**Deyeuxia himalaica** (Poaceae, Agrostidinae): taxonomy and its first record from Myanmar

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**Abstract**

*Deyeuxia himalaica*, one of the rarest of the species of *Deyeuxia* known from southeastern Xizang, has been recorded for the first time on Myanmar’s Irrawaddy Plateau. The species’ taxonomy is clarified and discussed, especially in relation to the similar *D. scabrescens*. An amended diagnosis and description are provided.

**Key words:** *Calamagrostis*, China, *Deyeuxia scabrescens*, Irrawaddy Plateau, Sino-Himalayan region, spikelet morphology

**Introduction**

The species of *Calamagrostis* Adanson (1763: 31) and *Deyeuxia* Clarion ex Beauvois (1812: 43) in the areas surrounding Myanmar have been treated taxonomically in various ways. Although most floras covering adjacent regions recognized both genera (e.g. Bor 1960, Lu 1987a, 1987b, Liou 1987, Liou 1994, Sun 2003, Lu & Phillips 2006, Lu et al. 2006), Noltie (2000) recognized *Calamagrostis* s. lat. in the Flora of Bhutan, with 12 species. Recently, some species complexes within *Calamagrostis* Adanson (1763: 31) and related genera (Poaceae: Agrostidinae) have been studied and several taxonomical and nomenclatural problems resolved (Howard et al. 2009, Paszko & Nobis 2010, Paszko & Ma 2011, Paszko et al. 2013, Paszko in press), and new species discovered (Paszko 2012b, Paszko & Pendry 2013b, Paszko & Chen 2013).

*Calamagrostis* and *Deyeuxia* belong to the subtribe Agrostidinae (Poaceae), which is typically characterized by single-flowered spikelets (Clayton & Renvoize 1986). However, within *Deyeuxia* there are two taxa, *D. biflora* Keng (1941: 90) and *D. himalaica* Liou ex Chen (2001: 447), characterized by two-flowered spikelets. These taxa are both mentioned in the Flora of China (Lu et al. 2006), the first as a synonym of *D. suizanensis* (Hayata 1918: 83) Ohwi (1958: 211) and the second as an accepted species.

The current study found that the existing keys and descriptions are inadequate for identification of *D. himalaica* (Chen 2001, Lu et al. 2006). Although the account in the Flora of China highlighted the presence of two-flowered spikelets, the prevalence of this character in *D. himalaica* is actually rather low. Here, I clarify and discuss the taxonomy of *D. himalaica*, including its salient characteristics and distribution. I compare this species with its close relative *D. scabrescens* (Grisebach 1868: 79) Munro ex Duthie (Atkinson 1882: 628) and cite representative vouchers from China and Myanmar.


Type:—CHINA. Xizang: Médog Xian, South Doshong La, in alpine meadow, 3900–4000 m, 14 September 1974, *Qinghai Xizang Exped. 1033* (holotype PE!!).
spicatum:—CHINA. Sichuan: Kangding Co., Mt. Jichou, Shadeliuba Community, 4400 m, 1 September 1982, Dong 29590 (CDBI, two sheets).

Acknowledgments

Research visits to herbaria at Beijing (PE), Chengdu (CDBI), Kolkata (CAL) and Sankt Petersburg (LE) were possible thanks to an exchange program between the Polish Academy of Sciences and its counterpart Academies. This study was financed in part from the statutory fund of the Institute of Botany of the Polish Academy of Sciences and received support from the SYNTHESYS Project (http://www.synthesys.info) which is financed by the European Community Research Infrastructure Action under the FP7 "Capacities" Program. Special thanks are due to Dave Boufford (A, GH), Rob Huxley (BM), David Harris (E), and Erik Smets (L) for responding to requests for loans and personal consultations of the specimens housed in their herbaria. I am thankful to Bing Liu (Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China) for reading several Chinese labels and Colin Pendry (Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh) for valuable comments on the manuscript and linguistic advice.

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