

SHORT COMMUNICATION

A lectotype designation for *Baeckea elderiana* (Myrtaceae: Chamelaucieae)

Baeckea elderiana E.Pritz. (Diels & Pritzel 1904) is one of a number of species of Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae DC. that were discovered or recollected on the Elder Exploring Expedition. The expedition departed from Adelaide, South Australia on 22nd April 1891 and reached Geraldton, Western Australia in January 1892 (George 2009). Many newly collected species from this expedition were named by Mueller and Tate (1896), among them four species of Chamelaucieae that are now known by the names *Calytrix watsonii* (F.Muell. & Tate) C.A.Gardner, *Darwinia luehmannii* F.Muell. & Tate, *Micromyrtus helmsii* (F.Muell. & Tate) J.W.Green and *Verticordia rennieana* F.Muell. & Tate. More recently named species that were collected on the expedition include *Baeckea muricata* C.A.Gardner (Gardner 1928) and *Enekbatus eremaus* Trudgen & Rye (Trudgen & Rye 2010).

Ernst Pritzel named *B. elderiana* after Sir Thomas Elder, who financed the expedition, basing it on flowering material collected by expedition naturalist Richard Helms, and fruiting material he later collected during his visit to Western Australia with Ludwig Diels. Both collections match the protologue in their vegetative characters; however, the ovary is described as 3-locular when in fact it is 2-locular in both gatherings, and stamen number is given as 6–9 per flower rather than 9–11 stamens as per Helms' collection. The former error must have contributed to Gardner's decision to describe *B. baileyana* C.A.Gardner (Gardner 1934) as a new species, differing from *B. elderiana* in having 2-locular ovaries and in a number of less significant characters. *Baeckea baileyana* is now treated as a synonym.

The duplicate of Helm's collection at the National Herbarium of Victoria (MEL) is designated here as an appropriate lectotype since it is flowering material and was viewed by Pritzel.

Typification

Baeckea elderiana E.Pritz. in L. Diels & E. Pritzel, *Bot. Jabrb. Syst.* 35: 418 (1904). *Type citation*: 'Hab. in distr. Coolgardie ad collem "Red Kangaroo Hill" flor. m. Nov. (Helms 1891 in expedit. Elderiana, in hb. Melbourne sub *Baeckea pentagonantha* F. v. M. indeterminata!; haud procul a Southern Cross in fruticetis arenosis fruct. m. Nov. (E. Pritzel, Pl. Austral. Occ. 1009!).' *Type specimens*: west of Red Kangaroo Hill [Western Australia], November 1891, *R. Helms s.n. (lecto, here selected: MEL 72727; isolecto: AD 97448066 & 97448068, NSW 139887)*; 'near Ghooli' or 'Yilgarn and Coolgardie goldfields' [Western Australia], November 1901, *E. Pritzel 1009 (syn: A 00068846, AD 96827125, BM 000797535, BR 0000005233465, G 00227440, GH 00068845, M 013744, NSW 139885, PERTH 03412474 & 08245940, S-G-855, US 00118342)*.

Baeckea baileyana C.A.Gardner, *J. Roy. Soc. Western Australia* 19: 89 (1933). *Type*: Bruce Rock, Western Australia, October 1932, *E.T. Bailey s.n. (holo: PERTH 01605119; iso: K 000821695)*.

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Juliet Wege for her valuable comments on the manuscript. I also thank the staff at AD, MEL and NSW for the loan of type material; all overseas type specimens have been examined using the images that are currently available through *Global Plants* (see <http://plants.jstor.org/>).

References

- Diels, L. & Pritzel, E. (1904). Myrtaceae. In: *Fragmenta phytographiae Australiae occidentalis*. pp. 398–444. (Engelmann: Leipzig, Germany.)
- Gardner, C.A. (1928). Contributiones florae Australiae Occidentalis VI. *Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia* 13: 61–68, pl. 24–27.
- Gardner, C.A. (1934). Contributiones florae Australiae Occidentalis no. VIII. *Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia* 19: 79–93.
- George, A.S. (2009). *Australian botanist's companion*. (Picton Press: West Perth.)
- Mueller, F. & Tate, R. (1896). Phanerograms and vascular cryptogams. *Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of South Australia* 16: 333–383.
- Trudgen, M.E. & Rye, B.L. (2010). *Enekbatus*, a new Western Australian genus of Myrtaceae tribe Chamelaucieae. *Nuytsia* 20: 229–260.

Barbara L. Rye

Western Australian Herbarium, Department of Parks and Wildlife,
Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, Western Australia 6983