

CYPERACEAE

CYPERACEAE NEW TO THE FLORA OF NATAL

During March 1985 a collecting trip to the Muzi Swamps in the Ingwavuma District of KwaZulu was undertaken. The following additions to Ross's *Flora of Natal* (1972) were collected:

1. *Cyperus cuspidatus* Kunth: Reid 1025.

Annual, previously known from South West Africa/Namibia, Botswana and Transvaal, also Tropical Africa. Rodin 4539 (PRE!), collected at Stegi (Siteki), Swaziland, is also this species.

2. *Cyperus tenuispica* Steud.: Reid 1057.

Annual, previously known from South West Africa/Namibia, Botswana and Transvaal, also Old World Tropics.

3. *Eleocharis atropurpurea* (Retz.) Presl : Reid 1053.

Annual, previously known from South West Africa/Namibia, Botswana and Transvaal, also worldwide. Hitchins 827 (PRE!) from Hluhluwe Game Reserve is also this species.

4. *Hemicarpha micrantha* (Vahl) Pax : Reid 1026.

Podlech in *Prodr. FSWA* (1967) is followed in maintaining *Hemicarpha* Nees & Arn. separate from *Scirpus* L. s. str. and from *Lipocarpha* R. Br. Annual, previously known from South West Africa/Namibia and Transvaal, also Tropical Africa and throughout America.

5. *Mariscus paradoxus* (Cherm.) Cherm. : Reid 1027.

Annual, previously known from South West Africa/Namibia and Transvaal, also Mozambique and Madagascar.

6. *Pycreus atribulbus* (Kükenth.) Napper : Reid 1029.

Perennial, previously known from the coasts of Mozambique and Tanzania. One of the syntypes, Schlechter 12254, (PRE, iso!), was collected at 25 Miles Station (Dondo), near Beira, Mozambique. The species is represented in PRE by a further two

collections from Natal : *Ward 2918* and *Ward 7731*, both from Hlabisa District. In the Muzi Swamps the species is locally dominant.

7. *Pycreus pumilis* (L.) Nees : *Reid 1034*. Hooper in *FWTA* edn 2 (1972) is followed in no longer upholding the var. *patens* (Vahl) Kükenth. Annual, previously known from South West Africa/Namibia, Botswana, Transvaal and Swaziland, also widespread in Old World Tropics and Central America. *Pentz & Acocks 10265* (PRE!) collected at Wessels Nek (Klip River District, Natal) is also this species.

During the course of routine herbarium work a further new record for the *Flora of Natal* was noted:

8. *Pycreus macrostachyos* (Lam.) J. Raynal. Previously known from South West Africa/Namibia, Botswana, Transvaal and Swaziland, also Tropical Africa. In PRE the following collections from Natal, which were previously misidentified, represent this species: *Tinley 603* from Mkuze Game Reserve, and *Ward 5574* from the vicinity of Ncemane Station, Hlabisa District.

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