

Cephalostachyum pingbianense (Poaceae: Bambusoideae), *comb. nova*

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A new combination, *Cephalostachyum pingbianense* (Hsueh & Y.M. Yang *ex* Yi *et al.*) D.Z. Li & H.Q. Yang, is proposed according to current generic concepts in the subtribe Melocanninae (Poaceae), based on the basionym *Schizostachyum pingbianense* Hsueh & Y. M. Yang *ex* Yi *et al.*

Key words: Bambusoideae, *Cephalostachyum*, nomenclature, Poaceae, *Schizostachyum*, taxonomy

Recent evidence from a molecular phylogeny of subtribe *Melocanninae* of subfamily Bambusoideae of Poaceae (Yang *et al.* 2007), which was based on GBSSI and *trnL-F* markers, strongly supported that the generic boundary between *Schizostachyum* and *Cephalostachyum* is based on inflorescence features. *Cephalostachyum* is limited to the species that (1) bear terminal inflorescences (a capitulum or a panicle); (2) have spikelets with two or three glumes, and (3) have florets usually with two stigmas and two or three lodicules; (4) have a shrubby or sub-arborescent habit; and (5) occur in habitats at elevations of ca. 1200–2000 m. *Schizostachyum* on the other hand has species that (1) bear panicles consisting of densely or slightly glomerate spikelets on the nodes of flowering branches; (2) have the glumes usually absent; (3) bear florets with three

stigmas and usually without lodicules; and (4) occur in habitats at elevations usually below ca. 1200 m.

Recently we noted that *Schizostachyum pingbianense*, described by Yi *et al.* (2007), seemed to match the new delimitation of *Cephalostachyum* rather than that of *Schizostachyum*. *Schizostachyum pingbianense* is endemic to southern Yunnan, and occurs in forests at ca. 1300–2000 m. It is a shrubby bamboo, with apically pendulous habit. *Schizostachyum pingbianense* has a terminal panicle, three glumes and three lodicules (Yi *et al.* 2007). Furthermore, *S. pingbianense* is similar to the typical *Cephalostachyum* in bearing a nut-like caryopsis (Munro 1868, Li & Stapleton 2006).

Based on the above evidence, we propose the following new combination.

Cephalostachyum pingbianense (Hsueh & Y.M. Yang ex Yi et al.) D.Z. Li & H.Q. Yang, comb. nova

Schizostachyum pingbianense Hsueh & Y.M. Yang ex Yi et al., J. Sichuan Forestry Sci. Tech. 28(2): 4–6. TYPE: China. Yunnan, Pingbian, V. 1999 *Sun Maosheng 99001* (holotype SWFC).

The young internodes of *Cephalostachyum pingbianense* are covered by dense, appressed and brownish purple stiff setae; apex of the culm leaf sheaths is concave; the sheath summit extensions on each side are triangular and unequal, and bear ca. 1 cm long brown stiff setae. In particular this species has young shoots throughout the year, distinguishing it from the other species of *Cephalostachyum*.

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