















### The Hippocratea Complex

The genus Hippocratea has been interpreted to comprise about 150 species or subdivided into as many as 16 genera, each with various numbers of species. Wilczek (1960), in *Flora du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi*, who parallels very closely to Halle (1958, 1960 and 1962), recognized eight genera: Hippocratea, Apodostigma, Cuervea, Elachyptera, Helictonema, Loesneriella, Reissantia and Simirestis. Robson (1965, 1966) and Blakelock (1958) have lumped these all into Hippocratea. Ding Hou (1964) seems to follow Halle and Wilczek since he has listed species of Reissantia and Loesneriella in *Flora Malesiana*. Also, Wilczek (1960) and Halle (1962) recognized two genera, Cuervea and Elachyptera, which occur in Central and South America and West Indies (but not Asia), probably based upon Smith (1940).

Another complex of the Hippocrateaceae, which seems to parallel the genus Hippocratea is Campylostemon and its allies Bequaertia and Tristemonanthus. Wilczek recognizes three genera and Robson only one, Campylostemon.

In summary, the African Hippocrateaceae comprises four genera (including Salacia and Salacighia?) from Robson's point of view, or 13 genera as treated by Wilczek (1960) and Halle (1962), *Monographie des Hippocrateaceae d'Afrique Occidentale*; Inst. Franc. d'Afrique Noire Mem. 64.















