A NEW SPECIES OF *HERMANNIA*

Hermannia litoralis *Verdoorn* sp. nov., inter species filamentis cruciformibus et foliis verticillatis ad *H. elliotianam* floribus angustis accedens sed ab ea pedicellis brevibus bracteis tectis, petalis luteis et calycibus villosis recedens.

Fruticulus effusus; ramuli glandulis breve stipitatis instructi. *Stipulae* foliaceae simplices vel ad basim lobulatae. *Folia* breve petiolata, glandulis breve stipitatis instructa; lamina lineare-lanceolata, lanceolata vel anguste oblanceolata, irregulatim crenato-lobulata. *Cymae* terminales, 2-florae; pedunculi longi (c. 7 cm. longi), graciles, glandulis stipitatis instructi: pedicelli breves, bracteis tecti; bracteae latae, palmati-vel pedati-lobatae. *Floris* c. 13 mm longi aliquantum angustis. *Calyx* c. 8 mm longus, turbinatus vel urceolatus, 5-lobatus; lobi 5 mm longi villosi. *Petala* lutea, contorta. *Filamenta* supra medium dilatata, lobis villosis. *Ovarium* breve stipitatum, dense stellate-pubescens, pilis brevibus.

Type: Cape, 3217 (Vredenburg): Brittania Bay (–DB), *Acocks 15205* (BOL. holo.; PRE, iso.).

Low suffrutex much branced at the base, lower branches straggling; branches with short glandular hairs, gland-tipped hairs and, sometimes, short stellate hairs also present. *Stipules* leaflike, shorter than the leaves, sessile, simple or lobed to the base, lobes linear, 5–9 mm long, entire, pubescent with fine, mostly gland-tipped hairs, subglabrescent. *Leaves* shortly petioled; blade, lanceolate linear-lanceolate or narrowly oblanceolate, somewhat unevenly lobed on the margins, pubescent with mostly glandtipped hairs especially along the margins, 7–20 mm long; petiole up to 5 mm long, pubescent with gland-tipped hairs. *Inflorescence* of 2-flowered cymes, terminal on the branches (some appearing opposite the upper leaves as the main branch turns aside); peduncles long, 2–7 cm long, slender pubescent with gland-tipped hairs; pedicels short, 1,5–5 mm long; bracteoles broad concealing the pedicels, palmately or pedately lobed 5–10 mm long, minutely glandular pubescent but villose on the margins. *Calyx* about 8 mm long, urceolate to turbinate, lobed to beyond the middle, lobes narrowly oblong, sinuses narrow, minutely glandular pubescent but villose along the margins without and within. *Petals* yellow, tightly twisted giving the flowers a narrow appearance, about 12 mm long, oblong-obovate, narrowing gradually to a short claw with narrowly infolded margins microscopically pubescent below. *Stamens* about 7,5 mm long, filaments dilated above the middle, lobes villous; anthers obscurely ciliate. *Ovary* about 3,5 mm long, densely stellate with short hairs; stipe 0,75 mm long; styles 9,5 mm long. *Capcule* oblong at maturity, about 10 mm long, subdensely pubescent with short stellate hairs glabrescent, perianth persisting at base.

CAPE.—3217 (Vredenburg): Brittania Bay, *Acocks 15205*. 3218 (Clanwilliam): St. Helena Bay, *Lavranos 10991*.

The late Mr Pillans recognized *Acocks* 15205 as belonging to an undescribed species and gave it the manuscript name *Hermannia litoralis*. His notes did not indicate the relationships or the features by which to distinguish the species. Attempts to find more material of this species were fruitless until late in 1973 when Mr John Lavranos collected it at St Helena Bay, that is close to Britannia Bay, the type locality. With this further material it has been possible to distinguish and define the species. Mr Pillans apt name has been retained, but his rough description does not exactly tally with the present concept of the species.

TYPIFICATION OF *HERMANNIA RUGOSA*

A study of the type specimens of *H. rugosa* Adamson reveals that they do not constitute a single definable species but represent several distinct elements. Mixed gatherings of *Hermannia* species are not infrequent for the plants often grow in mixed or hybrid populations.

The type specimens of *H. rugosa* Adamson are as follows:

1. *Salter* 8772 from Newlands House Estate, holotype (BOL). There are two specimens on this sheet representing two distinct elements. The lower represents a species with leaves which are crenate and crisped on the margin and the calyx somewhat salver-shaped, angled in the upper half and densely stellate pubescent. The upper specimen is nearest *H. multiflora* Jacq., differing from the lower in the leaves not being crisped as well as crenate on the margin. In addition, it shows one of the narrow entire, petioled leaves between the bracts near the base of the inflorescence, a characteristic of *H. multiflora*. This suggests that it is one of the few putative hybrids seen between *H. rugosa* in the restricted sense and *H. multiflora*.

The lower specimen with crisped leaves agrees with specimens from Paarl Mountain, specially collected for this investigation by Miss M. F. Thompson of the Stellenbosch Herbarium, all with the typical leaves and calyx. The first specimen from that area brought to my notice, *Kruger* M 22, is also a mixed gathering, three of the specimens on the sheet agreeing with the lower specimen of the holotype, and the fourth nearest *H. alnifolia* L. having the characteristic small flowers, the calyx with stellate hairs mainly on the obvious veins and the subrotund leaves. A very interesting find is a Drège specimen in the Stockholm Herbarium collected "Zwischen Paarlberg und Paardeberg" which agrees with the present day Paarl Mountain specimen and the lower specimen on the type sheet of *H. rugosa*, *Salter* 8779.

These findings have shown that we are dealing with a definte species, but that it is necessary to select the lower specimen on the type sheet as the lectotype of *H. rugosa* Adamson and to exclude the upper specimen and some of the paratype material.

2. *Salter* 8669, also from Newlands Estate, agrees with the lectotype.

3. *Salter* 8780 from Green Point, not a very good specimen but could be *H. rugosa* sensu stricta, having crisped leaves and the correct calyx.

4. *Adamson* 2511 from Green Point is most probably a hybrid between *H. rugosa* and *H. alnifolia* but nearest *H. rugosa*.

5. *Pillans* 4761 (cited as 4701) from the Tiger Berg, is *H. prismatocarpa* E. Mey. ex Harv. with leaves not strongly crisped and the calyx cup-shaped, wide at the mouth.

6. *Gillet* 4162, from Malmesbury district is *H. prismatocarpa* E. Mey. ex Harv. with the diagnostic capsules much exceeding the calyx.

7. *H. Bolus* 12619 from Saldanha Bay, is also *H. prismatocarpa*.

8. *Gillett* 3731, Piquetberg, appears to be *H. repetenda* Verdoorn (= *H. hirsuta* Schrad. non. Mill.). The inflorescence is immature.

9. *H. Bolus* 9948 from near Moorreesberg in the Malmesbury district, appears to be a hybrid nearest *H. scabra* Cav., which is fairly common in that area, and possibly with some *H. multiflora* influence.

To date, *Salter* 8900, *Adamson* 2922 and 3526, and *Pillans* 8621 have not been traced.

Adamson's description of *H. rugosa* is rather wide and not detailed enough. It does not mention the features which have been found to characterize the species, namely the crisped leaves and the somewhat salver-shaped, densely stellate pubescent calyx. But there is nothing of significance in it to exclude the lectotype.

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