Validation of *Deyeuxia himalaica* L. Liou

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**Abstract** By giving a full Latin description and designating the holotype, *Deyeuxia himalaica* is validated.

**Key words** *Deyeuxia himalaica*; Validation

In the course of revising the Chinese *Deyeuxia*, I found that *D. himalaica* L. Liou published in "Flora Xizangica" (Lu & Liou, 1987) and "Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae" (Lu, 1987) was accompanied only by a Chinese description, but not a Latin one, and no type was designated. According to the Art. 36.1 and 37.1 of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Saint Louis)(Greuter et al., 2000), *D. himalaica* is an invalid name. I have re-examined the specimens referred to this species by Liou, and found that they represent indeed a good species. In order to validate this name, a full Latin description is given, and its holotype is designated.

*Deyeuxia himalaica* L. Liou, sp. nov. Fig. 1


Affinis *D. scabrescens* (Griseb.) Munro, sed spiculis vulgo 2-, raro 1-floris, nervis lateralis et intermediis lemmatis primi in 4 dentes 0.2 - 0.8 mm longos prolongatis, arista e 1/5 - 2/5 parte superiore lemmatis nascente, 8 - 10 mm longa, reflexa, rhachilla prolongata 1.0 mm longa pilis 0.8 - 1.0 mm longis tecta differt.

Rhizoma elongatum. Culmi 20 - 60 cm alti, basi 2 - 3 mm crassi, (2-) 3 - 4-nodi. Foliorum vaginae scabrellae intermodis breviores; ligulae 2 - 4 mm longae; laminae 9 - 20 cm longae, 2 - 5 mm latae, apice longe acuminatae, scabrellae. Panicia 6 - 17 cm longa, 3 - 6 cm lata, rami aliquot fasciculatis 3.5 - 8 cm longis scabrellae ascendentibus; spiculae vulgo 2-, raro 1-floriae, 5 - 6.5 mm longae, purpureae; glumae duae subaequales, scabrellae, acuminatae; lemma primum 4 - 5 mm longum, scabrellum, nervis lateralis et intermediis in 4 dentes 0.2 - 0.8 mm longos prolongatis, arista e 1/5 - 2/5 parte superiore lemmatis nascente, 8 - 10 mm longa, scabrella, reflexa, callo pilis 1.1 - 1.5 mm longis tecto; palea carinis duabus in 2 dentes prolongatis instructa, scabrella; intermedi rhachillarum 0.5 - 1.5 mm longa, pilis 1.0 - 1.5 mm longis; flosculus secundus ei primo similis, sed paulo brevior, 3.5 - 4.5 mm longus; rhachilla prolongata 1.0 mm longa, pilis 0.8 - 1.0 mm longis; antherae 2 - 2.5 mm longae. Caryopsis ignota.

Rhizome elongated. Culms 20 - 60 cm tall, 2 - 3 mm thick at base, (2 - ) 3 - 4 - noded. Leaf

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Fig. 1  *Deyeuxia himalaica* L. Liu (from Qinghai-Xizang Exped. 1033) 1. Habit; 2. Spikelet; 3. Florets with glumes removed; 4. The lower floret and internodes of thalictrum. (Drawn by Cai Shu-qin).
sheaths shorter than internodes, slightly scabrid; ligules 2 ～ 4 mm long; blades 9 ～ 20 cm × 2 ～ 5 mm, apex long-acuminate, slightly scabrid. Panicle 6 ～ 17 cm × 3 ～ 6 cm, branches fascicular, 3.5 ～ 8 cm long, slightly scabrid, ascending; spikelets usually 2-, occasionally 1-flowered, 5 ～ 6.5 mm long, purple; glumes subequal, slightly scabrid, acuminate; the lower lemma 4 ～ 5 mm long, slightly scabrid, with the two lateral and two intermediate nerves prolonged into 4 teeth 0.2 ～ 0.8 mm long, the dorsal awn inserted from 1/5 ～ 2/5 below the apex, 8 ～ 10 mm long, slightly scabrid, reflexed, hairs of callous 1 ～ 1.5 mm long; palea slightly scabrid, with the 2 keeled nerves prolonged into 2 teeth; internodes of rhachilla 0.5 ～ 1.5 mm long, bearing hairs 1.0 ～ 1.5 mm long; the upper flower similar to the lower one, but slightly shorter, 3.5 ～ 4.5 mm long; rhachilla 1.0 mm long, bearing hairs 0.8 ～ 1.0 mm long; anthers 2 ～ 2.5 mm long. Caryopsis unknown.

**China. Xizang:** Mêdog, South Doshong La, alt. 3900 ～ 4000 m, 1974-09-14, in alpine meadow, Qinghai-Xizang Exped. 1033 (holotype, here designated, PE).

**Representative specimens:**

**China. Xizang:** Borni, Plateau Pl. Exped., Department of Ecology, Institute of Botany, CAS 14932 (PE), 14930 (PE), S. Z. Cheng 0146 (PE), S. Z. Cheng and B. S. Li 14824 (PE), 6674 (PE); Mêdog, S. Z. Cheng 00348 (PE), S. Z. Cheng and B. S. Li 01126 (PE); Nyalam, C. C. Ni 2097 (PE).

**Distribution and habitats:** China. S and SE Xizang. In alpine meadow or under alpine shrubs, alt. 3400 ～ 4000 m.

This species is closely related to *D. scabrescens*, but differs by having the spikelets usually 2-, occasionally 1-flowered, the two lateral and two intermediate nerves of the lower lemma prolonged into 4 teeth 0.2 ～ 0.8 mm long, the dorsal awn inserted from 1/5 ～ 2/5 below the apex, 8 ～ 10 mm long, scabrid, reflexed, and the rhachilla 1 mm long, bearing hairs 0.8 ～ 1.0 mm long.

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**References**

