

### **Molecular phylogenetics of *Cyclopia* Vent. and its position within Podalyrieae (Fabaceae)**

The tribe Podalyrieae is a diverse and interesting group with most of its species found in the Cape Floristic Region (120 out of 128 species), the smallest floral kingdom and the subject of intense conservation interest. DNA sequence data from nuclear ribosomal internal transcribed spacer, including the 5.8s coding region, were used to reconstruct the phylogeny of this Cape Floral Clade. Results support a transfer of *Cadia* (Sophoreae) to Podalyrieae. *Cyclopia* is well imbedded in a paraphyletic Podalyriinae and not sister to the tribe as previously suggested. A broader concept of Podalyrieae, which include Podalyriinae, Xiphothecinae and *Cadia* is suggested. Dating the nodes of the phylogenetic tree using non-parametric rate smoothing with a fossil calibration point indicates that the root node of Podalyrieae (+ *Cadia*) is 34.35MYA.

