

entire spikelets, including the involucre glumes have transformed into leafy structure and vegetative shoots.

In *Cyrtococcum* Ridley, the entire branches or branchlets of the panicle have been replaced by the vegetative shoots. These vegetative structures which replace the lemmas or glumes, or the entire spikelets, vary from simple bract-like scales to variously differentiated leaf-like structures with sheaths and blades. These vegetative shoots borne on branches of panicle seem to help in propagation of the plant, as the shape, size and disposition of these plantlet-like bodies is usually very similar to the characteristic plantlets seen in the well known viviparous *Poa bulbosa* L. This, however, cannot be said with unqualified certainty, as the living population of these species showing proliferation have not been seen by the authors.

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A NOTE ON *LYCOPSIS ARVENSIS* AUCT. NON LINN. (BORAGINACEAE) IN THE FLORA OF ASSAM

Fischer (1938) in *Plants new to Assam* wrongly identified the sheet N. L. Bor 6507, collected from Japvo, Naga Hills as *Lycopsis arvensis* Linn. Probably, this lead Kanjilal *et al.* (1939) to include this species in their *Flora of Assam*. Subsequently, Fischer (1940) corrected his error and described the plant as a new species—*Onosma lycopsioides* Fisch. With the recognition of the genus *Maharanga* A. DC., by Johnston (1954) the new binomial for this species is *Maharanga lycopsioides* (Fisch.) Johnston. Complete citations are appended herewith.

***Maharanga lycopsioides*** (Fisch.) Johnston. in Journ. Arnold Arbor. 35: 81. 1954. *Onosma lycopsioides* Fisch. in Kew Bull. 1940: 39. 1940; Johnston. in Journ. Arnold Arbor. 32: 358. 1951.—Type: From Japvo, Naga Hills, N. L. Bor 6507 (K), Isotype in Herb. DD. secn. *Lycopsis arvensis* auct. non Linn.: Fisch. in Kew Bull. 1938: 211. 1938; Kanjilal *et al.* in Fl. Assam 3: 337. 1939.

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## THECAGONUM BABU—A NEW GENERIC NAME IN RUBIACEAE

The genus *Gonothea* Bl. ex DC. (1830) was formerly treated either as a subgenus (Bentham & Hooker f. in Gen. Pl. 2: 59. 1873; Hooker f. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 3: 69. 1880) or as a section (Schumann in Pflanzenfam. 4: 4. 25. 1891) of the genus *Oldenlandia* Linn. *sensu lato* (1753). Recently, however, following Bremekamp's generic concept of the family Rubiaceae, particularly that of the tribe *Hedyotideae* (Bremekamp in Rec. Trav. Bot. Neerl. 36: 438-445. 1939 et in Verh. Kon. Akad. Wet. 48: 1-297. 1952), it is now treated as a distinct genus by modern authors (Santapau & Wagh in Bull. bot.

Surv. India 5: 107. 1963). It is distinguished from *Oldenlandia* Linn. as follows:

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Fruit 4-angled; seeds globose or subglobose. |                        |
| Leaves usually broader                          | ... <i>Gonothea</i>    |
| 1. Fruit terete; seeds angular.                 | Leaves usually         |
| narrower  | ... <i>Oldenlandia</i> |

The generic name *Gonothea* Bl. ex DC. can no longer be used for this taxon, as it is illegitimate by being a later homonym of *Gonothea* Rafin. (1808). Since there is no other valid name for this genus and moreover it is unnecessary to conserve the generic name *Gonothea* Bl. ex DC. (1830) over