

Priority of *Glossopteris cordatifolia* Feistmantel 1890 over *G. feistmantelii* Rigby 1964, occurring in the Permian of India

J.F. RIGBY

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Qld, Australia.
Email: j.rigby@qut.edu.au

(Received 18 September, 2012; revised version accepted 20 May, 2013)

INTRODUCTION

THE present note deals with the renaming of *Glossopteris feistmantelii* Rigby 1964 as *Glossopteris cordatifolia* Feistmantel 1890, considering inconsistency in nomenclatural assignment by Feistmantel and Rigby while instituting these taxa. As per the prevailing facts, *Glossopteris cordatifolia* has a priority over *Glossopteris feistmantelii*.

Glossopteris cordatifolia Feistmantel 1890

Glossopteris cordata Feistmantel 1882, p. 35, pl. 20A, fig. 1
Glossopteris cordatifolia Feistmantel, 1890, p. 37
Glossopteris feistmantelii Rigby 1964, p. 154
Glossopteris feistmantelii (Chandra & Surange, 1979)
Glossopteris feistmantelii (Singh & Chandra, 2000)
Glossopteris feistmantelii (Tewari, 2007)
Glossopteris feistmantelii (Singh *et al.*, 2011)

Glossopteris (?) *cordata* was described and figured by Dana (1849: 718, pl. 13, fig. 5) from the Permian of New South Wales, Australia, the '(?)' was because the leaf had an auriculate base that had not been found previously within the genus *Glossopteris*. This species has been revised by Rigby *et al.* (1980).

Feistmantel (1882) described and figured specimen 5478, Geological Survey of India collection (Chandra & Surange, 1979) from the South Rewa Gondwana Basin, which he named *G. cordata* sp. nov.

Rigby (1964) renamed Feistmantel's species as *G. feistmantelii* nom. nov., with Feistmantel's specimen as lectotype, being totally unaware that Feistmantel (1890, p. 37) had corrected his lack of memory that the name *G. cordata* was preoccupied. During his time in India, Feistmantel lived in Raniganj so probably did not have access to extensive library collections. Herein is recorded that this author found

the citation by accident when searching Feistmantel (1890) in case there were any species mentioned in the text for use as comparison or distributions. Translation of the text from the original Czech into English was accomplished using the Google Translation Programme, and was checked using the Babylon translation site. Both translations agreed closely.

Feistmantel gave the date of publication of his new name as 1889. Rigby checked all appropriate papers listed by Bosák (1980) and found Feistmantel (1889a, b) to have been the only possible ones to have included a taxonomic correction. Both were examined carefully and found to have made no mention of *G. cordatifolia*. Feistmantel (1889b, p. 6-21) included a very comprehensive literature survey of all publications covering the *Glossopteris* flora, omitting only Dana (1849). It appears that the book that included Dana's paper was issued in an edition of only 100 copies thus the apparent lapse may be excused.

I have assumed that Feistmantel should have written *G. cordatifolia* sp. nov., or 1890 instead of *G. cordatifolia* 1889. The paper was completed in 1889, based on the date of the introduction (Novák, p VII, in Feistmantel, 1890).

Acknowledgements—Thanks for drawing my attention to references to *Glossopteris feistmantelii* in Indian literature by my referees Drs K.J. Singh and D. Agnihotri, and to the Editor, The Palaeobotanist, Dr R. Tewari, all from the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow.

REFERENCES

- Bosák P (unpubl, compiled 1980). The bibliography of Prof. Ottokar Feistmantel's works. 18 pp. (Geological Library of the Faculty of Sciences, Charles University, Prague).
Chandra S & Surange KR 1979. Revision of the Indian species of *Glossopteris*. Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany Lucknow, India, Monograph No 2: 1-291, pls 1-49, text figs 1-54.
Dana JD 1849. Fossil plants, Appendix 1, in *United States Exploring Expedition during the years 1838-1842 under the command of Charles Wilkes*,

- U.S.N. Sherman, Philadelphia, v. 10, *Geology*, pp. 714-720, pls 12-14.
- Feistmantel O 1882. The fossil flora of the South Rewa Gondwana Basin. *Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India Palaeontologia Indica* (12) 4: 1-52, pls 1-21.
- Feistmantel O 1889a. Über die geologischen und palaeontologischen Verhältnisse des Gondwana-System in Tasmanien und Vergleichung in andern Ländern, nebst einem systematischen Verzeichniss der im australischen Gondwana-System vorkommenden Arten. *Sitzungsberichte der königlich böhmischen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften. Prag. Mathematisch-naturwissenschaftliche Klasse* 1888: 584-654.
- Feistmantel O 1889b. Übersichtliche Darstellung der geologisch-palaeontologischen Verhältnisse Süd-Afrikas. 1 Theil. Die Karoo-Formation und die dieselbe unterlagernden Schichten. *Abhandlungen der königlich böhmischen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften. Prag. Mathematisch-naturwissenschaftliche Klasse* 7: I-V, 1-89, pls 1-4.
- Feistmantel O 1890. Uhlonosné útvary v Tasmánii. *Spisův počtých jubilejní cenou král české společnosti Náuk v Praze* 3: I-XIII, 1-162, pls 1-10, 1 map.
- Rigby JF 1964. Contributions on Palaeozoic floras, 1. On the identification of *Glossopteris cordata* Dana. *Linnean Society of New South Wales Proceedings* 89: 152-154, pl 1.
- Rigby JF, Maheshwari HK & Schopf JM 1980. Revision of Permian plants collected by J. D. Dana during 1839-1840 in Australia. *Geological Survey of Queensland Publication* 376. *Palaeontological Paper* 47: 1-25.
- Singh KJ & Chandra S 2000. Additional palaeobotanical information from Madhupur Village, Talchir Coalfield, Orissa. *Palaeobotanist* 49: 385-398.
- Singh KJ, Goswami S & Singh G 2011. Palaeodiversity in the genus *Glossopteris* from the Lower Gondwana rocks of the Korba Coalfield, Chhattisgarh State, India. *Journal of the Palaeontological Society of India* 56: 45-64.
- Tewari R 2007. The *Glossopteris* flora from Kamptee Coalfield, Wardha Basin, Maharashtra, India. *Palaeontographica B* 277: 43-64.