

Deciduous *Manglietia* in Yichun, Jiangxi, China

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Recently, a deciduous *Manglietia* called *Manglietia decidua* has been reported in the Hongjiang Mountain region of Yichun in Jiangxi province. It is said that only two deciduous *Manglietia* plants were found in the Hongjiang Mountain in the mixed forests at 580 meters. The detailed investigation found that the distribution range on the mountain slope varied between 500-1,000 meters and more than 1,000 individuals have been found there at present. One of the main characteristics is its deciduous habit. Its leaves start to fall after its seed matures in August-October and the young leaves come out again in March-April.

Since a detailed investigation of *Manglietia* was necessary to complete a molecular systematic study of Magnoliaceae, a systematic investigation was conducted at the type specimen locality (Honjiangshan in Yichan, Jiangxi) in 1998.

Investigations showed that the tepals numbered 15-16 and are creamy-white with eight ovules per carpel. Usually, only six ovules per carpel developed into natural seeds. This deciduous *Manglietia* is a fast growing species; a 4-year tree may have a height of four meters in Yichun.

*Creamy-white flower of **Manglietia decidua**. (Professor Zheng Qingyan)*





Manglietia decidua showing both developed and dehiscent fruit.
(Professor Zheng Qingyan)

As a result of this study, a new genus *Sinomanglietia* of Magnoliaceae was established by Yu Zhixiong based on the specimens collected at Hongjiang Mountain in Yichun of Jiangxi province. The new genus and type species of *Sinomanglietia glauca* (called Huamulian in Chinese) was issued at *Acta Agriculturae Universitatis Jiangxiensis*, 16(2), 1994. Zheng Qingyan in Yuchuan Forestry Institute of Jiangxi revised Huamulian into Luoyemulian, called *Manglietia decidua* in the *Journal of Nanjing Forestry University*, 19(1) 1995 and *Acta Phytotaxonomica Sinica*, 33(2), 1995. And also the new section, *Decidua*, has been established by Zheng Qingyan with the type species *Manglietia decidua*. ☞

References

- 1 Yu ZX. *Sinomanglietia*-A New Genus of Magnoliaceae from China. *Acta Agriculturae Universitatis Jiangxiensis* 1994 16(2),
- 2 Zheng QY. A revised name of Huamulian. *Journal of Nanjing Forestry University* 1995 19(1).