

## BORAGINACEAE

### *LOBOSTEMON LASIOPHYLLUS*: DISCOVERY OF A LINK SPECIMEN IN STOCKHOLM, THE CORRECT AUTHOR CITATION AND SYNONYMY

Retief (2003), following Levyns (1934), cited *Lobostemon lasiophyllus* DC. as a synonym of *L. fruticosus* (L.) H.Buek. Link (1821) described *Echium lasiophyllum* as new and De Candolle (1846) accepted the species and transferred it to *Lobostemon*, whence the correct author citation must be *L. lasiophyllus* (Link) DC. The view that *L. lasiophyllus* is a synonym of *L. fruticosus* can be questioned when the characters mentioned in the protologue such as calyx lobes as long as corolla, corolla white and style glabrous are contemplated. These do not characterize *L. fruticosus*, but rather *L. trichotomus* (Thunb.) DC. However, the leaf width given (6 lines wide, i.e.  $\pm 12$  mm) excludes *L. trichotomus* again, which typically possesses leaves (1.0–)1.5–3.5(–5.0) mm wide; *L. fruticosus* possesses leaves (4–)5–10(–12) mm wide. In addition, reference to ‘Folia ... basi attenuata’ reminds us of the oblanceolate or obovate leaves found in *L. fruticosus*

and not the narrowly oblong to lanceolate leaves of *L. trichotomus*.

According to Stafleu & Cowan (1981), Link’s types were all housed in Berlin (B), but no specimens pertaining to *Echium lasiophyllum* exist there—these were destroyed in World War II. Link material also exists in a number of other places, but all attempts to find relevant specimens have failed for the herbaria listed in Stafleu & Cowan (1981).

Link presumably considered *Echium longifolium* Delile (1813) a barrier to his publishing ‘*E. longifolium* (ex hort.)’ and supplied a new name, *E. lasiophyllum* to avoid homonymy. Wright’s (1904) and the International Plant Name Index (2004) reference of the authorship of *E. longifolium* as ‘hort. ex DC.’ is considered incorrect because De Candolle (1846: 10) merely cites ‘*E. longi-*

*folium* (ex hort.)' as a synonym of *L. lasiophyllum*. No material labelled '*E. longifolium* hort.' has been found either.

However, in the Swedish Museum of Natural History (S) there is a specimen associated with Link and which can shed light on the identity of *E. lasiophyllum*. It is a single flowering specimen with an old, small handwritten label in two different hands. In fainter ink there is: '*Echium lasio...* Link Enumerat'. Only '*lasio*' in the epithet is clearly written, the rest is a wavy line indicating a longer name (*lasiophyllum*). Another hand has added in darker ink: '*ded Otto Berol 1823*' (Figure 5).

We believe the first writer is J.H.F. Link himself. His way of writing his own name is characteristic, especially with the enlarged 'K' in 'Link'. The second writer is J.G.C. Lehmann. Apparently C.F. Otto provided Lehmann in Hamburg with this specimen from Berlin. The reference to 1823 is probably the date of acquisition of the specimen by Lehmann, and not the date of collection ('dedit' = given by, furnished by). Christoph Friedrich Otto (1783–1856) was long active at the Berlin Botanic Garden and Museum (B), appointed first as gardener and inspector by Willdenow in 1805 and he became a close collaborator with Link up to the year 1843. According to Hiepko (1987), Link's herbarium, purchased by B after his death in 1851, contained many type specimens from the botanical garden. Although there is no evidence that the specimen in S was made from the cultivated plant on which Link based the new name, it gives an indication of the taxonomic identity because of the label in Link's hand. A perusal of collections in S suggests that this is a unique case of a specimen associated with Link having found its way there via Hamburg.

***Echium lasiophyllum* Link** in *Enumeratio plantarum horti regii botanici berolinensis altera* 1: 170 (1821). *Lobostemon lasiophyllus* (Link) DC.: 10 (1846); C.H. Wright: 42 (1904). Neotype (here designated): ex hort., *Otto s.n.* (S-06-4728!).

This specimen agrees with *L. fruticosus* as currently understood on account of its oblanceolate to obovate leaves possessing dimorphic hairs as well as infundibular flowers with hairs on the abaxial corolla surface. The discrepancy in the protologue mentioned above cannot be accounted for.

Details of the accepted name are:

***Lobostemon fruticosus* (L.) H.Buek** in *Linnaea* 11: 134 (1837). *Echium fruticosum* L.: 139 (1753). Lectotype (Buys & Van der Walt in *Taxon* 45: 515. 1996): [icon] '*Echium Africanum frutescens foliis pilosis*' in Commelin, *Horti Med. Amstelod.* 2: 107, t. 54 (1701).

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FIGURE 5.—Neotype in S of *Echium lasiophyllum* Link, annotated by J.H.F. Link and J.G.C. Lehmann.

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