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An updated synopsis of *Hypolepis* Bernh. (Dennstaedtiaceae) from Argentina

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Abstract

An updated synopsis of the genus *Hypolepis* (Dennstaedtiaceae) from Argentina is presented, including the first report of *H. stolonifera* var. *stolonifera* for the country and the description of a new variety: *Hypolepis stolonifera* var. *delasotae,* named in honour of pteridologist Elías Ramón de la Sota. Four taxa are recognised in Argentina: *Hypolepis poeppigii, H. rugosula* subsp. *poeppigiana,* and *Hypolepis stolonifera* with var. *delasotae* and var. *stolonifera*; *Hypolepis repens* is excluded from the Argentinian flora.

Key words: Biogeography, *Hypolepis stolonifera* var. *delasotae*, South America, Southern Cone

Resumen

Se presenta una sinopsis actualizada del género *Hypolepis* (Dennstaedtiaceae) en Argentina, incluyendo el primer registro de *Hypolepis stolonifera* var. *stolonifera* para el país y la descripción de una nueva variedad: *Hypolepis stolonifera* var. *delasotae*, nombrada en honor al pteridólogo Elías Ramón de la Sota. Se reconocen cuatro taxones para Argentina: *Hypolepis poeppigii, H. rugosula* subsp. *poeppigiana* e *Hypolepis stolonifera* con las var. *delasotae* y var. *stolonifera*; *Hypolepis repens* es excluido de la flora argentina.

Introduction

Hypolepis Bernhardi (1806 [Nov 1805]: 34) is a genus based on *Lonchitis tenuifolia* Forster (1786: 80) [=*Hypolepis tenuifolia* (G. Forst.) Bernh.], a species collected on Vanuatu Island between 1772–1775 (Brownsey & Chinnock 1984). Later, Presl (1836) and Smith (1846) re-circumscribed the genus, with the addition of diagnostic vegetative characters as lamina architecture and sori position, combining species from the Neotropics, Africa, Tasmania and New Zealand into it. With this current circumscription, *Hypolepis* comprises medium sized to large, terrestrial or epilithic ferns distributed in tropical and south-temperate regions, with local extensions into tropical and temperate regions of the northern hemisphere. It is especially diverse in Australasia and Tropical America, where approximately 80 taxa are cited (*e.g.* Brownsey & Chinnock 1984, 1987; Brownsey 1987; Tryon & Tryon 1982; Kramer & Green 1990; Schwartsburd 2012a; Schwartsburd & Prado 2014).

Species of *Hypolepis* are characterized by long-creeping stems with pluricellular uniseriate trichomes, well-spaced leaves to ca. 10 m long, sometimes scandent on the surrounding vegetation, petioles often pubescent, regularly verruculose or even spiny, with a single vascular bundle U-shaped in cross section; the laminae are 2–4-pinnate-pinnatifid, nearly glabrous to usually pubescent, with free veins ending behind the margins; the larger pinnae are often sub-opposite and spreading at an open angle; the sori are marginal or nearly so, born on a single vein and protected by a short, about semi-circular, marginal reflexed flap, or this is vestigial and the sori are naked; the spores are monolete,

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