

Since Henrard's monograph (1950) on *Digitaria* only Chippindall (1955) has contributed to the taxonomy of the genus in South Africa. Chippindall's contribution, however, was limited to comments and suggestions regarding the taxonomy and nomenclature, but few definite decisions were made. Although Henrard's monograph is a taxonomic milestone and will have to be considered in any subsequent work on the genus, some authors have criticized various aspects of the monograph, especially the unsatisfactory delimitation of species and infraspecific taxa. In southern Africa it is mainly taxa of the section *Erianthae*, that prove difficult to delimit. Most authors agree that too many taxa are recognized and that some of the presently accepted species might more correctly be assigned to taxa of lower rank.

A recent taxonomic investigation of the South African species of the genus by the present author (1978) has confirmed this view. Thus, in the enumeration that follows, several taxa recognized by Henrard are reduced to synonymy, one species is reduced to subspecific rank and transferred to another species, while one new subspecies is described.

1. ***Digitaria monodactyla* (Nees) Stapf** in Fl. Cap. 7: 373 (1898).

D. monodactyla (Nees) Stapf var. *explicata* Stapf in Fl. Trop. Afr. 9: 442 (1919).

2. ***Digitaria diversinervis* (Nees) Stapf** in Fl. Cap. 7: 379 (1898).

D. diversinervis (Nees) Stapf var. *woodiana* Henr. in Mon. Dig. 200 (1950).

3. ***Digitaria natalensis* Stent** in Bothalia 3: 152 (1930).

D. natalensis Stent subsp. *stentiana* Henr. in Blumea 1: 93 (1934).

D. natalensis Stent subsp. *stentiana* Henr. var. *paludicola* Henr. in Mon. Dig. 483 (1950).

D. macroglossa Henr. in Mon. Dig. 404 (1950).

D. macroglossa Henr. var. *prostrata* (Stent) Henr. in Mon. Dig. 406 (1950).

D. rigida Stent in Bothalia 3: 151 (1930).

4. ***Digitaria seriata* Stapf** in Fl. Trop. Afr. 9: 432 (1919).

D. polevansii Stent in Bothalia 3: 149 (1950).

5. ***Digitaria setivalva* Stent** in Bothalia 1: 268 (1924).

D. valida Stent subsp. *burchelliana* Henr. in Mon. Dig. 975 (1950).

D. pentzii Stent subsp. *dregeana* Henr. in Mon. Dig. 976 (1950).

6. ***Digitaria eriantha* Steud.** in Flora 12: 448 (1829).

6.1 subsp. ***eriantha***

D. smutsii Stent in Bothalia 1: 268 (1924).

D. geniculata Stent in Bothalia 3: 154 (1930).

D. stentiana Henr. in Blumea 1: 97 (1934).

D. bechuanica (Stent) Henr. in Mon. Dig. 295 (1950).

D. hiascens Mez in Bot. Jb. 57: 193 (1921).

6.2 subsp. ***pentzii* (Stent) Kok, comb. et stat. nov.**

D. pentzii Stent in Bothalia 3: 147 (1930).

D. valida Stent in Bothalia 3: 148 (1930).

D. valida Stent var. *glauca* Stent in Bothalia 3: 149 (1930).

D. decumbens Stent in Bothalia 3: 150 (1930).

6.3 subsp. ***stolonifera* (Stapf) Kok, stat. nov.**

D. pentzii Stent var. *stolonifera* (Stapf) Henr. in Mon. Dig. 544 (1950).

6.4 subsp. ***transvaalensis* Kok, subsp. nov.**

A typo subspeciei longitudine spicularum differt.

Spiculae 2,2 — 2,6 mm longae.

TYPE.—Transvaal, 2527 (Rustenburg): Silkaatsnek, 1974-01-17, *Kok* 577 (PRE, holo.; PRU).

P. D. F. KOK