Phylogenomic insights into the divergent history and hybridization within the East Asian endemic *Abelia* (Caprifoliaceae)

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Abstract:

• **Background and Aims** *Abelia* (Caprifoliaceae) is a small genus with five species (including one artificial hybrid). The genus has a disjunct distribution across mainland China, Taiwan and the Ryukyu Islands, providing a model system to explore species dispersal mechanisms of the East Asian flora. However, the current phylogenetic relationships within *Abelia* remain controversial.

• **Methods** In this study, we reconstructed the phylogenetic relationships within *Abelia* using nuclear loci generated by target enrichment and the cpDNA from genome skimming.

• **Key Results** We found large cytonuclear discordance across the genus. Based on the nuclear and chloroplast phylogenies we proposed to merge *A. schumannii* into *A. macrotera*, and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* into *A. uniflora.* Divergence time estimation, ancestral area reconstruction, and ecological niche modelling (ENM) were used to examine the biogeographic history of *Abelia*. Our results showed that *Abelia* originated in Southwest China, and diversification began in the Early Eocene, followed by *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* colonizing Taiwan in the Middle Miocene. The ENM results suggested an expansion of climatically suitable areas during the Last Glacial Maximum and range contraction during the Last Interglacial. Disjunction between the Himalaya-Hengduan Mountain region (HHM) and Taiwan is most likely the consequence of topographic isolation and postglacial contraction.

• **Conclusions** Overall, our results supports that postglacial range contraction together with topographic heterogeneity resulted in the Taiwan and China mainland disjunction. Furthermore, when we using genome data to reconstruct the phylogeny of related species, branch evolution and network evolution should be considered, as well as gene flow in historical periods. This research provide new insights for the speciation process and taxonomy of *Abelia*.

Key words: *Abelia*; Phylogeography; Divergence time; Ancestral distribution; Taiwan

INTRODUCTION

The underlying causes of disjunct distributions in various organisms have been a central issue in biogeography (e.g., Xiang et al., 1998; Wen, 2001; Qian and Ricklefs, 2004; Wang et al., 2012; Wen et al., 2013, 2019). Much discussion has focused on two mechanisms: vicariance and long-distance dispersal (Doyle et al., 2004; Givnish and Renner, 2004; Yoder and Nowak, 2006; Šarhanová et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2020). The emergence of geographic barriers has led to vicariance, resulting in decreased gene flow; while long-distance dispersal in plants usually involves rare events driven by dispersal vectors such as animals, wind or water currents (Nathan et al., 2008). Recent molecular systematic studies have shown that many plant disjunctions are too young to be explained by continental drift or major geographic barriers (Doyle et al., 2004; Mummenhoff et al., 2004; Yoder and Nowak, 2006; Linder et al., 2013; Thomas et al., 2014, 2017; Jiang et al., 2019). Hence, long-distance dispersal has emerged as a major mechanism to explain many discontinuous distributions in historical geography (Wen et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2019; Wen and Wagner, 2020).

Biogeographic disjunctions between mainland China and Taiwan have received considerable attention with the separation of the two regions by 130 km (Wu and Wang, 2001; Xiang and Soltis, 2001; Qiu et al., 2011; Chen et al., 2012; Ye et al., 2014). Taiwan is the largest subtropical mountainous island in the monsoonal western Pacific region, located on the Tropic of Cancer and originating in the late Miocene (ca. 9-5 million years ago; Sibuet and Hsu, 2004). Molecular phylogenetic analyses have shown that several plant lineages have disjunct distributions between mainland China and Taiwan (e.g., *Sassafras* J. Presl, Nie et al., 2007; *Pseudotsuga* Carrière, Wei et al., 2010; *Triplostegia* Wall. ex DC., Niu et al., 2018). Geologically, Taiwan and its adjacent continental margin of China belong to the Eurasian plate; in the Late Cretaceous both of these were part of the continental block. The continental block has undergone many extensions and rifting events since the Paleocene (Zhang, 1995; Suo et al., 2015). Two hypotheses have been proposed to explain the formation of current plant disjunctions in this region: long-distance dispersal and postglacial contraction (Chou et

al., 2011; Wang et al., 2013; Ye et al., 2014; Niu et al., 2018). A phylogeographic study of

Cunninghamia R.Br. ex A.Rich. (Taxodiaceae) revealed that populations in Taiwan were

derived from continental Asia via long-distance seed dispersal (Lu et al., 2001). Factors that

have had major impacts on population dynamics and genetic variation patterns in plants

include past geological and climatic changes, uplift of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, global

optimum temperature since the Miocene and the Quaternary glacial-interglacial transition

(Xu et al., 2015; Cao et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2020). Recent studies have suggested that

although the ice sheet was not ubiquitous from the Qinling Mountains and Huai River (at ca.

34° N) to the tropical south (≤ 22° N) in China during the Last Glacial period, the

temperature in most parts of mainland China was lower than today (Shi et al., 2006).

Temperature changes influence species distribution, population sizes, and intraspecific

genetic differentiation. The postglacial contraction hypothesis states that many species had a

continuous distribution from mainland China to Taiwan during the Quaternary glacial period,

sometimes with disjunctions between the Himalaya-Hengduan Mountain region and Taiwan

occurring when taxa migrated to higher altitudes as global temperatures increased (Chen and

Ying, 2012).

Abelia R.Br. belongs to the subfamily Linnaeoideae Raf. within Caprifoliaceae s.l.

(Dipsacales; Yang and Landrein, 2011; Caprifoliaceae; Wang et al., 2021). The genus

includes *A. chinensis* (four varieties), *A. forrestii* (two varieties), *A. schumannii*, *A. macrotera*

(eight varieties) and *A. uniflora* (Landrein et al., 2017; 2020; Fig. 1). *Abelia* is a typical East

Asian endemic genus with a disjunct distribution between mainland China and Taiwan,

mainly distributed in southwestern China, extending to eastern Taiwan and the Ryukyu

Islands of Japan. The genus includes an important ornamental species, *Abelia × grandiflora,*

widely cultivated in the yards, parks and roadsides of temperate cities (e.g., Beijing, London,

Wuhan and Washington D.C; Fig. 1). However, the phylogenetic relationships within *Abelia*

remain controversial due to limited markers and sampling, and hence the biogeographic

history and process of speciation are still unclear. Kim (1998) used one nuclear (ITS) and one

plastid (*matK*) marker to infer the phylogenetic relationships within *Abelia*. However, species

relationships could not be clarified because only two *Abelia* species were included, and a

polytomy existed between the two *Abelia* species and those of *Diabeia*. Three *Abelia* species

were included (*A. chinensis*, *A. schumannii* and *A. engleriana*) in Jacobs et al. (2010), but no

information about relationships can be inferred since the three formed a polytomy. Using ITS

and nine plastid regions (*rbcL*, *trnS-G*, *matK*, *trnL-F*, *ndhA*, *trnD-psbM*, *petB-D*, *trnL-rpl32*

and *trnH-psbA*), Wang et al. (2015) found that *A. forrestii* was sister to all other *Abelia*

species, while *A. chinensis* was sister to *A.* × *grandiflora* with moderate support. Although

Landrein (2017) included 46 accessions of *Abelia* (22 natural taxa and 24 horticultural

breeds), using only ITS and three plastid (*rbcL*, *trnL-F* and *matK*) genes, the species

phylogeny was still unclear due to lack of resolution and low to moderate bootstrap support

for many nodes.

Chloroplast DNA inheritance is primarily from the maternal parent in most angiosperms,

therefore it cannot resolve the entire phylogenetic history of lineages (Corriveau and

Coleman, 1988; Birky, 1995; Xue et al., 2020). Target enrichment has shown to be an

effective approach to extract orthologous nuclear genes and can infer the phylogenetic

relationships of complex taxa successfully (e.g., *Helianthus* L., Stephens et al., 2015.

Asteraceae Bercht and J. Presl, 2018; *Pinus taeda* L., Neves et al., 2013; Caprifoliaceae,

Wang et al., 2021). Therefore, we have chosen this approach for conducting a phylogenetic

and biogeographic study of *Abelia*. In this study, using a target enrichment dataset we aim to

(1) clarify the species-level phylogeny of *Abelia* based on nuclear genes and plastome data;

and (2) reconstruct the biogeographic history of *Abelia* and explore its distribution patterns

related to the disjunction between mainland China and Taiwan.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sampling, genomic data generation

We sampled 38 individuals from all five species of *Abelia* (Landrein, 2017; 2020) and

several potential hybrid individuals, including *A.* × *grandiflora*. Six Linnaeoideae species

[*Diabelia serrata*, *D. sanguinea*, *Kolkwitzia amabilis*, *Dipelta floribunda* (two individuals),

Linnaea borealis, and *Vesalea occidentails*] were used as outgroups. Voucher specimens were

deposited in the herbarium of the Institute of Tropical Agriculture and Forestry of Hainan

University (HUTB), Haikou, China. The complete list of taxa and information of data sources

are provided in TableS1.

