

Lectotypification of the Forms of *Prunus lannesiana* Wilson Described by E. H. Wilson

Hiroshige Koyama* and Tetsuya Kawasaki**

* Department of Botany, National Science Museum, Tokyo,
Amakubo 4–1–1, Tsukuba, 305–0005 Japan

E-mail: koyama@kahaku.go.jp

** Takasago 4–16–5, Urawa, 336–0011 Japan

Abstract Lectotypifications are done for the forms of *Prunus lannesiana* described by E. H. Wilson. Some notes are made pertaining to Wilson's writing of the word "Type" above the label on specimen sheets. Lectotypes are selected from the syntype specimens collected by Wilson and deposited in the Herbarium of Harvard University.

Key words : *Prunus lannesiana*, lectotypification, forms, taxonomy

E. H. Wilson, a botanist from the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, came to Japan in 1914 to investigate plants. One of his purposes was to study Japanese flowering cherries. He began his research and collecting on Tanegashima Island, Kyushu and traveled north, eventually reaching Sakhalin (at that time still Japanese). On the way he visited many places well known for their cultivation of cherry trees, among them Arakawa-tsutsumi, Kyoto and Hakone. His work on Japanese cherries, "The Cherries of Japan", was published by the Arnold Arboretum in 1916. In "The Cherries of Japan", Wilson taxonomically described many of the older and more famous cultivars of Japanese cherry. The specimens cited in this report are important for making the entities and mutual relationships of those cultivars clear. It appears that researchers have visited the Herbarium at Harvard University to study Wilson's specimens for their own investigations; however, none have referred to the results in their reports.

Through the kindness of the Curator of the Herbarium of Harvard University, we were able to examine all the specimens of *Prunus lannesiana* cited by Wilson. As a consequence, the entities of many cultivars previously known only by the scientific name have been clarified. Furthermore, the cultivars described by Wilson have been confirmed or, in cases where Wilson drew misunderstandings from his research, have been corrected.

Some lectotypifications were necessary to help avoid confusion for future researchers.

Notes pertaining to Wilson's use of the word "Type" above the label on specimen sheets of Wilson's new forms.

I. When only one specimen is cited in "The Cherries of Japan", it is the holotype. In these cases, Wilson might or might not have written the word "Type". His use of "Type" seems not to have followed a prescribed form.

II. In cases where two specimens with the same number have been cited, Wilson once again has not followed a prescribed form.

On *Prunus lannesiana* f. *hosokawa*, Wilson cited Wilson 6516. Two specimens have that number, and neither has the word "Type".

On *Prunus lannesiana* f. *isezakura*, Wilson cited Wilson 6551 as the type. Again two specimens have the same number, but the word "Type" appears on only one of the specimen sheets.

On *Prunus lannesiana* f. *ranzan*, Wilson cited Wilson 6486. The two specimens with this number both have the word "Type".

III. In cases where three or more specimens with the same number are cited in "The Cherries of Japan", typification is unclear.

On *Prunus lannesiana* f. *yayeakebono*, Wilson cited Wilson 6489. Three specimens have this number and none has the word "Type".

Wilson's inconsistent use of the word "Type" on his specimen sheets has led us to reason that we would not allow it to have an undue influence upon our own research.

Selections of lectotypes

1. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *amanogawa* Wilson

Wilson cited Wilson 6502. Three specimens have the same number. They were recognized as the same. These are syntypes.

(1) The first has two circular field tags. One has the word "Amanogawa" written on it. The other has been stamped "6502. APR 20 1914". The label in Wilson's hand reads "branches fastigiate, fls pink, semidouble".

(2) The second also has two circular field tags. One of these has the word "Amanogawa" with an additional note by Wilson, "Rami fastigiati". The other has been stamped "6502. APR 20 1914".

(3) The last has one circular field tag which has been stamped "6502. APR 20 1914". On this label, Wilson has written "Branches fastigiate fls pale pink fragrant semi-double". Further, Wilson wrote the word "Amanogawa" on the specimen sheet.

We have selected the last specimen as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *amanogawa* Wilson. The other two specimens are isolectotypes of *P. lannesiana* f. *amanogawa*.

2. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *hosokawa* Wilson

Wilson cited Wilson 6516. There are two sheets of specimens with this number. They were recognized as the same. These are syntypes.

(1) The first has one circular field tag. It has been stamped “6516. APR 20 1914”.

(2) The second has two circular field tags. One has been stamped “6516. APR 20 1914”. The other has the word “Hosokawa”. On the label, Wilson has written “flowers white, fragrant”. This specimen has an amply flowering spray and many characteristics of f. *hosokawa*.

