## HYACINTHACEAE

## ORNITHOGALUM LEBAENSE TRANSFERRED TO ALBUCA

Extensive phylogenetic analysis of nuclear and plastid DNA sequence data has unequivocally demonstrated that Ornithogalum L. is paraphyletic as traditionally circumscribed (e.g. Obermeyer 1978). Two alternative, generic treatments for subfamily Ornithogaloideae have recently been proposed, both derived essentially from the same data set and representing alternative hierarchical treatments of comparable monophyletic groups. The more conservative (Manning et al. 2009) recognizes four genera: Dipcadi Medik. and Pseudogaltonia (Kuntze) Engl. remain as conventionally circumscribed; Albuca L. is enlarged to include Ornithogalum subgen. Osmyne and subgen. Urophyllon; and Ornithogalum includes the remaining species in the genus plus Galtonia Decne. and Neopatersonia Schönland. In this system, the major lineages within Albuca and Ornithogalum are treated as subgenera and sections. The second option (Martínez-Azorín et al. 2011) is a much more radical departure from the traditional classification, treating all major lineages at generic level, resulting in the recognition of 19 genera in the subfamily, many of them new. Although theoretically defensible, the practical value of this option in sub-Saharan Africa is severely limited by the low level of morphological support for several of the genera. One consequence of this is that the South African species O. toxicarium C.Archer & R.H.Archer remains unplaced in this classification until molecular data are forthcoming.

The recently described *Ornithogalum lebaense* Van Jaarsv. (2010) from Angola is currently unplaced in either classification but is closely allied to the taxon previously treated as *O. longibracteatum* Jacq. (Obermeyer 1978) and now treated either as *Albuca bracteata* (Thunb.) J.C.Manning & Goldblatt (Manning *et al.* 2009) or as *Stellarioides canaliculata* Medik. (Martínez-

Azorín *et al.* 2011). As we have already argued (Manning *et al.* 2009), we favour a more conservative treatment of the genera and have already implemented this treatment in various local floras. We therefore advocate treating this species in *Albuca* subgen. *Urophyllon* (Salisb.) J.C.Manning & Goldblatt and provide the requisite new combination to facilitate this.

Albuca lebaensis (Van Jaarsv.) J.C.Manning & Goldblatt, comb. nov. Ornithogalum lebaense Van Jaarsv. in Herbertia 64: 92 (2010).

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