



A checklist of *Polygala* (Polygalaceae) in the Flora of Southern Africa region with notes on types

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Abstract

As part of a revision of *Polygala* in the *Flora of Southern Africa* region, the types of all the names relevant for the region were assessed. A catalogue of the names and their types is provided along with information on the availability of online images of these types. For 22 accepted taxa, no images of the types of the names are available online. Twenty lectotypes are designated here.

Introduction

As a first step towards a revision of the genus *Polygala* Linnaeus (1753: 701) (Polygalaceae) in the *Flora of Southern Africa* region (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland), the typification of names published in the genus for this region was compiled and analysed. As a result, 20 lectotypes are designated here. We provide a list of the names and their types, along with information on the images of the types that are available online. For 22 accepted taxa, no images of the types of the names could be located on the web.

Material and methods

With some corrections, the taxonomy of *Polygala* followed here coincides with Paiva (1998). The specimens cited are those seen by one of the authors (Paiva 1998) during the course of his revision of the genus. Specimens marked ‘!’ were examined in the scope of this paper. The following online resources were consulted: JSTOR Global Plants (2013), as well as the Zürich Herbaria Database (2013), Geneva Herbaria Catalogue (2013), Kew Herbarium Catalogue (2013), The Linnean Collections (2013) and Uppsala Herbarium (UPS) Database (2013). The acronyms of herbaria follow Thiers (2013).

Results

The information on the types of 209 names was reviewed. Corrections were made to type citations in earlier literature where lectotypes were often confusingly referred to as holotypes. In Art. 9.9 of the *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants* (ICN) it is stated that the use of a term in a sense other than

Polygala xerophytica Chodat (1912: 329) [=*P. ephedroides*]

Syntypes:—NAMIBIA. *Range* 469 (B†), *Trotha* 142 (B†), *Schultze* 446 (B†), *Range* 674 (B†).

Polygala zahlbruckneri Hayek (1900: 45) [=*P. garcinii*]

Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. *Penther* 1482 (holotype W).

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