DNA was extracted from dried leaf tissue using a modified cetyltrimethylammonium

bromide (CTAB) method, with chloroform: isoamyl alcohol separation and isopropanol

precipitation at -20□ (Doyle and Doyle, 1987). We checked the concentration of each

extraction with a Qubit 2.0 Fluorometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) and

sonicated 400□ng of DNA using a Covaris S2 (Covaris, Woburn, MA) to produce fragments

~150 - 350□bp in length for making sequencing libraries. To ensure that genomic DNA was

sheared to the appropriate fragment size, we evaluated all samples on a 1.2% (w/v) agarose

gel.

We used a Hyb-Seq approach (Weitemier et al., 2014), which combines target

enrichment and genome skimming. In our analysis, we obtained nuclear data from target

enrichment and the cpDNA from genome skimming. We used the method to targeted 428

putatively single-copy orthologous genes using baits designed across Dipsacales (Wang et al.,

2021). Hybridization, enrichment and sequencing methods followed those of Wang et al.

(2021). Detailed descriptions of plastome sequencing methods can be found in Wang et al.

(2020a).

Read processing and assembly

Raw reads were cleaned using Trimmomatic v.0.36 (Bolger et al., 2014) by removing adaptor

sequences and low-quality bases (ILLUMINACLIP: TruSeq_ADAPTER: 2:30:10

SLIDINGWINDOW: 4:5 LEADING: 5 TRAILING: 5 MINLEN: 25). Nuclear loci were

assembled with HybPiper v.1.3.1 (Johnson et al., 2016). Exon assemblies were carried out

individually to avoid chimeric sequences in multi-exon genes produced by potential paralogy

(Morales-Briones et al., 2018) and only exons with a reference length of more than 150 bp

were assembled.

Paralog detection was performed for all exons with the 'paralog_investigator' warning. To

obtain 'monophyletic outgroup'(MO) orthologs (Yang and Smith, 2014), all assembled loci

(with and without paralogs detected) were processed following Morales-Briones et al (2020).

For plastome assembly, raw reads were trimmed using SOAPfilter_v2.2. Adapter

sequences and low-quality reads with Q-value ≤ 20 were removed. Clean reads were

assembling against the plastomes of *Kolkwitzia amabilis*(KT966716.1) (Bai et al., 2017)

using MITObim v.1.8 (Hahn et al., 2013). Assembled plastomes were also preliminarily

annotated with Geneious R11.04 (Biomatters Ltd., Auckland, New Zealand) to detect

possible inversions/rearrangements, with corrections for start/stop codons based on published

Abelia plastomes(*A. chinensis*, Accession No. MN384463.1; *A. forrestii*, Accession No.

MN524636.1; *A. macrotera*, Accession No. MN524637.1; *A. × grandiflora*, Accession No.

MN524635.1). Detailed descriptions of plastome assembly methods can be found in Wang et

al. (2020a).

Phylogenetic analyses

Nuclear dataset. We analyzed the nuclear data set using concatenation and coalescent-based

methods. Individual exons were aligned with MAFFT and aligned columns with more than

90% missing data were removed using Phyutility prior to concatenation. Maximum likelihood

(ML) analysis was conducted using RAxML v.8.2.20 (Stamatakis, 2014) with a

partition-by-locus scheme and using the GTRGAMMA nucleotide substitution model for all

partitions (Table 2). Clade support was assessed with 100 rapid bootstrap replicates.

Additionally, we used Quartet Sampling (QS; Pease et al., 2018) to distinguish strong conflict

from weakly supported branches. We carried out QS with 1000 replicates. We used ASTRAL-III

v.5.7.1 (Zhang et al., 2018) for species tree estimation. We used RAxML with a

GTRGAMMA model to generate individual exon trees as input. Local posterior probabilities

(LPP) were used to calculate branch support (Sayyari and Mirarab, 2016).

Plastome dataset. Complete plastomes were aligned with MAFFT v.7.407 (Katoh and

Standley, 2013) and aligned columns with more than 90% missing data were removed using

Phyutility (Smith and Dunn, 2008). We performed extended model selection

(Kalyaanamoorthy et al., 2017) followed by ML gene tree inference and 200 non-parametric

bootstrap replicates for branch support in IQ-TREE v.1.6.1 (Nguyen et al., 2015).

Additionally, we evaluated branch support with QS using 1,000 replicates.

Species network analysis

Morphological transitions were observed among several species during our field

investigations and contradictory topologies were also obtained in our phylogenetic analyses.

Due to computational restrictions and given our primary focus on potential reticulation

between different species, we reduced the 45-taxon data set to one outgroup and 14 ingroup

taxa representing all major clades based on the nuclear analyses. We looked for evidence of

hybridization (reticulation) within *Abelia* via species network search carried out with the

InferNetwork_MPL function in PhyloNet (Wen et al., 2018). Network searches were carried

out using only nodes in the gene trees that had at least 50 percent bootstrap support, enabling

up to five hybridization events and optimizing the branch lengths and probabilities of

inheritance of the returned species networks under the full probability. To disentangle nested

hybridization, we also created a reduced, 12-taxa data set by removing three hybrid taxa (*A.×*

grandiflora E159, *A.× grandiflora* E227 and *A.× grandiflora* E226; see results) and carried

out analyses previously described. We used the command 'CalGTProb' in PHYLONET to

calculate the probability scores of the concatenated RAxML, ASTRAL, and plastid DNA

trees, given the individual gene trees, to estimate the optimal number of hybridizations and

measure if the species network matched our gene trees better than a purely bifurcating species

tree.Finally, we selected the model using the bias-corrected Akaike information criterion

(AICc; Sugiura, 1978), Akaike information criterion (AIC; Akaike, 1973), and the Bayesian

information criterion (BIC; Schwarz, 1978). The network with the lowest AICc, AIC and BIC

scores were selected as the best-fit-species network.

Divergence time estimation

To examine the historical biogeography of *Abelia*, we performed a dated phylogenetic analysis using BEAST v.1.8 (Drummond et al., 2012). As there is potential ancient hybridization in *Abelia*, we estimated diversification dates separately using the nuclear and the cpDNA data. We selected the fruit fossil of *Diplodipelta* from the late Eocene Florissant flora of Colorado (34.07 Ma; Manchester and Donoghue, 1995; Manchester, 2000; Bell and Donoghue, 2005) to calibrate the node containing *Diabelia* and *Dipelt*a, as the fossil shows morphological similarities to the two genera. We set a lognormal prior for the divergence at the stem of *Diabelia* and its sister clade *Dipelta* (offset 36 Ma, log-normal prior distribution 34.07-37.20 Ma). The ancestral node of Dipsacales (the root of our tree) was constrained to 50.18 Ma (mean 50.18 Ma) despite the lack of fossil evidence from results of previous studies in the literature(e.g., Li et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2021). The BEAST analyses were performed using an uncorrelated log-normal (UCLN) relaxed clock with a Yule tree prior, random starting trees, and GTR + G as model of sequence evolution (as selected by MrModelTest). For the BEAST analyses involving the prior, both nuclear and chloroplast data sets were used. Each MCMC run was conducted for 100,000,000 generations and sampling every 5,000 generations. The first 10 % of trees were discarded as burn-in. We used Tracer v.1.6 to assess convergence and effective sample size (ESS) > 200 (Rambaut et al., 2014). Tree Annotator v.1.8.0 (Drummond et al., 2012) was used to summarize the set of post-burn-in trees and their parameters in order to produce a maximum clade credibility chronogram showing the mean divergence time estimates with 95% highest posterior density (HPD) intervals. FigTree v.1.4.2 (Drummond et al., 2012) was used to visualize the resulting divergence times.

Ancestral area reconstructions

We examined the historical biogeography of *Abelia* using the Bayesian binary MCMC (BBM) analysis implemented in RASP v.3.21 (Yu et al., 2015). To account for phylogenetic

uncertainty, 5,000 out of 20,000 post-burn-in trees from the BEAST analyses (cpDN data)

were randomly chosen for the BBM analyses. We compiled distribution data for the species

of *Abelia* and assigned the included taxa to their respective ranges. Considering the areas of

endemism in *Abelia* and tectonic history of the continent, we used three areas: (A) Southwest

China, (B) Central-East China, and (C) Taiwan. Each sample was assigned to its respective

area according to its contemporary distribution range (Table S1). We set the root distribution

to null, applied 10 MCMC chains each run for 100 million generations, sampling every

10,000 generations using the JC + G model. The MCMC samples were examined in Tracer

v.1.6 (Drummond et al., 2012) to confirm sampling adequacy and convergence of the chains

to a stationary distribution. Tree Annotator v.1.8.0 (Drummond et al., 2012) was used to

summarize the set of post-burn-in trees and their parameters in order to produce a maximum

clade credibility chronogram showing the mean divergence time estimates with 95% highest

posterior density (HPD) intervals.

