

CYPERACEAE

NEW NAMES AND NEW COMBINATIONS IN *CYPERUS* FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

Since the genus *Mariscus* Vahl is no longer upheld (Archer 2000) and the genus *Monandrus* Vorster was never published, several taxa treated by Vorster (1978) for southern Africa require new combinations or new names in *Cyperus* L. in order to reflect current taxonomic treatments incorporating molecular data (Muasya *et al.* 2009; Huygh *et al.* 2010).

1. ***Cyperus atriceps* (Kük.) C.Archer & Goetgh.**, comb. & stat. nov. Types: South West Africa [Namibia], Grootfontein, *Dinter* 7377 (B*, lecto., here designated—PRE, photo.!, B** (second sheet), K, PRE!).

C. aristatus Rottb. var. *atriceps* Kük. in Mitteilungen des Thüringischen Botanischen Vereins 2, 50: 8 (1943). *Mariscus aristatus* (Rottb.) Cherm. var. *atriceps* (Kük.) Podlech: 523 (1960).

Monandrus atriceps (Kük.) Vorster, comb. nov. ined.: 333 (1978).

Vorster (1978) found this to be a distinctive species, widely distributed in Namibia, Botswana and central South Africa. In his key, based on fruit characters, he distinguished it from *Cyperus squarrosus* L. (syn. *C. aristatus* Rottb.) by ‘Fruits obovoid, covered with conical sparsely-spaced papillae’ vs ‘Fruits obpyramidal, covered with closely-spaced flat-topped papillae’.

2. ***Cyperus austro-africanus* C.Archer & Goetgh.**, nom. nov. Type: South Africa, Eastern Cape, Basche, *Drège* 4383 (B, lecto., designated by Vorster (1981); B (second sheet), P (three sheets), S).

Mariscus dregeanus Kunth, Enumeratio plantarum 2: 120 (1837); Vorster: 245 (1978), non *Cyperus dregeanus* Kunth [= *C. pulcher* Thunb.].

M. dregeanus var. *buchananii* C.B.Clarke: 188 (1897). Type: Natal [KwaZulu-Natal], Durban Flat, *Buchanan s.n.* (K, holo.).

M. dubius sens. lat.: auctt. plur.

Due to the pre-existing *Cyperus dregeanus* Kunth, the species requires a new name upon transfer to *Cyperus* [cf. International Code of Botanical Nomenclature Art.

53.1 (McNeill *et al.* 2006)]; the chosen epithet describes the almost exclusively southern African distribution of this taxon.

3. ***Cyperus decurvatus* (C.B.Clarke) C.Archer & Goetgh.**, comb. & stat. nov. Type: Mocambique [Mozambique], Ressano Garcia, *Schlechter* 11952 (K, holo.—PRE, photo.!, B, BOL, BR, G, GRA, PRE!, Z).

Mariscus vestitus (Hochst.) C.B.Clarke var. ? *decurvatus* C.B.Clarke in Botanischer Jahrbücher 38: 134 (1906). *Cyperus indecorus* Kunth var. *decurvatus* (C.B.Clarke) Kük.: 545 (1936). *Mariscus indecorus* (Kunth) Podlech var. *decurvatus* (C.B.Clarke) Podlech: 524 (1960).

C. indecorus Kunth var. *dinteri* Kük.: 545 (1936). *Mariscus indecorus* (Kunth) Podlech var. *dinteri* (Kük.) Podlech: 524 (1960). Type: South West Africa [Namibia], Gneisberge bei Farm Hoffnung, 1 700 m, *Dinter* 2724 (B, SAM).

Mariscus rehmannianus C.B.Clarke: 196 (1898); Vorster: 280 (1978), non *Cyperus rehmannianus* (C.B.Clarke) Kuntze [= *Pycnus rehmannianus* C.B.Clarke]. Type: South Africa, Transvaal [Gauteng], lagoon near Pienaars River, *Nelson* 13 (K—PRE, photo.!), Pretoria, *Rehmann* 4479 (K—PRE, photo.!, Z—PRE, photo.!), Transvaal, without precise locality, *Holub s.n.* (K—PRE, photo.!).

