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SHORT COMMUNICATION

Formal transfer of four residual species from *Corymbia* to *Eucalyptus* (Myrtaceae)

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Four new combinations are here provided for the genus *Eucalyptus* L'Hér. These new combinations are necessary to be able to use a single-genus concept of the eucalypts, which in my opinion is supported by the available evidence and provides the greatest taxonomic utility for workers dealing with this important group of plants (see Nicolle *et al.* 2024; Cook *et al.* 2025). This single-genus concept of the eucalypts has not yet been adopted by Australian state herbaria or by the Australian Plant Census (2026); similarly, an alternative four-genus concept of the eucalypts (Crisp *et al.* 2024) has also not yet been adopted by most Australian state herbaria nor the Australian Plant Census (2026).

Almost all species previously included in *Corymbia* K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson already have validly published names available in *Eucalyptus*, mostly because they were placed in *Eucalyptus* prior to the publication of *Corymbia* (Hill & Johnson 1995), some when they were published by Brooker (2000) as part of his single-genus concept of the eucalypts, and a handful when they were transferred to *Eucalyptus* by Nicolle (2024a). Valid names in *Eucalyptus* remained outstanding (until now) for the four species listed below.

All four of these new combinations were originally named as species in *Corymbia* (Hill & Johnson 1995). Three of the new combinations are 'ghost gum' species that were included in *Blakella* (L.D.Pryor & L.A.S.Johnson ex Brooker) Crisp & L.G.Cook by Crisp *et al.* (2024).

Eucalyptus arafurica (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) D.Nicolle, ***comb. nov.***

Basionym: *Corymbia arafurica* K.D.Hill & L.A.S. Johnson, *Telopea* 6(2–3): 409 (1995).

Blakella arafurica (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Crisp & L.G.Cook, *J. Syst. Evol.* 62(5): 957 (2024).

Brooker (2000) did not make this combination when he included all *Corymbia* taxa in the genus *Eucalyptus*, as he tentatively included the name in *Eucalyptus papuana* F.Muell. (Brooker & Kleinig 2004: 50). Most eucalypt specialists now accept this species (e.g. Crisp *et al.* 2024; Slee *et al.* 2015). I regard the taxon as being very similar to *E. bella* (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Brooker and in the past have regarded it as 'dubious species' (Nicolle 2024b).

Eucalyptus sphaerica (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Brooker ex D.Nicolle, ***comb. nov.***

Basionym: *Corymbia sphaerica* K.D.Hill & L.A.S. Johnson, *Telopea* 6(2–3): 351 (1995).

Eucalyptus sphaerica (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Brooker, *Field Guide Eucalypts Ed. 2*, 3: 110 (2004), *nom. inval.*

Eucalyptus sp. II: Brooker & Kleinig, *Field Guide Eucalypts* 3: 110 (1994).

Brooker (2000) did not make this combination when he included all *Corymbia* taxa in *Eucalyptus*, although this appears to have been an oversight as he accepted the species and included it as "*Eucalyptus sphaerica* (K. Hill & L. Johnson) Brooker" in Brooker & Kleinig (2004: 110). Brooker & Kleinig (2004) did not represent valid publication of that combination because it did not include any reference to a basionym and therefore did not conform to the requirements of the *International code of nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants* (Turland *et al.* 2025). It is a widely accepted species (e.g. Brooker & Kleinig 2004; Nicolle 2024b; Slee *et al.* 2015).

Eucalyptus torta (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) D.Nicolle, ***comb. nov.***

Basionym: *Corymbia torta* K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson, *Telopea* 6(2–3): 418 (1995).

Blakella torta (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Crisp & L.G.Cook, *J. Syst. Evol.* 62(5): 958 (2024).

Corymbia torta subsp. *allanii* K.D.Hill & L.A.S. Johnson, *Telopea* 6(2–3): 420–421 (1995).

Corymbia torta subsp. *mixitifolia* K.D.Hill & L.A.S. Johnson, *Telopea* 6(2–3): 421 (1995).

Eucalyptus sp. F: Rye in J.R.Wheeler, Rye, B.L.Koch, & A.J.G.Wilson, *Flora Kimberley Reg.* 529 (1992).

Brooker (2000) did not make this combination when he included all *Corymbia* taxa in the genus *Eucalyptus*, as he considered the name to be a taxonomic synonym of *Eucalyptus aparrerinja* (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson)

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Brooker (Brooker & Kleinig 2004: 55). Most eucalypt specialists now accept this species (e.g. Crisp *et al.* 2024; Nicolle 2024b; Slee *et al.* 2015; Wheeler *et al.* 1992). Hill & Johnson (1995) described three subspecies when they named *C. torta* (subsp. *allanii* K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson, subsp. *mixtifolia* K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson and subsp. *torta*), but none of these subspecies are accepted by contemporary eucalypt specialists (e.g. Crisp *et al.* 2024; Nicolle 2024b; Slee *et al.* 2015), despite these subspecies currently being listed in Australian Plant Census (2026). These three subspecies of *E. torta* are formally synonymised here.

Eucalyptus paractia (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) D.Nicolle, ***comb. nov.***

Basionym: *Corymbia paractia* K.D.Hill & L.A.S. Johnson, *Telopea* 6(2–3): 462 (1995).

Blakella paractia (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Crisp & L.G.Cook, *J. Syst. Evol.* 62(5): 958 (2024).

Brooker (2000) did not make this combination when he included all *Corymbia* taxa in the genus *Eucalyptus*, although it is not clear why, as he did not include it in his list of accepted species. The species is not mentioned in Brooker & Kleinig (2004), but is included in Slee *et al.* (2015) as *Corymbia paractia*. Crisp *et al.* (2024) created the combination *Blakella paractia*, but did not further comment on the status and affinities of the species. Hill & Johnson (1995), Slee *et al.* (2015) and Nicolle (2024b) regard the species to be of probable hybrid or intergrade origin: *Eucalyptus flavescens* (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) Brooker × *E. dendromerinx* (K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson) D.Nicolle. Further research is required to better understand its origin and relationships.

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