Ecological niche modelling

We performed Ecological Niche Modelling (ENM) on *Abelia* using MAXENT

v.3.2.1(Phillips et al., 2006). For the input we obtained 200 species occurrence data from the

Chinese Virtual Herbarium (CVH, https://www.cvh.ac.cn/), Global Biodiversity Information

Facility (http://www.gbif.org/) and personal observations. The details of these occurrence

data are listed in Table S2. We used 19 bioclimatic variables as environmental data for ENM

representing five different time periods. Past and current data for these variables were

available from the WorldClim database (http://worldclim.org/). The data included baseline

climate (BioClim layers for the period 1950-2000 at a spatial resolution of 30 s arc), data for

the last glacial maximum (LGM; ~22 000 years BP) with spatial resolution at 2.5 min arc

resolution simulated by Community Climate System Model (CCSM model), Max Planck

Institute Model (MPI model) and Model for Interdisciplinary Research on Climate (MIROC

model), and the last interglacial period. Replicate runs (25) of MAXENT were performed to

ensure reliable results. Model performance was assessed using the area under the curve (AUC)

of the receiver operating characteristic. AUC scores may range between 0.5 (randomness) and

1 (exact match), with those above 0.9 indicating good performance of the model (Swets,

1988). The MAXENT jackknife analysis was used to evaluate the relative importance of the

19 bioclimatic variables employed. All ENM predictions were visualized in ArcGIS v.10.2

(ESRI, Redlands, CA, USA).

Analysis of character evolution

Four morphological characters (the number of epicalyx bracts, the number of flowers,

inflorescence, corolla shape) of *Abelia* were used to reconstruct the evolution of

morphological features. The character states were encoded according to Landrein (2017) and

Landrein et al. (2020). The number of epicalyx bracts were scored with the following: (0)

Four epicalyx; (1) Six epicalyx. The number of flowers were scored with the following: (0)

Flowers single; (1) Flowers paired; (2) Clusters of four-seven flowers. The number of

inflorescence were scored with the following: (0) Flowers few axillary; (1) Flowers terminal;

(2) Loose to compact. Corolla shape were scored with the following: (0) Infundibuliform ; (1)

Bilabiate ; (2) Tubular. Ancestral character state reconstruction was employed using RAxML

trees (including nuclear and cpDNA data) with mapping options in Mesquite v.3.51

(Maddison and Maddison, 2011). The one-parameter Markov k-state evolution model was

used for discrete unordered characters (Lewis, 2001).

Data accessibility

Raw Illumina data from target enrichment is available at the Sequence Read Archive

(SRA) under accession SUB9202627 (see Table S1 for individual sample SRA accession

numbers). DNA alignments, phylogenetic trees and results from all analyses and datasets can

be found in the Dryad data repository.

RESULTS

Exon assembly

The number of assembled exons per species ranged from 253 (*A. macrotera* var.

parvifolia E45) to 992 (*A. uniflora* E46) (with > 75% of the target length), with an average of

851 exons per sample (Table 1; Fig. S1). The number of exons with paralog warnings ranged

from 6 in *A. macrotera* var. *parvifolia* E45 to 698 in *A. uniflora* E46 (Table 1). The

concatenated alignment had a length of 365,330 bp, including 22,045 parsimony-informative

sites, and a matrix occupancy of 83% (Table 2). The smallest locus had a length of 150 bp

and the largest 3,998 bp. The cpDNA alignment resulted in a matrix of 163,130 bp with 3,850

parsimony-informative sites and a matrix occupancy of 96% (Table 2).

Phylogenetic reconstruction

We recovered the *Abelia* phylogeny based on nuclear and cpDNA datasets (Figs. 2, 3

and S2). Despite the generally well-supported topology, the position of clades representing *A.

× grandiflora*, *A. uniflora* and *A. macrotera* clade were unstable across all analyses.

Phylogenetic reconstruction based on nuclear concatenation data showed all of the major

clades with relationships well supported (BS ≥ 75%; Fig. 2). *Abelia schumannii* was nested

within *A. macrotera*; *A. chinensis* forms a clade with *A. × grandiflora*; and *A. macrotera* var.

mairei was sister to *A. uniflora*. The *A. chinensis* + *A. × grandiflora* clade was then sister to

the *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* + *A. uniflora* clade (Fig. 2).

For the ASTRAL tree, the coalescent nuclear phylogeny recovered strong support (local

posterior probabilities (LPP ≥ 0.95) for all major clades. Similar to the ML concatenation

nuclear tree topology, *A. schumannii* was nested within *A. macrotera* (Fig. 3). The *A.

chinensis* + *A. × grandiflora* clade was sister to the *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* + *A. uniflora*

clade. The *A. macrotera* + *A. schumannii* clade was sister to the clade of *A.chinensis* + *A. ×

grandiflora* + *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* + *A. uniflora*. Furthermore, *Abelia forrestii* was sister

to the *A. macrotera* + *A. schumannii* clade (Fig. 3). The QS analysesconfirmed the *Abelia*

having strong QS support (0.7/1/1)(Fig. 3) . The clade composed of *A. chinensis* + *A. ×

grandiflora has moderate QS support with signal for a possible alternative topology

(0.33/0.06/0.99). The clade composed of *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* + *A. uniflora* has strong

QS support but a signal of a possible alternative topology (0.98/0/1). The clade composed of

A. macrotera + *A. schumannii* has strong QS support (0.94/1/0.99). The sister relationship of

the clade of *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* + *A. uniflora* and the clade of *A. forrestii* have QS

counter support as a clear signal for alternative topology (-0.21/0.32/0.99).

In the cpDNA tree, *A. schumannii* was sister to *A. macrotera*, the QS analysis showed

moderate support (0.27/0.18/0.91). *Abelia uniflora* was sister to *A. macrotera* var. *mairei*, the

clade had strong QS support as a clear signal for alternative topology (0.51/0.35/0.98). The *A.*

chinensis + *A.* × *grandiflora* clade constituted the sister relationship with the *A. macrotera*

var. *mairei* + *A. uniflora* +*A. macrotera* + *A. schumannii* clade, the clade has strong QS

support (0.75/0.51/0.98). The results strongly support *A. forrestii* from Yunnan as sister to the

remainder of this genus with the QS analysis providing full support (1/–/1) (Fig. S2).

In our species network analyses (including both 15-taxa and 12-taxa), any of the networks

with one to five reticulations events were a better model than a strictly bifurcating tree (Table

2; Figs. S3 and S4). Four reticulation events were inferred for the best networks in the

15-taxa tree, with this best species network, the first reticulation event involves *A.* ×

grandiflora E159 and the *A. macrotera* clade. The second to fourth reticulation event also

reveal ancestral gene flow in the *A.* × *grandiflora* clade (Fig. 4A). In the 12-taxa tree (We

removed the known hybrids from the previous analyses, excluding *A.* × *grandiflora* E159,

A. × *grandiflora* E227 and *A.* × *grandiflora* E206; Fig. 4B), the best network had three

reticulations events. Here, we found there was abundant discordance in the backbone of

Abelia; and the 12-taxa analyses showed that *A macrotera*, *A. uniflora* and *A chinensis* were

each derived from independent hybrid origins.

Divergence time estimation

Divergence time estimates based on the nuclear species tree suggested that the crown

group of *Abelia* originated 31.02 Ma (95% HPD: 27.57-37.10 Ma, node 1 in Fig. 5). We

found the different ages of the root had no effect on divergence time estimates (Fig. 5). The

split between *A. macrotera* and *A. schumannii* was 6.78 Ma (95% HPD: 4.92-11.29 Ma, node

7 in Fig. 5). The split between *A. uniflora* and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* was 16.12 Ma (95%

HPD: 13.12-20.06 Ma, node 5 in Fig. 5). The crown of *A. forrestii* was 4.46 Ma (95%

HPD:1.88-6.71 Ma, node 8 in Fig. 5). Most diversification events within *Abelia* dated back to

the Early to Middle Miocene (Fig. 5). A comparison of the time estimates using the

chloroplast tree is shown in Figs. 6. For instance, the age of the crown group of *Abelia* was

dated to 45.10 Ma (95% HPD: 31.82-50.09 Ma, node 1 in Fig. 6). The split between *A.*

uniflora and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* was 35.07 Ma (95% HPD: 13.12-20.06 Ma, node 4 in

Fig. 6). The split between *A. macrotera* and *A. schumannii* was 31.79 Ma (95% HPD:

18.39-38.15 Ma, node 5 in Fig. 6).

