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In his monographic treatment of Tiliaceae, Burret *in Notizbl. bot. Gart. Berlin* 9: 607. 1926) pointed out the close affinity of *Berrya* and *Carpodiptera*, the former represented in Asia and the Pacific area, the latter from Africa and America.

Burret accepted as the main differential characteristic the number of ovules per carpel (6-2 in *Berrya* and one in *Carpodiptera*). All other differences are, according to him of minor importance, like the shorter style and broader stigma, the smaller number of carpels (one in *Carpodiptera*, 3 - 5 in *Berrya*).

After having studied all species of *Berrya* and several of *Carpodiptera*, I have come to the conclusion that these two genera cannot be kept separate.

The difference in the number of ovules, considered of such importance, is undone by the fact that I found one-ovuled carpels in Asian *Berrya* and that most fruit carpels of *Berrya* are one-seeded, like those of *Carpodiptera*.

The differences in style and stigma were ascribed by Burret to the fact, that *Carpodiptera* is dioecious. I suspect that *Berrya* is also dioecious or polygamous-dioecious, but more field work has to be done to ascertain this (*Trichospermum*, considered so far to have bisexual flowers, could be proved beyond doubt to be dioecious).

The characteristic of the smaller number of carpels is upset by the discovery of *Carpodiptera hexapetala* which has 3 carpels. The number of carpels in *Berrya* is not even stable in the same specimen.

As in all other respects the two genera are identical, I propose to combine them under the oldest name *Berrya* Roxb. (nomen conservandum, against *Berria* Roxb.).


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I suspect that *Tahitia* Burret (I.e. 609), based on *Berrya vescoana* Baillon and created by Burret on the strength of the description of Baillon and a plate of Drake del Castillo, should also be included in *Berrya*; the differences with *Berrya*, as stated by Burret are very small indeed and do not merit to be evaluated as being on the generic level. Without proper material at hand, however, I prefer to defer a final decision.
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