**Winterocereus (Cactaceae) is the correct name for Hildewintera**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The tribe *Borzicactinae* is a group of globular to columnar cacti, with predominantly ornithophilous flowers, occurring in Bolivia, Peru and Argentina. Depending on the classification concept, a variable number of genera are accepted in this group (Bregman, 1992). One such genus, with particular, distinctive flower morphology (double perianth) was described in 1962 as a new (monotypic) genus and species, *Winteria aureispina* F. Ritter (1962). Because of the parahomonomy to *Winteria* Murray, a name attributed in 1784 to a genus of the family *Winteraceae*, the homonymy with *Winteria* Saccardo is avoided, which was published by F. Ritter three or four months earlier than *Winterocereus* Backeberg (1966). Hildewintera was published by F. Ritter ex G.D. Rowley, Regnum Veg. 54: 15. 1968, nom. illeg. (Art. 52) ["Hildewintera F. Ritter" in Kakteen Sukk. 17: 11, 1966, non rite publ., Art. 33.4] = Loxanthocereus subgen. Hildewintera Buxbaum in Krainz (ed.), Die Kakt., part 58: CVc. 1974 - Type: *Winteria aureispina* F. Ritter.

Backeberg (1966: 455) failed to cite the basionym of the combination *Winterocereus aureispinus* (F. Ritter) Backeberg explicitly. But it is evident from his text that he referred to *Winteria aureispina* F. Ritter. Hence Backeberg’s combination is validly published according to Art 33.4 of the Vienna Code (McNeill & al., 2006) (Art. 33.3 in the St. Louis Code, Greuter & al., 2000). In the index “Repertorium Plantarum Succulentarum” the combination *Winterocereus aureispinus* is not accepted but listed as an illegitimate name (Rowley, 1968: 42), *Hildewintera* being accepted as the correct generic name (i.c.: 15).

**NOMENCLATURE**


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The second species of this genus was published twice in the same year: as "Hildewintera polonica Foik & Foik" (2003) and as Hildewintera colademononis Diers & Krahn (2003). The former is not a validly published name as the single herbarium or collection in which the type was conserved was not specified (Art. 377), and as an attempt to correct this (Foik & Foik, 2004: 50) lacked a direct reference to the original description (Art. 32.5 & 33.4). *Hildewintera colademononis* has, therefore, been accepted as the correct name for the species (Kiesling & Metzing, 2004; Eggli & Zappi, 2005). The discovery that *Hildewintera* was originally not validly published and, when published, was illegitimate makes a new combination in *Winterocereus* necessary. As the name *Hildewintera colademononis* is not illegitimate (Art. 55.1), the epithet *colademononis* must be used.

In a recent paper Hunt (in Hunt & Taylor, 2005) speculates whether the epithet "colademononis" should be corrected to "colademono" (cf. Rec. 60G.1.a). Clearly, Art. 60.11 is not applicable here as the epithet "colademononis" is not derived from a personal name (Rec. 60G.1) nor from Greek or Latin words (Rec. 60G.1). At the rank of species the epithet "colademononis" is not correctable. However, as Hunt (in Hunt & Taylor, 2005) considered this taxon as a subspecies of *Cleistocactus winleri*, he could legitimately substitute the epithet "colademono" and did so in publishing a nomen novum in that rank (see below).

In our opinion this taxon has several characters that justify the rank of species (Kiesling & Metzing, 2004), at which it was published by the Diers & Krahn (2003) and Foik & Foik (2003). The floral characters of this species and *Winterocereus aureispinus* justify maintaining the two of them in a genus separate from *Cleistocactus* (and other genera of Borzicactinae), as explained by Kiesling & Metzing (2004). The correct species name is validly published here:


*Hildewintera* is demonstrative of the chaotic state of *Cactaceae* nomenclature. The numerous contraventions of the rules in the history of these names is not a matter of neglect of the rules that govern nomenclature, but rather, it shows the complexity of the Code (McNeill & al., 2006) and its many pitfalls.

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**LITERATURE CITED**