Ancestral area reconstruction

The results of the reconstruction of ancestral ranges are shown in Fig. 7. Our analyses

revealed five dispersal events and two vicariance events among the three defined

biogeographic areas (Fig. 7). The ancestor of *Abelia* was inferred to have been present

throughout region A (Yunnan, Chongqing, Sichuan, Guizhou and Hubei) and B (Jiangxi and

Fujian) during the Middle Miocene (Fig. 7), with subsequent dispersal or vicariance across

southeast China. The results indicate a southwest China origin for the genus *Abelia* during the

Eocene/Oligocene boundary.

Ecological niche modelling and niche identity tests

The AUC test (mean ± SD) for the ENM, averaged across all 25 runs, was high (0.996

±0.000 for *A. chinensis*, 0.993 ± 0.000 for *A. forrestii*, 0.992 ± 0.000 for *A. macrotera*, 0.993±

0.001 for *A. uniflora* and 0.995 ± 0.000 for *A. schumannii*) (Figs. 8 and S5). Projections of

the species niche in the LGM climate produced considerably different maps of the probability

of occurrence compared to the present time. In general, with the two LGM models, large

areas appear suitable in mainland China for all species. For the CCSM and MPI model, the

distribution density and range of *Abelia* under the MPI model were slightly lower than the

distribution density and range under the CCSM model, but the differences were not

significant (Fig. S5). The potential range for *Abelia* species in mainland China would have

been much smaller, while habitats would have remained stable across most of the current

distribution.

Character evolution

The number of epicalyx bracts, the number of flowers, inflorescence and corolla shape

have traditionally been used for generic recognition within *Abelia*. A summary of character

states that are relevant for the taxonomy of the group is shown in Figs. S6-9. Exploration of

character changes and ancestral-state inference were undertaken using the tree from the

nuclear and cpDNA analysis. Likelihood inferences of character states indicate that the four

selected morphological characters (the number of epicalyx bracts, the number of flowers,

inflorescence and corolla shape) show some level of homoplasy in *Abelia*. In nuclear analysis,

our results suggest that epicalxy bracts, inflorescence and corolla shape have little homoplasy,

but the ancestral character of epicalxy bracts was most likely four epicalxy, the ancestral

character of inflorescence was most likely a terminal flower, and the ancestral character of

corolla shape was most likely infundibuliform(Figs. S6-7). The flower type relative to corolla

shows particularly high homoplasy (Fig.S7), we inferred shift from an ancestrally single

flower to paired flowers in *A. chinensis* (Fig.S7).A summary of character states using the

chloroplast gene tree that are relevant for the taxonomy of the group are shown in Figs. S8-9.

In the cpDNA analysis, our results suggest that epicalxy bracts, inflorescence, corolla shape

and flower have high homoplasy(Figs. S8-9). The ancestral state for the four character were

uncertain due to the diversity in types among the major early-diverging clades. For epicalxy

bracts, most likely four epicalxy was ancestral(Fig. S8). The ancestral character of

inflorescence was most likely terminal flowers, the ancestral character of corolla shape was

most likely infundibuliform(Figs.S8-9). The evolution of flower type was similarly complex

(Fig. 9), we inferred the ancestral character of flower typewas most likely single flower.

Overall, we found that the patterns of character evolution from nuclear gene tree and cpDNA

tree were similar.

DISCUSSION

Phylogenetic relationships within Abelia

This study reconstructed well-supported phylogenetic relationships for *Abelia* using both

nuclear and cpDNA data (Figs. 2-3 and S2). The inferred topologies of the four recognized

species in the nuclear (Astral tree and nuclear concatenation RAxML tree) and cpDNA

(cpDNA RAxML tree) were different from each other (Figs. 2-3 and S2). For instance, in the

nuclear concatenated RAxML tree and Astral tree, *Abelia schumannii* was nested within *A.*

macrotera, and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* is sister to the *A. uniflora* clade (Figs. 2-3). For the

cpDNA RAxML tree, *A. schumannii* was sister to *A. macrotera*, and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei*

is sister to the *A. uniflora* clade (Fig.2).

Because different parts of the genome have different evolutionary histories, evaluating

species relationships becomes more difficult. Therefore, the different 'gene trees' obtained

from different loci are often in conflict with each other and with the true species tree. When

incomplete lineage sorting (ILS) is present, gene trees can differ from each other and from

the species tree, presenting substantial challenges to phylogeny estimation methods (Degnan

and Rosenberg, 2009; Edwards, 2009). Empirical and simulation studies have shown this to

have an effect on phylogeny estimation (Chou et al., 2015; Tonini et al., 2015) especially with

the choice of methods (concatenation or species tree) (Xi et al., 2014). For phylogenetic

analyses to accurately reconstruct organismal history (i.e., the species tree), orthologous

sequences need to be compared (Wendel and Doyle, 1998).

According to the phylogenetic tree reconstructed from our nuclear and cpDNA data, we

found that *A. uniflora* is sister to *A. macrotera* var. *mairei*, and *A. schumannii* is nested in *A.*

macrotera (Figs. 2A-B, Fig. 3). In addition, their nodes have strong QS support values. Our

results are consistent with Jacobs et al. (2010) in terms of *A. schumannii* being nested within

A. macrotera. Landrein(2020) reported that the *A. uniflora* group contains *A. macrotera* var.

mairei. Additionally, *A. schumannii* has no independent ecological niche, and its distribution

overlaps with *A. macrotera* (Landrein et al., 2020). We also found that *A. schumannii* and *A.*

macrotera, *A. uniflora* and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* have many similarities in morphology

(i.e. single-flowered inflorescence, red corolla, and two sepals). We thus propose the merging

of *A. schumannii* with and *A. macrotera* and also the merging of *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* with

A. uniflora, resulting in recognizing four species with *Abelia*: *A. chinensis*, *A. uniflora*, *A.*

macrotera and *A. forrestii*. Of course, we have only sampled one *A. schumannii* accession and

our sampling is not enough to definitively place *A. schumannii* as a synonym. For more

accurate and robust results we need more samples, which is a direction of our future research.

Hybridization within Abelia

Abelia chinensis has an infundibuliform corolla with exserted stamens and style. An

initial aim of breeders was to make *A. chinensis* cold tolerant by crossing it with taxa thought

to have originated from colder areas in China. This first breeding gave rise to *A.* ×

grandiflora, a widely cultivated taxon of *Abelia* in temperate regions. The origin of *A.* ×

grandiflora has been documented by André (1886) 'Seen in the M.M. Rovelli Brothers

Nurseries in Pallanza (Lake Maggiore)'. The morphology of this taxon strongly suggests a of

hybrid origin between *A. chinensis* and *A. uniflora*. More recent crosses used *A. schumannii*

with *A. chinensis*, which led to the creation of several possible backcrosses (Landrein et al.,

2017). *Abelia uniflora* is the most enigmatic species in the genus though it was only briefly

described by(Wallich, 1829) and was the first taxon to be introduced into cultivation.

Abelia uniflora is often difficult to identify from morphological characters alone and

shows a disjunct distribution in the border between Jiangxi and Fujian (Landrein et al., 2017).

West-East China disjunctions have also been recorded in different genera and species, and

some were hypothesized as allopatric incipient speciation (Qiu et al., 2009). The

morphological differences among entities within the *A. uniflora* complex may be explained by one or several historical or ongoing evolutionary processes. One possible explanation is that the *A. uniflora* complex represents a single, hyperdiverse species. As a hyperdiverse species, *A. uniflora* would likely exhibit genetic panmixia or high levels of gene flow due to more-or-less continuous contact among populations (Hamrick and Godt, 1990; Constance and William, 1991). The *A. uniflora* complex as a single hyperdiverse species comprises a null taxonomic hypothesis (Link-Pérez, 2010) while the alternative is that speciation has occurred or is occurring. If speciation exists, we expect to detect clear genetic differentiation, which may be stronger if speciation is complete, or weaker if it is ongoing or confounded by introgression (Nosil, 2008; Liu et al., 2018).

