A new species of *Huperzia* (Lycopodiaceae) from Jeju Island, Korea: *Huperzia jejuensis*

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ABSTRACT: A new species belonging to Lycopodiaceae Mirb. *Huperzia* Bernh. s.l. is described and illustrated: *Huperzia jejuensis* B.-Y. Sun & J. Lim. *H. jejuensis* has been considered conspecific with *H. integrifolia* (Matsuda) B. Øllg. ex Z. Satou, but it is clearly distinguished by the characteristics of linear-lanceolate leaves with parallel margins from the base to the mid-part, minute dentate margins from the mid-part to the end of the leaf, and cuspidate gemma apex. Because the habitat of the new species was confined to Jeju Island, ‘*jejuensis*’ was chosen as the specific epithet of the scientific name of the new taxon.

Keywords: Lycopodiaceae, *Huperzia*, new species, *H. jejuensis*, *H. integrifolia*

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More than 300 species in the genus *Huperzia* Bernh. s.l. belonging to Lycopodiaceae Mirb. are recognized worldwide, mostly in the tropics (Wikström and Kenrick, 1999; Sun, 2007). Bernhardi (1801) segregated *Huperzia* as a distinct genus from *Lycopodium* L. based on sporangium born at the axil of leaves instead of producing strobilus.


Of these, *H. integrifolia* has been regarded as an endemic species that grows naturally on Jeju Island, Korea (Nakai, 1952). Matsuda (1911) reported a new variety, *Lycopodium serratum var. integrifolium* Matsuda, based on a specimen collected at Lu-shan, Kiang-si Province, China, by a Japanese collector Inami (Fig. 1), mentioning that the serration of leaves of the new variety is obscure or almost absent, and many specimens of the type variety from different localities in Japan...
A new species, *Huperzia jejuensis*

have distinct serrations. Although Latin description was not provided for this new variety, the name can be treated as valid according to ICN Art. 39.1. Subsequently, Nakai (1914) published the name *L. integrifolium* (Matsuda) Matsuda et Nakai with a Latin diagnosis and description, raising *L. serratum* var. *integrifolium* to the specific level. He cited a specimen collected from Jeju Island (Mt. Halla at 700 m, Nakai 1081) and indicated the distribution range of this species as China and Korea (Jeju island). However, much earlier than Nakai, Goldie (1822) published a new species, *L. integrifolium* Hook. ex Goldie based on specimens collected in Montreal, Canada, describing the new species as a relative of *L. clavatum* L., which is apparently a different species to *L. integrifolium* (Matsuda) Matsuda et Nakai. Therefore, *L. integrifolium* (Matsuda) Matsuda et Nakai is a later homonym and hence illegitimate. Satou (1997) transferred *L. integrifolium* (Matsuda) to *Huperzia* as *H. integrifolia*.

In this study, we examined and compared the morphology of the original specimen collected by Inami in Lushan, China, and the specimens collected on Jeju Island. We found that these two taxa are fundamentally different enough to be treated as different species. Therefore we described the taxon distributed on Jeju Island as a new species, *H. jejuensis* B.-Y. Sun & J. Lim.

**Taxonomic Treatment**

*Huperzia jejuensis* B.-Y Sun & J. Lim, sp. nov. (Figs. 2, 3)

**TYPE:** Korea. Jeju Island: Mt. Halla, Seongpanak hiking trail, in forests beside the trail, 33° 22' N, 126° 33' E, elev. 1568 m. 8 Aug. 2010. C.-H. Kim, J. Lim, N.-R. Yun and S.-S. Choi 50803. (Holotype, KB; Isotype, KB).

**Korean name:** Gin-da-ram-jwi-kko-ri 긴다람쥐꼬리

Plant evergreen herb, terrestrial. Stems erect or ascending, subterranean stems decumbent, 1–2–4 dichotomously branched, 15–25 cm tall, together with leaves 1.2–1.9 cm wide, clustered at base without main stem; annual constrictions present. Gemmiferous branchlets present in 1–2 pseudowhorl at the end of each annual growth cycle, zygomorphic, comprising 6 lobes, with 1 large central lobe (outer), 1 small central lobe (inner), and 2 pairs small lateral lobes, each lobe linear to lanceolate, large central lobe 3–4 mm long; gemmae eliminated after maturity, obtriangular, 3–5 × 3–4 mm, zygomorphic, comprising 5 leaves, 1 central leaf, 2 large lateral leaves with