We have selected the second specimen as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *hosokawa* Wilson. The first specimen is an isolectotype of *P. lannesiana* f. *hosokawa*.

3. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *isezakura* Wilson

Wilson cited Wilson 6551 as the type of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *isezakura* Wilson. Two sheets of specimens have the same number. They were recognized as the same. These are syntypes.

(1) The first has one circular field tag. It has been stamped “6551. APR 22 1914”.

(2) The second has one circular field tag which has been stamped “6551. APR 22 1914”. On the label, Wilson has written “flowers pink, semidouble purchased florist shop Kyoto”. Above the label, Wilson has written “Type”.

We have selected the second specimen as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *isezakura* Wilson. The first specimen is an isolectotype of *P. lannesiana* f. *isezakura*.

4. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *mazakura* Wilson

Eight specimens were recognized. All eight were labeled as having been collected by Wilson in Hatogaya and numbered 6544. Two were collected on 20th April, 1914; six, on 29th April, 1914.

On two of the six specimens collected on 29th April, 1914, Wilson wrote “Type” above the label. These two specimens are sprays taken from a mature tree. The other four were saplings grown up from cuttings. Therefore, only the former were considered to be syntypes. We have selected the specimen with flowers as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *mazakura* Wilson. The other is an isolectotype of *P. lannesiana* f. *mazakura*.

In “The Cherries of Japan”, Wilson cited these specimens as number 6433. However, Wilson’s circular field tags are stamped 6544. Wilson correctly cites 6433 as specimens of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *ochichima* Wilson in “The Cherries of Japan”. Therefore, we inferred that his citing of 6433 for specimens of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *mazakura* was in error.

Further, Wilson cited specimens with circular field tags stamped “6544. APR 20 1914” as “Arakawa, near Tokyo. cultivated April 20, 1914, E. H. Wilson 6544a” in

“The Cherries of Japan”. These same specimens were recorded to have been collected in Hatogaya on the specimen labels. As Wilson was clearly working in the Arakawa area on the date in question, we assume his recording of “Hatogaya” on the labels is in error.

5. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *ranzan* Wilson

Wilson cited Wilson 6486. Two sheets of specimens have this number. Both were recognized as the same. These are syntypes.

(1) The first has two circular field tags. One has been stamped “6486. APR 20 1914”. The other has the word “Ranzan”. On the specimen sheet Wilson wrote “Type” above the label.

(2) The second has one circular field tag. The tag has been stamped “6486. APR 20 1914”. On the specimen sheet Wilson wrote “Type” above the label. This specimen has abundant flowers and leaves.

We have selected the second specimen as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *ranzan* Wilson. The first specimen is an isoelectotype of *P. lannesiana* f. *ranzan*.

6. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *sumizome* Wilson

Wilson 6517 was cited by Wilson as the type of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *sumizome* Wilson in “The Cherries of Japan”. Two sheets of specimens with Wilson 6517 were found. The two specimens were recognized as the same. These are syntypes.

(1) The first has one circular field tag. The tag has been stamped “6517. APR 20 1914”.

(2) The second has two circular field tags. One of these has been stamped “6517. APR 20 1914”. The other has the word “Sumizome”. On the label Wilson noted “flowers nearly white”.

We have selected the second specimen as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *sumizome* Wilson. The first specimen is an isoelectotype of *P. lannesiana* f. *sumizome*.

7. *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *yayeakebono* Wilson

Wilson cited Wilson 6489. Three specimens have this number. They were recognized as the same. They are syntypes.

(1) The first has one circular field tag. The tag has been stamped “6489. APR 20 1914”.

(2) The second has two circular field tags. One of them has been stamped “6489. APR 20 1914”. The other has the word “Yayeakebono”.

(3) The last has two circular field tags. One of them has been stamped “6489. APR 20 1914”. The other has the word “Yayeakebono”. On the label Wilson has written “flowers pink”.

We have selected the last specimen as the lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* f. *yayeakebono* Wilson. The first and second specimens are isoelectotypes of *P. lan-*



Fig. 1. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *amanogawa* Wilson.



Fig. 2. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *hosokawa* Wilson.



Fig. 3. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *isezakura* Wilson.



Fig. 4. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *mazakura* Wilson.



Fig. 5. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *ranzan* Wilson.



Fig. 6. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *sumizome* Wilson.



Fig. 7. Lectotype of *Prunus lannesiana* (Carr.) Wilson f. *yayakebono* Wilson.

nesiana f. *yayeakebono*.

Acknowledgements

We wish to express our hearty thanks to the Manager of the Systematics Collections at the Herbarium of Harvard University, Miss Emily W. Wood and to Mr. Kenneth S. Dymont for his linguistic corrections.

Reference

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