

When discussing the *Urginea epigea*-*Drimia altissima* problem in *Bothalia* 13: 139 (1980), I had unfortunately omitted to examine the Thunberg type specimen of *Ornithogalum altissimum* L.f. I have since established that it was collected in the eastern Cape at the Zondags River and that it bears its flowers on long patent pedicels Fig. 25. I now realize that it is the widespread summer rainfall region species which is found as far north as tropical Africa. Jessop in *Jl S. Afr. Bot.* 43: 288 (1977) was correct in his interpretation, whereas I was wrong and I apologize. But, like Baker in *Fl. Cap.* 6: 470 (1897), I prefer to place

it in *Urginea* for it produces white stellate flowers on long patent pedicels.

However, the reference by Jessop to the plate in Curtis's *bot. Mag.* 27: t. 1074 (1808) is misleading as this depicts a different species, namely the well-known 'Maerman' from the winter rainfall region Fig. 26. This species is recognized by its long, dense spike bearing sessile or nearly sessile flowers. Unfortunately it was wrongly identified as *Urginea altissima* (L.f.) Baker by Adamson & Salter in the *Flora of the Cape Peninsula* p. 194 (1950) and other



FIG. 25.—Holotype of *Urginea* (*Ornithogalum*) *altissima* (L. f.) Bak. (UPS 8275), from eastern Cape.

Cape botanists and it must receive another name. The flowers are somewhat fleshy with tepals that form a shallow cup and recurve above and the stamens are usually coherent at first. Because of this, I prefer to place it in *Drimia*.

***Drimia forsteri* (Bak.) Oberm., comb. nov.**

Urginea forsteri Bak. in Fl. Cap. 6:469 (1897). Types: Forster s.n. (K, holo.); Cooper 3275 (K, iso.). Fig. 27.



FIG. 26.—*Drimia forsteri* (Bak) Oberm. Curtis's bot. Mag 27: t. 1074 (1808), as '*Drimia altissima*'.

Drimia altissima sensu Ker-Gawl. in Curtis's bot. Mag. 27:t. 1074 (1808), non *Ornithogalum altissimum* L.f.

Selected specimens:

CAPE.—3218 (Clanwilliam): Piketberg (—DA), Marloth 7692. 3318 (Cape Town): Cape Peninsula, Table Mtn, Apostle Ravine (—CD), Marloth 13029; Llandudno (—CD), Leighton 458; De Grendel, western slope of Tygerberg hills (—DC), Boucher 3516. 3319 (Worcester): Worcester Veld Reserve (—CB), Olivier 67. 3422 (Mossel Bay): Mossel Bay (—AA), Marloth 7329.

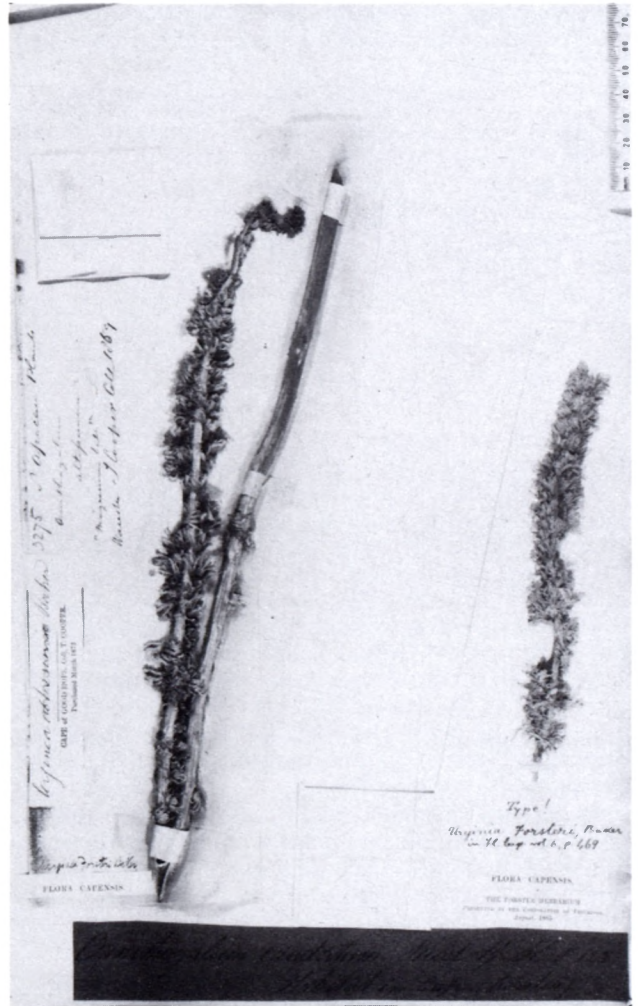


FIG. 27.—Types of *Drimia* (*Urginea*) *forsteri* (Bak.) Oberm.: Forster (K, holo.); Cooper 3275 (K, iso.).

The Director of the Thunberg Herbarium is thanked for the photograph of the type of *Urginea* (*Ornithogalum*) *altissima* (L. f.) Bak. and to the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, thanks are due for the photographs of *Drimia* (*Urginea*) *forsteri* (Bak.) Oberm.

Note. *Drimia altissima* Hook. in Curtis's bot. Mag. t. 5522 (1865), non Ker-Gawl., is an entirely different species. It was given the new name, *D. alta* R. A. Dyer in 1943 (Flower. Pl. S. Afr. 23: t. 890). There is however, the older name *Drimia robusta* Bak. in Saund. Ref. bot. t. 190 (1870), which should be adopted for this eastern inland species. It is not the same as *D. elata* Jacq. (cf. Jessop in Jl S. Afr. Bot. 43: 285).