According to Vorster (1978: 280), the sheet of *Schlechter* 11952 at B has the name *Mariscus rehmannianus* inscribed in Clarke’s handwriting. There is no inscription on any of the sheets relating to *M. vestitus* var. *decurvatus*; however, the K sheet, which has ample material, is presumed to be the holotype.

4. ***Cyperus palmatus* (Lye) C.Archer & Goetgh.**, comb. & stat. nov. Type: Tanganyika [Tanzania], Ufipa Dist., Milepa-Zimba, *Bullock* 3625 (K, holo.).

C. usitatus Burch. subsp. *palmatus* Lye in Nordic Journal of Botany 3: 228, fig. 22 (1983).

C. fulgens C.B.Clarke var. *contractus* Kük.: 122 (1935), non *Cyperus contractus* Steud. Type: South West Africa [Namibia], Amboland [Ovamboland], Otjituo, auf dem sandige Boden des Omuramba-Omatoko, *Dinter* 894 (B, holo.—PRE, photo.!, K—PRE, photo.!, SAM—PRE, photo.!).

C. fulgens sens. lat.: Podlech: 14 (1967).

C. palmatus Vorster, sp. nov. ined.: 347 (1978).

* Sheet bearing Kükenthal’s determinavit label dated 12.vi.1937.

** Sheet bearing Kükenthal’s determinavit label dated 2.i.1940.

In addition to Tanzania, this species is recorded from northern South Africa, Zambia and Kenya. The first author has not seen the type or cited specimens of *Cyperus usitatus* subsp. *palmatus*, but is convinced from the description and illustration provided that the synonymy listed above all relates to this taxon. It appears to be coincidental that Vorster (1978) used the same epithet for his new species as Lye (1983) did for his new subspecies.

The species undoubtedly belongs to the group including *Cyperus fulgens* and *C. usitatus* (plus several more in tropical Africa), all of which produce small, tunicated corms (not often collected) distant from the plant base at the tips of very thin, easily broken rhizomes. This group does require revision, but *C. palmatus* has such a distinctive inflorescence form (aptly described by the specific epithet) that in the interim it is preferable to treat it at species level.

5. *Cyperus uitenhagensis* (Steud.) C.Archer & Goetgh., comb. nov. Type: South Africa, Eastern Cape, Uitenhagen [Uitenhage], *Zeyher 91* (B, holo.–PRE, photo.!).

Mariscus uitenhagensis Steud., Synopsis plantarum glumacearum. 2. Cyperaceae: 317 (1855); Vorster: 253 (1978).

Mariscus marlothii (Boeck.) C.B.Clarke var. *globospica* C.B.Clarke: 187 (1897). *Cyperus capensis* (Steud.) Endl. var. *pseudomarlothii* forma *globospica* (C.B.Clarke) Kük.: 540 (1936). Type: South Africa, Western Cape Province, Uniondale Div., rocky hill near Groot River, *Burchell 5020* (K, holo.; PRE [fragment]!).

C. capensis (Steud.) Engl. var. *pseudomarlothii* Kük.: 540 (1936). Types: South Africa, Transvaal [Gauteng], Pretoria, *Rehmann 4035* (B, K, Z), 4728 (not seen); *Mogg 578* (K, PRE!); [Pretoria], Hügel über Aapies Rivier, *Rehmann 4324* (B, Z); Johannesburg, *Moss 5924* (J, K); Transvaal [Mpumalanga], Witbank, *Rogers 2569* (J, GRA, Z); Natal [KwaZulu-Natal], Pietermaritzburg, *Wilms 2359* (K); Mozambique, Ressano Garcia bei Lourenço Marques, *Schlechter 11926* [= *C. austroafricanus*], 11950 (B, Z). Note: *C. capensis* var. *polyanthemus* Kük.: 540 (1936) was treated as a synonym of *Mariscus chersinus* N.E.Br. [*Cyperus chersinus* (N.E.Br.) Kük.].

Mariscus marlothii sensu C.B.Clarke: 590 (1894) non (Boeck.) C.B.Clarke.

M. capensis sensu Schönland: 29 (1922), p.p., non (Steud.) Schrad.

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