Isolation of *A. forrestii* within the deep valleys of the Nu-Jiang (Salween) and the Yangtze Rivers allowed for limited introgression followed by allopatric speciation. This species possesses a more specialized long tubular corolla that may have coevolved with specific pollinators (Landrein and Prenner, 2016). *Abelia chinensis* and *A. forrestii* are morphologically similar, both having five sepals and more tubular flowers; characters that have infiltrated from hybridization and introgression with *A. macrotera*, *A. schumannii* and *A. chinensis* (Landrein et al., 2017). Likelihood inference indicates evolutionary patterns of morphological characters. Based on morphological evidence and AFLP data, Landrein *et al.* (2017) indicated that *A. uniflora* shows evidence of formation due to hybridization and introgression between *A. macrotera* and *A. chinensis*. Examples of similar speciation events in different families were cited in Li et al. (2011), and the hypothesis put forward was glaciation survival east and west of the Mekong-Salween divide. Glaciation may have led to the isolated distribution of *A. forrestii.* Repeated hybridization and introgression tend to blur the lines between hybrids and their parents and Landrein et al (2017) showed that *A. forrestii* occurs in a clear zone of hybridization is present at the contact zone between *A. macrotera* and *A. chinensis* leading to the hypothesis that hybridization and introgression between *A. macrotera* and *A. chinensis* led to the emergence of *A. forrestii.*

Diversification history of *Abelia*

Molecular clock estimation suggests that the crown of *Abelia* dates to the Early

Oligocene 31.02 Ma (95% HPD: 27.57-37.10 Ma) (Fig. 5). In addition, previous phylogenetic

and phylogeographic studies generally showed that the existing populations of many species

in Taiwan were descendants of mainland China (e.g., Taiwania, Chou, et al., 2011; *Sassafras*,

Nie, et al., 2007; *Dichocarpum arisanense*, Xiang et al., 2017; *Triplostegia*, Niu et al., 2018),

with no cases supporting a reverse dispersal direction having been reported. Ancestral area

reconstruction revealed that the *A. uniflora* complex might have colonized Southwest China,

Central-East China, and Taiwan during the Oligocene (Fig. 7). For the *A. uniflora* complex,

multiple asynchronous expansions, multiple independent refugia *in situ* and complex

topography in this region might be responsible for the undetectable mismatch in the

distribution analyses (Cun and Wang, 2010; Yan et al., 2012; Shao et al., 2015). The time of

these diversification events (about 55.51 Ma and 46.26 Ma, respectively) predate the uplift of

the Hengduan Mountains (Xing and Ree, 2017). The uplift of QTP was a consequence of the

collision of the Indian subcontinent with the Eurasian plate 40-50 million years ago (Yin and

Harrison, 2000; Fu et al., 2020) and subsequent Quaternary climatic oscillations altered the

distribution patterns of organisms as well as affected biodiversity (Qiu et al., 2011). It is

hypothesized that uplift of the QTP, which started during the Middle Eocene and continued

into the mid-Pliocene, created conditions for the origin and divergence of multitudinous

species in the QTP and adjacent regions (Qiu et al., 2011).

Our ENM analysis provides a detailed picture of the last glacial cycle (Fig. 7). The

results indicate that species differentiation in *Abelia* occurred in the Oligocene, suggesting

that extant populations likely differentiated well before the LGM. Therefore, the climatic

shock in the LGM may have had a significant impact on the recent history of *Abelia* at a

population level compared with the previous period of species differentiation (Qiu et al.,

2011; Qi et al., 2012). Potential suitable habitat for *A. forrestii* was distributed mainly over

Southwest China during the LGM period. However, it is now only distributed in Yunnan and

Sichuan of Southwest China with altitudes ranging from 1900 to 3300 m. Additionally, based

on ENM analysis, *A. chinensis* expanded to the coastal regions of East China and reached

Taiwan via land bridges in the Taiwan Strait during the glacial period. Due to repeated

glacial-interglacial cycles, mainland China and Taiwan populations may have experienced

frequent gene flow through a continental bridge during the Quaternary. Because *Abelia* does

not have a strong ability of pollen or seed transmission, the present distributional pattern of *A.*

forrestii may be the result of topographic isolation and postglacial contraction.

Our phylogenetic analyses indicate that *A. chinensis* var. *ionadra* from Taiwan is sister

to *A. chinensis* from Jiangxi China (Fig. 7). The distribution patterns of the two taxa thus

represent a disjunction between southern Taiwan and mainland China (Fig. 6). Based on our

time estimates, the Taiwanese *A. chinensis* var. *ionadra* dates to the Middle Miocence, ca.

19.33 Ma (Fig. 5), which greatly predates the formation of Taiwan, beginning in the Late

Miocene (Sibuet and Hsu, 2004). A similar disjunction predating the formation of Taiwan is

shown by *Tinospora dentata* which split from its Japanese relatives in the Early Oligocene,

38.97 Ma (95% HPD: 26.45-52.52) (Wang et al., 2017).

Taiwan is located at the eastern edge of the Eurasian plate and the Taiwan Strait could

have first occurred in the Late Mesozoic (Ye, 1982; Suo et al., 2015). Owing to the intense

tectonic movements, contacts between Taiwan and mainland China occurred during the Late

Cretaceous-Early Paleocene and Late Eocene-Early Oligocene (Teng, 1992; Zhang, 1995). It

has been suggested that tropical rainforests in the Indo-Malayan region may have appeared

near the K-Pg boundary (Wang et al., 2012). Macrofossils of some plants, closely related to

extant subtropical species, have been reported from the Early Miocene of Taiwan, whereas

pollen fossils can date to the Oligocene (Li, 2000), although their geographic sources remain

disputed (Huang, 2011). Due to the landmass being subjected to stretching and rifting (Ye,

1982; Teng, 1992; Suo et al., 2015) and an increasingly cooler climate in Asia during the Late

Eocene(Zachos et al., 2001), a vicariance event may have occurred between Taiwan and

mainland China around that time. Part of the mountain ranges in Taiwan are a relict area for

the 'Taiwan-Sinzi Folded Zone' (Ye, 1982; Teng, 1992). Thus, our data from *Abelia* suggests

that the flora of the Taiwan (Yilan) might contain relatively ancient components. It has been

acknowledged that the flora of mainland China has contributed to the floristic assembly of

Taiwan (Li and Keng, 1950; Hsieh, 2002). However, only in the Late Miocene (9-6 Ma) did

the Luzon arc began to collide with the Eurasian plate (Sibuet et al., 2002). Thus, we

hypothesize that the relatively young components of the flora of Taiwan (Yilan) might have

originated from mainland China, whereas more ancient components were from mainland

China alone. This hypothesis remains to be further tested by studying additional plant groups,

especially ancient lineages, through integration of phylogenetic and molecular dating

methods.

CONCLUSIONS

Robust phylogenetic relationships were consistently reconstructed within *Abelia* based

on comprehensive taxon sampling, using both nuclear and chloroplast data. The nuclear and

cpDNA phylogenies show *A. schumannii* nested within the *A. macrotera*, and *A. macrotera*

var. *mairei* is sistre with *A. uniflora*. Also, there was plenty of discordance in the backbone of

Abelia, and the network(12-taxa) analyses shows that *A. macrotera*, *A. uniflora*, and *A*

chinensis are all from independent hybrid origins. This is a potential reason why the

taxonomy of this group is so complicated. Cyto-nuclear discordance was uncovered at

shallow phylogenetic levels. According to nuclear and chloroplast data, as well as

morphological similarity, we suggest that *A. schumannii* be regarded as a synonym of *A.*

macrotera, and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* be regarded as a synonym of *A. uniflora*.

We used molecular dating, biogeographical and ENM methods to explored how geology

and climate together influenced the evolutionary history of *Abelia*, which is an ecologically

sensitive and cold-adapted herbaceous genus. High genetic divergences were detected among

Abelia populations in Southwest China, Central China, and Taiwan, and several interglacial

refugia were recognized in the central Hengduan Mountains. Ancestral area reconstruction

revealed that *Abelia* originated in Southwest China, and diversification began during the

Middle Eocene, then colonized Central China in the mid-Oligocene, and finally dispersed to

Taiwan by a land bridge at approximately 19.33 Ma. Based on phylogeographic and ENM

analyses, frequent gene flow might have existed between mainland China and Taiwan

populations with repeated continued distribution between the two regions. In summary, our

findings, together with those from other studies in this region (Han et al., 2016), suggest that,

apart from geographic barriers, local adaptation to different climatic conditions appears to be

one of the major drivers for lineage diversification of plants endemic to East Asian

land-bridge islands. Our research represents the first comprehensive phylogeographic study

on herbaceous plants to investigate the Taiwan and mainland China disjunction and supports

that postglacial range contraction together with topographic heterogeneity resulted in the

Taiwan and China mainland disjunction.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Landrein et al. (2017, 2020) recognize *Abelia* as including *A. chinensis*, *A. forrestii*, *A.*

schumannii, *A. macrotera* and *A. uniflora*. Our nuclear phylogenies strongly show that *A.*

schumannii was nested within *A. macrotera*, and *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* was nested within

A. uniflora. Additionally, the distribution area and morphological characters of *A. schumannii*

overlap with or are similar to *A. macrotera*, and the distribution area and morphological

characters of *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* overlap or are similar to *A. uniflora*. Based on

phylogenetic relationships, morphological characters, ancestral area reconstructions and

divergence time, we propose to merge *A. schumannii* into *A. macrotera*, and *A. macrotera* var.

mairei into *A. uniflora*.

Abelia macrotera (Graebn. et Buchw.) Rehder, Pl. Wilson. (Sargent) 1(1): 126 (1911). **-**

Type:

Abelia schumannii (Graebn.) Rehder, Pl. Wilson. (Sargent) 1(1): 121 (1911).

