummitt (*loc. cit.*) and Mabberley (*loc. cit.*) in including *Bistorta* Adans. and *Pleuropteropyrum* Gross within *Persicaria*, some further transfers are required and are provided below:

*Persicaria griffithii* (Hook. f.) Cubey comb. nov.

Basionym: *Polygonum griffithii* Hook. f. in *Flora British India* 5: 54 (1886).
Persicaria milletii (H. Lév.) Cubey comb. nov.

Persicaria nakaii (Hara) Cubey comb. nov.

Persicaria panjutinii (Kharkev.) Cubey comb. nov.

Podophyllum L.
Following recognition that P. hexandrum Royle should be used, in respect of priority of valid publication, instead of P. emodi Wall. (Shaw, 2002), Podophyllum emodi var. chinense has been recognised as Podophyllum hexandrum ‘Chinense’ as it had not been combined at varietal rank under P. hexandrum. However, recognition of this taxon as a cultivar is considered to be unhelpful. It has been collected in the wild on numerous occasions, under different collection numbers (Lord et al., 2008) and is in itself variable and therefore likely to have cultivars selected from it. Julian Shaw (loc. cit.) records that William Stearn referred to this entity, but without formally recombining it. It is therefore combined here under P. hexandrum:

Podophyllum hexandrum Royle var. chinense (Sprague) W.T. Stearn ex Cubey comb. nov.
Basionym: Podophyllum emodi var. chinense Sprague in Curtis’s Botanical Magazine 146: t.8850 (1920).

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REFERENCES


