

THE IDENTITY OF *BULBINELLA* *CARNOSA*

The South African species of *Bulbinella* are confined to the south-western Cape. An exception appeared to be *B. carnosa* (Bak.) Bak. which was originally described as *Anthericum carnosum* Bak. (Journ. Linn. Soc. (Bot.) 15 : 296, 1876) but which he subsequently transferred to *Bulbinella* (Fl. Cap. 6 : 358, 1896). It was based on a specimen collected by *Gerrard & McKen* 1890 (K, holo., NH) from Natal, from damp rocks between the rivers Umzinto and Ifafa.

I regard these binomials as synonyms of *Ornithogalum paludosum* Bak. (J. Bot., Lond. 12 : 366, 1874), a species which at times forms an atypical rootsystem. Possibly due to a marshy habitat no firm bulb is formed, only a scaly swollen base.

Other synonyms include *O. gracilentum* Bak. (1897), *O. ebulbe* Schltr. (1907) and *Anthericum quadrifidum* Poelln. (1942).

*Bulbinella burkei* Benth., which is also recorded from the summer rainfall area in the Flora Capensis, has been transferred to *Trachyandra burkei* (Benth.) Oberm. (Bothalia 7 : 721, 1962).

A. A. OBERMEYER