

## Notes on African plants

VARIOUS AUTHORS

### AMARYLLIDACEAE

#### A NEW SPECIES OF *STRUMARIA*

*Strumaria barbariae* Oberm., sp. nov., *S. phonolithica* affinis, sed planta majora perianthio infundibuliforme differt.

Bulbus oblongo-ovoideus, c. 40 mm altus tunicis coriaceis in collo productis. *Folia* 2(-4), opposita, erecta, linearia, c. 120(-200) × 8 mm, apice breve acuto, *Umbella* pedunculo c. 400 mm longo; flores 6-12, patentes vel nutantes, pedicellis 15 mm longis. *Perianthium* infundibuliforme, c. 40 mm longum, album aliquantum roseolum. *Tepala* cohaerentia, lobis anguste obovatis, 10 mm longis. *Stamina* subaequalia, inclusa, fundo tepalorum vel styli connata; anthera alba, versatilis, dorsifixata. *Stylus* teretus, exsertus, 25 mm longus; stigmata 3, minuta; ovarium ovulis 6 in quoque loculo.

TYPE.—South West Africa, 2616 (Aus): farm 'De Aar', c. 30 km ESE of Aus (-CB), *Lavranos & Pehlemann 17153* (PRE, holo.).

Bulb oblong-ovoid, c. 40 mm tall, somewhat compressed laterally, the old leaf-bases forming a neck c. 50-90 mm long. *Leaves* subhysteranthous, 2-4 per shoot, erect, opposite, produced from a separate lateral bud, linear, up to 200 mm long when fully developed, 8 mm wide, shiny, dark green. *Umbel* c.

6(-12)-flowered; spathe valves 2, small, membranous; bracteoles small, filiform; pedicels 20-40 mm long, terete, firm. *Flowers* sweetly scented, patent to nutant, white but tinted light pink near base. *Tepals* 6, cohering to form a funnel-shaped tube c. 30 mm long and 7 mm in diam. above; lobes spreading, shortly acute. *Stamens* 6, subequal, the inner somewhat shorter; the filaments of the outer stamens fused to base of tepals, those of inner stamens fused to base of style forming a short triangular column; anthers yellow, versatile, introrse with parallel locules. *Ovary* 3-locular, ovules c. 6 in each locule; style terete, shorter than stamens, stigma obtuse, minutely 3-lobed. *Capsule* globose, c. 10 mm diam., thin-walled; seeds globose, c. 4 mm. Fig. 1.

S.W.A.—2616 (Aus): Farm De Aar, c. 30 km ESE of Aus, abundant but local on Schwarzkalk dolomite (-CB), *Lavranos & Pehlemann 17153*, *Erni 1038*, *Giess 13683*.

This species from the farm 'De Aar' in South West Africa was at first thought to represent Dinter's species *S. phonolithica*. Dinter's type was destroyed in Berlin in 1943 and his description is somewhat vague. However, bulbs collected by Merxmüller and Giess (28384) in the Klinghardt Mountains, Dinter's type locality, flowered in the Munich Botanic Garden in 1973-74 and disproved its identity with the De Aar species. Bulbs collected on farm De Aar in 1979 flowered at the Johannesburg Municipal Nurseries in February 1980. Mrs Barbara Jeppe painted them for a forthcoming book. It gave me this opportunity to dedicate the species to her in appreciation of the valuable contributions she has made to the knowledge of our flora.

*Strumaria barbariae* differs from *S. phonolithica* Dinter in its larger size and in the shape of the perianth, which is funnel-shaped, not salver-shaped as in the Dinter species. Both species lack the characteristic, often liver-coloured, ringed sheath surrounding the base of the leaf-cluster so often present in the Cape species. Most of these southern species form no perianth-tube or only a short one, the free tepals forming a loose bell-shaped perianth. In most of them the style-base is swollen (strumose), which suggested the name *Strumaria*. The genus is not well known.



FIG. 1.—*Strumaria barbariae*. Photo of holotype specimen, *Lavranos & Pehlemann 17153*, × 0.6.