

Correction of a typographical error in the protologue of *Banksia conferta* A.S.George var. *penicillata* A.S. George.

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Abstract

The protologue of *Banksia conferta* A.S.George var. *penicillata* A.S.George incorrectly cites R.G. Coveny 3537 as the type collection of this species, when it should have been cited as R.G. Coveny 3577.

Introduction

A perhaps unintended collateral benefit of *Global Plants* (see <http://plants.jstor.org/>), presently imaging types in the collections of Australian herbaria, is the discovery of errors in the citation of type specimens of Australian plants. The purpose of this note is to correct such an error.

When George (1981: 289) named and described *Banksia conferta* A.S.George var. *penicillata* A.S.George, he cited the type collection as “N of Clarence on the Newnes tunnel road, New South Wales, 6 April, 1971, R. Coveny 3537. Holo: NSW; iso: PERTH.” George’s description was accompanied by a photograph of the isotype of this species, as held at PERTH. That sheet has a type-written label from the National Herbarium of New South Wales in which the collecting number is clearly displayed as 3537.

In May 2013 the holotype sheet of *Banksia conferta* var. *penicillata* (Fig. 1) (now treated as *Banksia penicillata* (A.S.George) K.R.Thiele) was retrieved from the collection at NSW for digitization for the *Global Plants* project. The label information was found to be:

21 miles (33.8 km) N. of Clarence on the Newnes tunnel road, R. Coveny 3577, 6. iv. 1971.

Glued to this sheet is a determinavit slip, in Alex George’s hand, annotated “*Banksia paludosa* R.Br. var. *penicillata* George m.s. HOLOTYPE 17 Aug 1978.” George’s words “*paludosa* R.Br.” have been crossed out and the following annotation, in Donald McGillivray’s hand, has been added: “*conferta* A.S.George (McG. 1983)”.

The field information provided for collection number 3577, in Coveny’s field note book (held at NSW), is identical to the label information on the holotype sheet. This *Banksia* was the only collection that Coveny made at that locality on that day. Coveny 3537 is listed in Coveny’s field notebook as a specimen of *Cyperus fulvus*, collected on 21 February 1971 at Glenugie Peak, N.S.W.

We here conclude that Coveny’s collecting number was incorrectly transcribed at NSW during the preparation of the collection label included with the replicate specimen sent to PERTH; the specimen annotated as the isotype of *Banksia conferta* var. *penicillata*.



Fig. 1. Holotype sheet (NSW422086) of *Banksia conferta* A.S. George var. *penicillata* A.S. George

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Reference

George AS (1981) The genus *Banksia* L.f. (Proteaceae). *Nuytsia* 3: 239-473.

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