=*Linnaea schumannii* Graebn., Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 29: 130. 1900. Lectotype here

designated: China, Sichuan, Garze Tibetan Aut. Pref., Kangding Xian, Lucheng, Pratt, A.E.

271 (Lectotype K!, Isolectotypes A!, BM!, E!, P!)

=*Linnaea tereticalyx* Graebn. et Buchw. ex Graebn., Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 29: 130. 1900;

Abelia tereticalyx (Graebn.) Rehder, in Sargent, Pl. Wilson. 1: 127. 1911. Lectotype here

designated: China. Sichuan: Garze Tibetan Aut. Pref., Kangding Xian, Lucheng, Pratt, A.E.

136 (Lectotype K, Isolectotypes BM!, E!, P!)

Description: shrubs. Leaves ovate, rarely elliptic. Leaf margin entire or with a few

irregular gland-tipped teeth and the blade often grey-green abaxially with sparsely hairy.

Flowers axillary. Peduncles densely pilose. Calyx lobes 2. Sepals often reddish with 3-5 main

veins and with a ciliate margin. Corolla bilabiate and infundibuliform, red-purple Base of

corolla tube bulging ventrally. Corolla lobes subequal. Stamens 4. Filaments adnate to lower

part of corolla tube, hairy basally. Ovary longitudinally ribbed, ventrally compressed and

widened along the fertile locule. Style glabrous to sparsely hairy at base, inserted to slightly

exserted from the corolla tube, stigmas capitate, white and papillose. Fruit an achene with

persistent, slightly accrescent and spreading sepals. Achenes, flattened ventrally and ridged.

Distribution.   -Qingcheng Shan, Leshan and Ya'an Prefectures.

Abelia uniflora R. Br. in Wall., Pl. As. Rar. 1. 15. 1830. -Type: holotype: CGE.

= *Abelia mairei* H. Lév., Cat. Pl. Yun-Nan: 26 (Léveillé 1916).

=*Abelia macrotera* (Graebn. & Buchw.) Rehder var. *mairei* (H. Lév.) *Landrein* **comb. et**

stat. Nov.

Type: China, Yunnan, ['Siao Ou Long'], E. E. Maire 6 (holotype E!).

Description: Shrub, young shoots hirsute. Leaves with a serrate margin. Corolla with a

long narrow tube widening gradually to themouth, markings reaching the corolla tube; sepals

acute.

Distribution. -China.

Author contributions

H.F.W. and J.W. conceived the study. H.F.W. and D.F.M-B. performed the research and

analyzed the data. Q.H.S., D.F.M-B., H.X.W., J.W. J.B.L, and H.F.W. wrote and revised the

manuscript.

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 Figure Legends

Figure 1. Photographs of *Abelia* taxa. (A, D, G) *A. × grandiflora*; note 5 sepals with large

white flowers; (B, E) *Abelia* 'Rose Creek', note the dense terminal inflorescence and

campanulate corolla; (C) *Abelia chinensis* note five sepals with small white flowers,

bees gather nectar from flowers; (F) Birds feed on nectar; (H, I) *Abelia* 'Edward rose',

note the two sepals and the notched apex.

Figure 2. Tanglegram of the nuclear concatenated (left) and plastid (right phylogenies. Dotted

lines connect taxa between the two phylogenies. Maximum likelihood bootstrap support

values are shown above branches. The asterisks indicate maximum likelihood bootstrap

support of 100%. Major taxonomic groups or main clades in the family as currently

recognized are indicated by branch colors as a visual reference to relationships.

Figure 3. ASTRAL-III species tree; Clade support is depicted as: QC/QD/QI/LPP.

Figure 4. Best supported species networks inferred with Phylonet for the (A) 15-taxa, (B)

12-taxa. Numbers next to the inferred hybrid branches indicate inheritance probabilities.

Figure 5. BEAST analysis of divergence times based on the species tree of the nuclear data.

Calibration points are indicated by A, B. Numbers 1-8 represent major divergence

events in *Abelia*; mean divergence times and 95% highest posterior densities are

provided for each.

Figure 6. BEAST analysis of divergence times based on cpDNA matrix. Calibration points

are indicated by A, B. Numbers 1-8 represent major divergence events in *Abelia*; mean

divergence times and 95% highest posterior densities are provided for each.

Figure 7. Ancestral area reconstruction for *Abelia*. Areas of endemism are as follows: (A)

Southwest China, (B) Central-East China, (C) Taiwan and Ryukyu Islands. The

numbered nodes represent crown nodes of important colonization events, as discussed in

the text.

Figure 8. Comparison of potential distributions as probability of occurrence for *A. chinensis*,

A. forrestii, *A. macrotera*, *A. uniflora* and *A. schumannii* at the CCSM climatic scenarios

of the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM, ca. 21,000 years BP). The maximum training

sensitivity plus specificity logistic threshold has been used to discriminate between

suitable (cutline 0.1-1 areas) and unsuitable habitat. The darker color indicates a higher

probability of occurrence.

Fig. S1 Heatmaps showing gene recovery efficiency for the nuclear gene in 45 species of

Abelia. Columns represent genes, and each row is one sample. Shading indicates the

percentage of the reference locus length coverage.

Fig. S2 cpDNA RAxML tree; Clade support is depicted as: QC/QD/QI/LPP.

Fig. S3 Best species networks of the selective nuclear dataset estimated with PhyloNet for the

15-taxa. A: One hybridization event; B: Two hybridization events; C: Three

hybridization events; D: Four hybridization events; F: Five hybridization events. Blue

branches connect the hybrid nodes. Numbers next to blue branches indicate inheritance

probabilities.

Fig. S4 Best species networks of the selective nuclear dataset estimated with PhyloNet for the

12-taxa. A: One hybridization event; B: Two hybridization events; C: Three

hybridization events; D: Four hybridization events; F: Five hybridization events. Blue

branches connect the hybrid nodes. Numbers next to blue branches indicate inheritance

probabilities.

Fig. S5 Potential distribution probability (in logistic value) of occurrence for *Abelia* in East

Asia.

Fig. S6 Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Abelia* using Mesquite v.2.75 based on

nuclear matrix. Left, Inflorescence; Right, Corolla shape.

Fig. S7 Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Abelia* using Mesquite v.2.75 based on

nuclear matrix. Left, The number of epicalxy bracts; Right, The number of flowers.

Fig. S8 Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Abelia* using Mesquite v.2.75 based on

cpDNA matrix. Left, Inflorescence; Right, Corolla shape.

Fig. S9 Likelihood inference of character evolution in *Abelia* using Mesquite v.2.75 based on

cpDNA matrix. Left, The number of epicalxy bracts; Right, The number of flowers.

Table. 1 Dataset statistics, including the number of taxa, number of characters, number of PI

characters, missing data.

Table. 2 HybPiper assembly statistics

Table. 3 Model selection of the different species networks and bifurcating trees.

Table. S1 List of species and vouchers used in this study.

Table. S2 19 bioclimatic variables for ENM analyses

Table. S3 HybPiper assembly statistics

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1009 **Table 1. Dataset statistics, including the number of taxa, number of characters, number of PI**

1010 **characters, missing data.**

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Alignment	No. of taxa	No. sites	Missing data (%)	No. of variable/Parsimony informative sites
Nuclear	45	365,330	16.88	43,248/22,045
cpDNA	45	163,130	4.35	7,926/3,850

Table 2. HybPiper assembly statistics

Species	Number of reads	Number of reads on target	Percent reads on target	Number of exons with reads	Number of exons with contigs	Number of exons with sequences	Number of exons with sequences > 25% of the target length	Number of exons with sequences > 50% of the target length	Number of exons with sequences > 75% of the target length	Number of exons with sequences > 150% of the target length	Number of exons with paralog warnings
A. chinensis E111	12086904	4547698	0.376	1094	1010	985	983	966	907	0	123
A. chinensis E119	14252558	4342227	0.305	1098	999	972	970	957	906	1	93
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E30	8512137	2058453	0.242	1054	969	945	942	917	835	1	72
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33	15488895	4871294	0.315	1094	999	973	971	960	915	2	86
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E166	3560876	749920	0.211	1057	966	948	941	893	763	1	60
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E167	4799543	1123534	0.234	1103	982	962	960	930	863	1	96
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E229	8420983	2523313	0.3	1110	1014	985	983	963	914	1	90
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E230	11800314	4525033	0.383	1121	1012	983	982	967	927	2	93
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E231	9802195	1723306	0.176	1155	1036	1012	1011	994	941	3	140
A. forrestii E36	32830208	9311224	0.284	1160	1051	1011	1010	994	954	1	159
A. forrestii E37	9666409	2890168	0.299	1114	1005	977	975	961	921	0	78
A.× grandiflora E159	9807596	3364549	0.343	1121	1027	997	995	975	930	1	219
A.× grandiflora E206	9076240	3538761	0.39	1118	1021	994	993	979	930	1	162
A.× grandiflora E227	12254174	4742077	0.387	1133	1039	1010	1010	993	944	1	271
A. macrotera E110	9134947	2888390	0.316	1072	988	960	959	940	901	1	94
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E153	7647999	2528861	0.331	1125	1016	985	982	954	893	0	95
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E154	10129358	3237016	0.32	1130	1016	979	978	963	921	0	100
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E155	4426579	1033080	0.233	1103	987	966	962	933	860	0	70
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E156	9536952	3305495	0.347	1130	1017	978	977	959	918	0	102
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157	4754995	1345791	0.283	1096	988	959	958	943	892	1	89
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E158	9445133	2856721	0.302	1113	1009	971	969	953	915	0	100

