



## Short Communication

**A note on the taxonomy of *Jaeschkea microsperma* (Gentianaceae)**

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**Abstract:** In the present study a new combination in the genus *Gentianella*, *G. microsperma* has been proposed which has been transferred from *Jaeschkea microsperma* on the basis of relevant morphological characters.

**Keywords:** *Gentianella microsperma*, Gentianaceae, new combination.

**Introduction**

*Jaeschkea* Kurz, one of the smallest genus of family Gentianaceae, comprising only three species, is characterized by the position of stamens between the corolla lobes, insertion of stamens at or near the corolla sinuses and the presence of appendage scales at the base of the filaments. The genus, segregated from *Gentiana* L. on the basis of the position of the stamens which arise between the corolla-lobes and insertion of filaments at or near the corolla sinuses (Kurz 1870), and is closely allied to *Gentianella* Moench, in its habit, foliar and floral structure, but, it differs from the latter in insertion of stamens at or near the corolla sinuses, short filaments, and insertion points having appendage scales. In the present state of our knowledge, the genus is known to occur in India, Pakistan, China and Iran. All the three species, viz. *J. canaliculata* (Royle ex G. Don) Knobl, *J. oligosperma* (Griseb.) Knobl. and *J. microsperma* C.B. Clarke, occur in India and are found distributed in alpine zones of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh in Northwest Himalaya and Sikkim in the Eastern Himalaya.

A perusal of relevant literatures viz., (Kurz 1870; Clarke 1883; Knoblauch 1894; Omer 1995; Shu 1995) however, suggests that *J. microsperma*, the only species of the genus reported from Eastern Himalaya, with the stamens inserted at or near the middle of the corolla and the lack of appendage scales at the base of filaments does not belong here, hence, *J. microsperma* is transferred to the genus *Gentianella*.

***Gentianella microsperma* (Clarke) M. Shabir & Husain comb. nov.**

**Basionym:** *Jaeschkea microsperma* Clarke, in fl. Brit India 4 (1883, p.119)

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