

## Notes on African plants

### ASTERACEAE–ANTHEMIDEAE

#### REDUCTION OF *FOVEOLINA ALBIDA* TO *FOVEOLINA DICHOTOMA*

In the past it has been difficult to distinguish between *Foveolina albida* (DC.) Källersjö and *F. dichotoma* (DC.) Källersjö, resulting in a rather confused collection of herbarium specimens. These two species were considered species of *Matricaria* by Harvey in *Flora capensis* (1865). Harvey (1865) regards *Matricaria dichotoma* (DC.) Fenzl ex Harv. to be near *M. albida* (DC.) Fenzl ex Harv., but the leaves are less compound. In *M. dichotoma* the leaves are simple pinnatisect, the lobes flat and linear, whereas in *M. albida* the leaves are bipinnatisect, and the lobes and lobules narrow. Källersjö (1988) distinguishes between the two species on the shape of the corolla of the disc florets. In *F. dichotoma*, the corolla limb is broadly campanulate and the tube conspicuously dilated at the base. In *F. albida* on the other hand, the limb is not broadly campanulate and the tube is almost cylindrical. After careful scrutiny of all the specimens of these two species in NBG, no distinct difference between the two species could be found. Sometimes in a single specimen both simple pinnatisect and bipinnatisect leaves occur. Similarly the limb of the corolla can be broadly to narrowly campanulate and the tube may vary from almost cylindrical to dilated at the base within one specimen. In the distinguishing characters of Harvey (1865) and Källersjö (1988) there is a gradation from the one form to the other. Since these two species are conspecific, *F. albida* is placed into synonymy under *F. dichotoma*. Both species were described in the same publication under the different genera (De Candolle 1838). Since *F. dichotoma* is the type species of the genus (Källersjö 1988), it is therefore chosen here to represent the species.

**Foveolina dichotoma** (DC.) Källersjö in Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society 96: 319 (1988). *Pentzia dichotoma* DC.: 138 (1838). *Matricaria dichotoma* (DC.) Fenzl ex Harv.: 167 (1865). Type: ad Caput Bonae Spei prope Olifantsrivier, *Drège s.n.* (G-DC, holo.; K!, S).

*Tanacetum albidum* DC.: 132 (1838). *Matricaria albida* (DC.) Fenzl ex Harv.: 166 (1865). *Pentzia albida* (DC.) Hutch.: 250 (1917). *Foveolina albida* (DC.) Källersjö: 319 (1988). Type: ad Caput Bonae Spei in Klein Namaqualand, *Drège s.n.* (G-DC, holo.–PRE, microfiche!).

*Pentzia annua* DC.: 138 (1838). Type: ad Caput Bonae Spei in regione Gariiepina, *Drège s.n.* (G-DC, holo.–PRE, microfiche!).

*Matricaria hirsutifolia* S.Moore: 1019 (1904). Type: Gross-Namaland, *Dinter 1221* (not seen).

#### REFERENCES

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MS. received: 2002-03-07.