

A TAXONOMIC STUDY OF THE GENUS *Dicliptera* Juss. (ACANTHACEAE) IN VIETNAM

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Summary

There are about 100 species of *Dicliptera* Juss. in the world, distributed in tropical, subtropical regions of Asia and Africa. This genus has many morphological characteristics closing with *Peristrophe* Nees, but differs by the characteristics of anthers, inflorescences, bracts, and bracts. The present work is a taxonomic revision of the genus *Dicliptera* in Vietnam. Efforts have been made to describe the detailed morphological characteristics of *Dicliptera* species found in Vietnam. The study is an effort to understand the morphological delimitation of Vietnamese *Dicliptera* species in a better way, and to clear up the confusions associated with their identification. A taxonomic key to the species along with updated nomenclature, distribution details, ecological notes, and three line-drawings are provided. All names of the species are typified. Morphological characteristics of the pollen grains of *Dicliptera bupleuroides* and *Dicliptera chinensis* are presented for the first time.

Keywords: *Acanthaceae, Dicliptera, morphology, taxonomy, Vietnam.*