A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E34	7200184	1795642	0.249	1099	1003	971	970	953	905	1	83
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149	11394102	3988828	0.35	1114	1020	986	984	968	920	0	99
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E347	8183348	1385872	0.169	1103	990	960	958	941	893	0	82
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E349	6925508	1478921	0.214	1105	993	966	966	943	863	0	73
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E3	5493922	1344879	0.245	1076	987	963	963	946	904	1	88
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E43	6885612	1741233	0.253	1085	1000	971	971	956	914	1	87
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E211	4278814	878749	0.205	1068	978	949	946	921	846	0	68
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E6	5223871	1429204	0.274	1063	990	959	958	938	874	0	83
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45	1833543	32422	0.018	825	436	424	417	355	253	0	6
A. uniflora E46	16490536	3625219	0.22	1133	1064	1042	1042	1028	992	0	698
A. uniflora E47	3257944	439031	0.135	1068	945	924	924	904	858	1	120
A. uniflora E48	1922338	260996	0.136	958	734	715	696	587	423	0	19
A. uniflora E51	18769946	3613529	0.193	1086	991	967	966	946	892	2	103
A. uniflora E52	2713371	576730	0.213	1039	954	930	929	913	871	1	80
A. uniflora E53	2724962	439041	0.161	1038	943	921	920	902	855	0	75
A. uniflora E54	15998204	2846753	0.178	1079	992	968	967	943	900	1	103
A. schumannii E44	2391304	253742	0.106	1038	897	877	874	847	775	0	67
Diabelia sanguinea E303	10970170	3075238	0.28	1134	1025	991	988	973	914	0	91
*D. serrat*a E321	13220295	4190116	0.317	1138	1037	1002	1000	986	934	0	93
Dipelta floribunda E55	4636783	105360	0.023	924	660	642	639	601	507	0	27
D. floribunda E56	6580640	248258	0.038	992	853	833	830	793	680	0	43
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9	9779050	2641147	0.27	1097	1005	984	983	967	916	0	75
Linnaea borealis E14	9523146	1355451	0.142	1069	981	962	961	946	902	1	73
Vesalea occidentalis E96	6434742	142056	0.022	974	730	712	703	650	559	0	23

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Table 3. Model selection of the different species networks and bifurcating trees.

Topology	lnL	Parameters	Loci	Number of hybridizations	Information criteria		
					AIC	AICc	BIC
15 taxa							
nuclear ASTRAL	-4177.949631	27	167	N/A	8409.899262	8420.776960	8494.085095
nuclear RAxML	-4148.054160	27	167	N/A	8350.108319	8360.986017	8434.294152
cpDNA	-4231.190608	27	167	N/A	8516.381215	8527.258913	8600.567048
Network 1	-4088.228145	29	167	1	8234.456290	8247.157020	8324.878111
Network 2	-4050.799135	31	167	2	8163.598270	8178.294566	8260.256078
Network 3	-3948.351402	33	167	3	7962.702804	7979.574984	8065.596600
Network 4	**-3932.455932**	**35**	**167**	**4**	**7934.911864**	**7954.148505**	**8044.041647**
Network 5	-3935.844300	37	167	5	7945.688601	7967.487050	8061.054372
12 taxa							
nuclear ASTRAL	-2716.350474	21	162	N/A	5474.700949	5481.300949	5539.540472
nuclear RAxML	-2724.448876	21	162	N/A	5490.897753	5497.497753	5555.737276
cpDNA	-2723.043552	21	162	N/A	5488.087104	5494.687104	5552.926627
Network1	-2660.433072	23	162	1	5366.866143	5374.866143	5437.880859
Network2	-2601.023466	25	162	2	5252.046932	5261.605756	5329.236841
Network3	**-2549.319250**	**27**	**162**	**3**	**5152.638500**	**5163.922082**	**5236.003601**
Network4	-2552.995453	27	162	3	5159.990906	5171.274488	5243.356007
Network 5	-2606.591029	27	162	3	5267.182058	5278.465640	5350.547159

Table. S1 List of species and vouchers used in this study.

Order	Ingroup/ Outgroup	Taxon	Coding	Locality	Voucher specimen number	SRA accession
1	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis*	B	Jiujiang, Jiangxi, China	HUTB, E119	SRR13890741
2	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis*	B	Jiujiang, Jiangxi, China	HUTB, E111	SRR13890742
3	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Keelung Islet,Taiwan, China	HUTB, E30	SRR13705776
4	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Amami Islands, Japan	HUTB, E33	SRR13890725
5	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Okinawa Island, Okinawa, Japan	HUTB, E166	SRR13890726
6	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Yilan, Taiwan, China	HUTB, E167	SRR13890744
7	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Yilan,Taiwan, China	HUTB, E229	SRR13890743
8	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Yilan, Taiwan, China	HUTB, E230	SRR13890751
9	Ingroup	*Abelia chinensis* var. *ionandra*	C	Yilan, Taiwan, China	HUTB, E231	SRR13890745
10	Ingroup	*Abelia forrestii*	A	Nujiang, Yunnan, China	HUTB, E36	SRR13890748
11	Ingroup	*Abelia forrestii*	A	Nujiang, Yunnan, China	HUTB, E37	SRR13705787
12	Ingroup	*Abelia grandiflora*	A	Zhengzhou, Henan, China	HUTB, E159	SRR13890724
13	Ingroup	*Abelia grandiflora*	B	Beijing Botanical Garden, Beijing	HUTB, E206	SRR13705765
14	Ingroup	*Abelia grandiflora*	B	Zhengzhou, Henan, China	HUTB, E227	SRR13890730
15	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera*	A	Emei, Sichuan, China	HUTB, E110	SRR13705799
16	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia*	A	Fuyang, Guizhou, China	HUTB, E153	SRR13890758
17	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia*	A	Fuyang, Guizhou, China	HUTB, E154	SRR13890757
18	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia*	A	Fuyang,Guizhou, China	HUTB, E155	SRR13890727
19	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia*	A	Fuyang, Guizhou, China	HUTB, E156	SRR13890731
20	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia*	A	Fuyang, Guizhou, China	HUTB, E157	SRR13890728
21	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia*	A	Fuyang, Guizhou, China	HUTB, E158	SRR13890729
22	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *engleriana*	A	Nanchuan, Chongqing, China	HUTB, E34	SRR13890756
23	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *engleriana*	A	Nanchuan, Chongqing, China	HUTB, E149	SRR13890753

24	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *engleriana*	A	Nanchuan, Chongqing, China	HUTB, E347	SRR13890755
25	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *engleriana*	A	Nanchuan, Chongqing, China	HUTB, E349	SRR13890754
26	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *mairei*	A	Emei, Sichuan, China	HUTB, E3	SRR13890733
27	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *mairei*	A	Emei, Sichuan, China	HUTB, E43	SRR13890740
28	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *mairei*	A	Emei, Sichuan, China	HUTB, E211	SRR13890732
29	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *parvifolia*	A	Yichang, Hubei, China	HUTB, E6	SRR13890752
30	Ingroup	*Abelia macrotera* var. *parvifolia*	A	Yichang, Hubei, China	HUTB, E45	SRR13890750
31	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E46	SRR13890738
32	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E47	SRR13890739
33	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E48	SRR13890734
34	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E51	SRR13705798
35	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E52	SRR13890736
36	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E53	SRR13890735
37	Ingroup	*Abelia uniflora*	B	Wuyishan, Fujian, China	HUTB, E54	SRR13890737
38	Ingroup	*Abelia schumannii*	A	Ganzi, Sichuan, China	HUTB, E44	SRR13890749
39	Outgroup	*Diabelia serrata*		Takakuma, Kagoshima, Japan	HUTB, E321	SRR13890747
40	Outgroup	*Diabelia sanguinea*		Numadzu, Shizuoka, Japan	HUTB, E303	SRR13890746
41	Outgroup	*Dipelta floribunda*		Cambridge, UK.	HUTB, E55	SRR13705794
42	Outgroup	*Dipelta floribunda*		Cambridge, UK.	HUTB, E56	SRR13705795
43	Outgroup	*Kolkwitzia amabilis*		Weinan, Shanxi, China	HUTB, E9	SRR13705797
44	Outgroup	*Linnaea borealis*		Yili, Xinjiang, China	HUTB, E14	SRR13705786
45	Outgroup	*Vesalea occidentalis*		Durango, Mexico	HUTB, E96	SRR13705793