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![Fig. 1. Holotype of *Huperzia integrifolia* (Matsuda) Satou.](image)

![Fig. 2. Holotype of *Huperzia jejuensis* B.-Y Sun & J. Lim.](image)
apex cuspidate, 3–5 × 3–4 mm, and 1 abaxial, 1 adaxial leaf. Leaves monomorphic or dimorphic, attached at right angles or slightly angled downward with stem, densely spirally arranged, green, herbaceous, glabrous; vein only midrib, stomates on both sides. Trophophylls linear-lanceolate, straight in lower half or slightly narrowing from middle toward apex, 6–8 × 0.7–1.2 mm, apex acute, margins irregularly and minutely dentate or papillate above middle, teeth 1–10. Sporophylls linear-lanceolate, 4–7.5 × 0.7–1.1 mm, slightly smaller than trophophyll, margins entire or irregularly and minutely dentate above middle, teeth 0–5, not forming distinct cones. Sporangia reniform, 0.7–1.0 × 1.1–1.6 mm, axillar of sporophylls, sessile, yellowish; spores trilete with truncate lobes, or irregular shape.


Habitat: Terrestrial in shaded conifer forests and mixed forests, moist areas covered with many mosses, above 800 m high in Mt. Halla (Fig. 4)

Distribution: Korea (Jeju Island), endemic to Korea.

Etymology: The specific epithet is derived from Jeju Island where this new species is distributed.

Note: The plant described as a new species here, *Huperzia jejuensis*, has been recognized as *H. integrifolia* (Sun, 2007). However, our results show that, *H. jejuensis* should be treated as a distinct species. In comparison of leaf morphology, the two species show considerable differences that are sufficient to treat them as different species (Table 1). Specifically, *H. integrifolia* has narrowly elliptic leaves with the middle part being the widest and irregularly serrate margins. In addition, gemma apex of *H. integrifolia* is mucronate. In contrast, *H. jejuensis* has linear-lanceolate leaves with margins parallel from the base to the mid-part and a minute dentate margin restricted from the middle part to the end of the leaves. In addition,
A new species, *Huperzia jejuensis* is cuspidate. Regarding the spore shape, *H. integrifolia* has normal triangular spores, whereas *H. jejuensis* has many spores with irregular shapes that may be indicative of hybrid origins (Fig. 5).

Regarding interspecific relationships, *H. jejuensis* seems to be more closely related to *H. miyoshiana* than *H. serrata* by leaf shapes and stomate distribution patterns (Table 1). Nakai (1914) also suggested that *H. integrifolia* habitating in Jeju Island is more similar to *H. miyoshiana* than *H. serrata* in terms of external morphology. *H. jejuensis* is clearly distinguished from *H. serrata* which is characterized by the narrowly elliptical or oblanceolate leaves, leaves narrowed toward the base, and stomata distributed only on the lower surface of the leaves, but shares common features of linear-lanceolate leaves, stomata distributed on both sides of the leaf, and cuspidate gemma apex with *H. miyoshiana*.

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**Literature Cited**


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![Fig. 5. Spores of *Huperzia jejuensis* (A) and *H. integrifolia* (B).](image)

| Table 1. Comparison of some diagnostic characters among *H. jejuensis*, *H. serrata*, *H. integrifolia* and *H. miyoshiana*. |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Character       | *H. jejuensis*  | *H. serrata*    | *H. integrifolia* | *H. miyoshiana* |
| Leaf shape      | linear-lanceolate | narrowly elliptic, oblanceolate | narrowly elliptic | linear-lanceolate |
| Brodest part of leaf | same width except leaf tip | at or above mid-part | at mid-part | at base, narrowed from base to apex |
| Leaf margin     | irregularly minutely dentate | irregularly serrate, serration large | irregularly serrate, serration small | entire |
| Distribution of Serration | above middle part | whole part | whole part | absent |
| Apex of gemmae  | cuspidate | mucronate | mucronate | cuspidate |
| Distribution of stomata on leaf | both surfaces, more on lower side | lower surface only | both surfaces, more on lower side | both surfaces, similar number on both sides |
| Spores          | trilete with frequent misshapes | trilete | trilete | trilete |