

## GENERIC NAME

Generic name is usually a noun and singular & may have different types of origin:

(a) A genera may be named in honour of a botanist or horticulturist or place e.g., *Linnaea* in honour of Linnaeus

(b) Some generic names are of poetic or mythological origin or denote a special character e.g., *Nymphaea* denotes lovely water nymphs

## SPECIFIC EPITHET

The specific epithet is an adjective & may have several origins:

(a) It may be in honour of a person or place e.g., *hookeri* for Hooker

(b) It may be derived from special characteristics of the plant e.g., *alba* for white flowered plant

(c) It may be derived from a geographical location where the plant grows.

(d) It may originate from an old common name.

(e) It may be named arbitrarily.

Generally, the specific epithet is of one word but if it has two words then a hyphen should be placed between them.

Sometimes nomenclature may be of **TRINOMIAL** or **QUADRINOMIAL** type. In trinomial the third epithet is of **SUBSPECIES** & in quadrinomial fourth epithet is of **VARIETY**.

Categories below the rank of species are:

Subspecies

Varieties

Sub-varieties

Forma

## EFFECTIVE/ VALID PUBLICATION

- 1) Name must be effectively published in some journal/ book.
- 2) Name must be published in the correct form, properly Latinized with the correct rank ending.
- 3) Name must be published with a Latin/english description or diagnosis.
- 4) Nomenclatural type must be indicated (for genus and below).

## AUTHOR CITATION

1. **Joint authors** - If only two, both should be cited, e.g. Smith & Jones, or Smith *et* Jones, if more than two then Smith *et al.*

2. **Name proposal** - Sometimes one author proposes but doesn't validly publish the name him/herself. In this case the one who proposed it is listed first followed by *ex* and the author who validly published it. *Ex* means validly published by. For example, *Arenaria rossii* R.Br. *ex* Richards. 1823.

### 3. **Publication in another's work** -

Sometimes one person supplies the new name for publication in another's work, e.g. In some floras/books. He/she should get credit so cited as Smith *in* Jones, Means name given by Smith but published in Jones's book.

4. **Abbreviated names:** Usually the names are cited in abbreviated forms but never underlined or italicized e.g., *Vitex* Linn., *V. trifolia* Linn. etc.

**5. Parenthesis ( ):** If a genus/ species is altered in rank, but retains part of original name or epithet, the name of the author who first published the name or epithet (**basionym**) must be cited in parenthesis followed by the name of author who made the change e.g., *Leucaena latisiliqua* (Linn.) Gillis (1974). **Basionym:** *Mimosa latisiliqua*; where *Mimosa* genus changed to *Leucaena* genus but specific epithet was retained.

**6. Square bracket [ ]:** Used to indicate pre starting point author i.e before 1753. The author who gave the name before 1753 is written in bracket.

**7. emend:** two authors are linked using emend when second author makes some changes in the diagnostic characters without altering the name.

