The renaming of *Asclepias xysmalobioides* with *Asclepias montevaga* (Apocynaceae, Asclepiadoideae)

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ABSTRACT

*Asclepias xysmalobioides* Hilliard & B.L. Burtt (1986: 193) is a later homonym of *Asclepias xysmalobioides* S. Moore (1912: 342). There are no valid synonyms available, and so we propose the new name *Asclepias montevaga* M. Glen, Nicholas & Bester here.

Key words: Apocynaceae, Asclepiadinae, *Asclepias montevaga*, *Asclepias xysmalobioides*, homonymy; nomenclature

INTRODUCTION

*Asclepias xysmalobioides* (non S. Moore) was published by Hilliard and Burtt in 1986 to describe a montane species of *Asclepias* endemic to the southern Drakensberg in South Africa and Lesotho. However, *Asclepias xysmalobioides* S. Moore was published in 1912 to describe a species endemic to Angola. Therefore, *Asclepias xysmalobioides* Hilliard & B.L. Burtt is a later homonym and, according to the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (Melbourne Code) (McNeill et al. 2012), needs a valid name. We thus propose *Asclepias montevaga* as the replacement name. The specific epithet *montevaga* means ‘mountain wanderer’, an appropriate name for this montane species.

NOMENCLATURE

*Asclepias montevaga* M. Glen, Nicholas & Bester, *nom. nov.* Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. KwaZulu-Natal Province, Underberg, near Tarn Cave, Bushman’s Nek, 19 January 1984, elevation 2440 m, Hilliard & Burtt 17342 (holotype NU!; isotypes E!, K!, PRE!, PRF!, S!).


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LITERATURE CITED

Hilliard, O.M. & Burtt, B.L. (1986) Notes on some plants of southern Africa chiefly Natal: XII. *Notes of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh*