THE IDENTITY OF FRITILLARIA NANA

In Baileya 13:7 (1965) Ingram made the combination Whiteheadia nana based on Fritillaria nana Burm.f. (Prodr. Fl. Cap. 9, 1768). This name has priority over Whiteheadia bifolia (Jacq.) Bak. (J. Linn. Soc. (Bot.) 13: 226, 1873) since the latter is based on Eucomis bifolia Jacq. (Collect. 4: 215, 1790). The type of the Burmann species (Plate 4) was kindly sent on loan to me by the Director of the Delessert Herbarium, Geneva. I was thus able to establish that it is a species of Eucomis and not Whiteheadia. Therefore the solitary Whiteheadia species retains the binomial W. bifolia (Jacq.) Bak., while Fritillaria nana was correctly placed under Eucomis by L'Héritier as E. nana (Burm.f.) L'Hérit.

A. A. OBERMEYER