

NORBERT KILIAN & WERNER GREUTER

Sonchus esperanzae*, nom. nov. (Compositae, Cichorieae)*Abstract**

Kilian, N. & Greuter, W.: *Sonchus esperanzae*, nom. nov. (Compositae, Cichorieae). – Willdenowia 34: 65-66. – ISSN 0511-9618; © 2004 BGBM Berlin-Dahlem.

A new name in *Sonchus* is validated for *Wildpretia beltraniae* (non *Sonchus* \times *beltraniae*). The typification of both names is discussed, as it reflects on their valid publication, which is confirmed.

Morphological, anatomical and molecular studies (Aldridge 1976, 1977, 1978, Kim & al. 1996a-b, 1999a-b) have shown that the “woody *Sonchus* alliance” of the “Macaronesian” islands descends from a common ancestor but is nested within *Sonchus*. By consequence, the former genera *Atalanthus* D. Don (\equiv *Taeckholmia* Boulos), *Babcockia* Boulos, *Lactucosonchus* (Sch. Bip.) Svent. (\equiv *Wildpretia* U. Reif. & A. Reif.) and *Sventenia* Font Quer are best included in *Sonchus*, along with *S.* subg. *Dendrosonchus* Sch. Bip. Such new combinations as were required have recently been validated by us (in Greuter 2003: 265) for use in the *Compositae* treatment of the Euro+Med Checklist (in preparation). However, when transferring *Wildpretia beltraniae* U. Reif. & A. Reif. to *Sonchus* we overlooked the existence of an older homonym, *Sonchus* \times *beltraniae* U. Reif. & A. Reif.

Katherine Challis (Kew), in writing, kindly pointed out this fact, and at the same time raised the question of valid publication of the names. Indeed, the type citation in the protologues of *Wildpretia beltraniae* and *Sonchus* \times *beltraniae* is puzzling. In both cases the holotype, while cited under a single TFC accession number, is said to consist of flowering and fruiting material collected on two different dates. If this were so, then the alleged holotype would consist of two gatherings and would not qualify as a specimen (ICBN, Art. 8.1-2). Under ICBN Art. 37.1-2, neither name would then be validly published, and the same would be true of our intended new combination.

Following an enquiry at TFC, Pedro Pérez de Paz and Juan Acebes kindly supplied the following information.

TFC 28290, the designated holotype of *Wildpretia beltraniae*, is a single sheet with a plant in flower and fruit, collected on 4 May 1989. The so-called isotypes are not in G and K as stated in

the protologue, having been retained in TFC. They were both collected on 30 May 1988, and neither bears a TFC number; they are actually paratypes (ICBN, Art. 8.5 and 9.8).

TFC 28789, the designated holotype of *Sonchus xbeltranae*, is a single specimen mounted on two sheets (ICBN Art. 8.3). One sheet bears the flowering and fruiting portion of a single plant, the other the vegetative basal portion of the same. According to the manuscript field label the specimen was collected on 20 January 1988. The second date mentioned in the protologue (28 April 1988) appears on the typed label, but is obviously erroneous. There exists no separate, fruiting specimen collected on the later date, as the protologue pretends.

Consequently, both *Wildpretia beltranae* and *Sonchus xbeltranae* are validly published names, and our new combination, while equally validly published, is an illegitimate junior homonym, for which a new name is required:

Sonchus esperanzae N. Kilian & Greuter, **nom. nov.** \equiv *Wildpretia beltranae* U. Reifemb. & A. Reifemb. in *Vieraea* 25: 204. 1997 \equiv *Lactucosonchus beltranae* (U. Reifemb. & A. Reifemb.) Bramwell in *Bot. Macaronés.* 24: 171. 2003 \equiv *Sonchus beltranae* (U. Reifemb. & A. Reifemb.) N. Kilian & Greuter in *Willdenowia* 33: 237. 2003 [non *Sonchus xbeltranae* U. Reifemb. & A. Reifemb. in *Vieraea* 25: 197. 1997]. – Holotype: La Palma, Bco. Briestas, 1250 m, 4.5.1989, *Reifenberger & Reifenberger* (TFC 28290).

The epithets *esperanzae* and *beltranae* both honour Esperanza Beltrán Tejera, competent and charming botanist-mycologist at the Department of Plant Biology, University of La Laguna, Tenerife (TFC).

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Address of the authors:

Dr Norbert Kilian and Prof. Dr Werner Greuter, Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Freie Universität Berlin, Königin-Luise-Str. 6-8, D-14191 Berlin, Germany; e-mails: n.kilian@bgbm.org, w.greuter@bgbm.org