Table. S2 19 bioclimatic variables for ENM analyses

Code	Variable
BIO1	Annual Mean Temperature
BIO2	Mean Diurnal Range [Mean of monthly (max temp-min temp)]
BIO3	Isothermality (BIO2/BIO7) (* 100)
BIO4	Temperature Seasonality (standard deviation *100)
BIO5	Max Temperature of Warmest Month
BIO6	Min Temperature of Coldest Month
BIO7	Temperature Annual Range (BIO5-BIO6)
BIO8	Mean Temperature of Wettest Quarter
BIO9	Mean Temperature of Driest Quarter
BIO10	Mean Temperature of Warmest Quarter
BIO11	Mean Temperature of Coldest Quarter
BIO12	Annual Precipitation
BIO13	Precipitation of Wettest Month
BIO14	Precipitation of Driest Month
BIO15	Precipitation Seasonality (Coefficient of Variation)
BIO16	Precipitation of Wettest Quarter
BIO17	Precipitation of Driest Quarter
BIO18	Precipitation of Warmest Quarter
BIO19	Precipitation of Coldest Quarter

A

A. forrestii E36
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. schumannii E44
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E154
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. uniflora E48
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E43
A. uniflora E46
A. × grandiflora E159
A. × grandiflora E227
A. × grandiflora E206
A. chinensis E111
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
D. serrata E321

0.428
0.536
0.572
0.259
0.53
0.741
0.464
0.47

B

0.661
0.339
0.762
0.238
0.448
0.552

A. uniflora E48
A. uniflora E46
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E43
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E154
A. schumannii E44
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. forrestii E36
A. chinensis E111
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
D. serrata E321

★ 50.18 Ma

★ 36.0 Ma

❶ 45.10 [31.82 - 50.09] Ma

❷ 40.11 [39.53 - 45.09] Ma

❸ 36.30 [25.58 - 39.75] Ma

❹ 35.07 [25.00 - 39.88] Ma

❺ 31.79 [18.39 - 38.15] Ma

❻ 29.88 [16.03 - 32.05] Ma

❼ 17.13 [12.62 - 27.33] Ma

❽ 2.13 [1.62 - 2.33] Ma

A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E154
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E6
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E153
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E34
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. macrotera E110
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E156
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E158
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E155
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E349
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E347
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. schumannii E44
A. uniflora E52
A. uniflora E47
A. uniflora E46
A. uniflora E54
A. uniflora E51
A. uniflora E53
A. uniflora E48
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E43
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E3
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E211
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E231
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E230
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E30
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E167
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E229
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E166
A. chinensis E111
A. chinensis E119
A. × grandiflora E206
A. × grandiflora E159
A. forrestii E36
A. forrestii E37
Diabelia sanguinea E303
D. serrata E321
Dipelta floribunda E55
D. floribunda E56
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Linnaea borealis E14
Vesalea occidentalis E96

Eocene	Oligocene	Miocene	Pli	Ple

50   40   30   20   10   0 **Ma**

(A) *A. macrotera* var. *deatziaefolia* E153
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *deatziaefolia* E154
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia* E157
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia* E156
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia* E158
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *deutziaefolia* E155
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *engleriana* E149
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *engleriana* E349
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *engleriana* E347
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *parvifolia* E6
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *engleriana* E34
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *parvifolia* E45
(A) *A. schumannii* E44
(A) *A. macrotera* E110
(B) *A. uniflora* E51
(B) *A. uniflora* E47
(B) *A. uniflora* E46
(B) *A. uniflora* E54
(B) *A. uniflora* E53
(B) *A. uniflora* E52
(B) *A. uniflora* E48
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* E3
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* E43
(A) *A. macrotera* var. *mairei* E211
(C) *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* E230
(C) *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* E231
(C) *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* E167
(C) *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* E30
(C) *A. chinensis* var.*ionandra* E229
(C) *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* E33
(C) *A. chinensis* var. *ionandra* E166
(B) *A. chinensis* E111
(B) *A. chinensis* E119
(B) *A. × grandiflora* E159
(B) *A. × grandiflora* E206
(A) *A. forrestii* E36
(A) *A. forrestii* E37

4745   36   27   18   9   0

LEGEND

*
A
AB
ABC
B
BC
C

⬭ **Dispersal**

⬭ **Vicariance**

Inflorescence

- ☐ Flowers few axillary
- 🟩 Flowers terminal
- ⬛ Loose to compact

Corolla shape

- ☐ Infundibuliform
- 🟩 Bilabiate
- ⬛ Tubular

A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E156
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E158
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E155
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E154
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E153
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E347
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E349
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E34
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E6
A. schumannii E44
A. macrotera E110
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. forrestii E36
A. forrestii E37
A. uniflora E54
A. uniflora E46
A. uniflora E47
A. uniflora E52
A. uniflora E53
A. uniflora E51
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E43
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E3
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E211
A. uniflora E48
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E230
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E231
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E167
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E30
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E229
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E166
A. chinensis E119
A. chinensis E111
A. × grandiflora E206
A. × grandiflora E159
A. × grandiflora E227
Diabelia sanguinea E303
D. serrata E321
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Dipelta floribunda E55
D. floribunda E56
Linnaea borealis E14
Vesalea occidentalis E96

Epicalyx bracts
- ☐ Four
- ■ Six

Flowers
- ☐ Single
- 🟩 Paired
- ■ Clusters of four–seven flowers

A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E156
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E158
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E155
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E154
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E153
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E347
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E349
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E34
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E6
A. schumannii E44
A. macrotera E110
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. forrestii E36
A. forrestii E37
A. uniflora E54
A. uniflora E46
A. uniflora E47
A. uniflora E52
A. uniflora E53
A. uniflora E51
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E43
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E3
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E211
A. uniflora E48
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E230
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E231
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E167
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E30
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E229
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E166
A. chinensis E119
A. chinensis E111
A. × *grandiflora* E206
A. × *grandiflora* E159
A. × *grandiflora* E227
Diabelia sanguinea E303
D. serrata E321
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Dipelta floribunda E55
D. floribunda E56
Linnaea borealis E14
Vesalea occidentalis E96

Inflorescence
- ☐ Flowers few axillary
- 🟢 Flowers terminal
- ⬛ Loose to compact

Corolla shape
- ☐ Infundibuliform
- 🟢 Bilabiate
- ⬛ Tubular

A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E153
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E154
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E156
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E158
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E155
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E6
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E349
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E347
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E34
A. schumannii E44
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. macrotera E110
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E211
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E3
A. macrotera var. *mairei*
A. uniflora E46
A. uniflora E47
A. uniflora E51
A. uniflora E53
A. uniflora E54
A. uniflora E48
A. uniflora E52
A. × *grandiflora* E159
A. × *grandiflora* E227
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E230
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E30
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E229
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E167
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E231
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E166
A. chinensis E119
A. chinensis E111
A. × *grandiflora* E206
A. forrestii E36
A. forrestii E37
Diabelia sanguinea E303
D. serrata E321
Dipelta floribunda E55
D. floribunda E56
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Linnaea borealis E14
Vesalea occidentalis E96

Epicalyx bracts
- ☐ Four
- ■ Six

Flowers
- ☐ Single
- 🟩 Paired
- ■ Clusters of four-seven flowers

A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E153
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E154
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E157
A. macrotera var. *deutziaefolia* E156
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E158
A. macrotera var. *deatziaefolia* E155
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E6
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E349
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E347
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E149
A. macrotera var. *engleriana* E34
A. schumannii E44
A. macrotera var. *parvifolia* E45
A. macrotera E110
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E211
A. macrotera var. *mairei* E3
A. macrotera var. *mairei*
A. uniflora E46
A. uniflora E47
A. uniflora E51
A. uniflora E53
A. uniflora E54
A. uniflora E48
A. uniflora E52
A. × *grandiflora* E159
A. × *grandiflora* E227
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E230
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E30
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E229
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E167
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E231
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E33
A. chinensis var. *ionandra* E166
A. chinensis E119
A. chinensis E111
A. × *grandiflora* E206
A. forrestii E36
A. forrestii E37
Diabelia sanguinea E303
D. serrata E321
Dipelta floribunda E55
D. floribunda E56
Kolkwitzia amabilis E9
Linnaea borealis E14
Vesalea occidentalis E96