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Abstracts & Programme

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Revision of *Chirita* (Gesneriaceae) in Peninsular Malaysia

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Eight species of *Chirita* Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don were previously recorded from Malaysia, of which seven are currently accepted as species of *Chirita*, one species is transferred to another genus, and the other proved to be a synonym. Malaysian *Chirita* species belong to two sections: sect. Microchirita (six species) and sect. Chirita (one species). All are restricted to limestone hills. In sect. *Microchirita*, three species are endemic, one of which is new. Morphological characters are re-assessed, especially those of the inflorescence, bracts, stigma, and seeds, to enable the species to be clearly defined. *Chirita lacunosa* (Hook.f.) B.L.Burtt, presently placed in sect. *Chirita*, is different from the other Malaysian species and proved to be related to species from Thailand. Species from Peninsular Thailand and Malaysia in sect. *Microchirita* form a monophyletic group.

**Loxocarpus** (Gesneriaceae) – section or genus?

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