

A NEW COMBINATION AND A NEW NAME IN MEXICAN EUPHORBIACEAE

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ABSTRACT

A new combination, *Euphorbia trialata* (Huft) V.W. Steinm., is made to accommodate *Chamaesyce trialata* Huft within *Euphorbia*. In addition, *Adelia virgata* Brandegees, a later homonym of *Adelia virgata* Poir. (= *Flueggea tinctoria* (L.) G.L. Webster), is given the new name *Adelia brandegeei* V.W. Steinm.

Key words: *Adelia*, *Chamaesyce*, *Euphorbia*, Euphorbiaceae, new combination, new name.

RESUMEN

Se proponen la nueva combinación *Euphorbia trialata* (Huft) V.W. Steinm. para *Chamaesyce trialata* Huft y el nombre nuevo *Adelia brandegeei* V.W. Steinm. para *Adelia virgata* Brandegees, un homónimo de *Adelia virgata* Poir. (= *Flueggea tinctoria* (L.) G.L. Webster).

Palabras clave: *Adelia*, *Chamaesyce*, *Euphorbia*, Euphorbiaceae, nueva combinación, nuevo nombre.

Of the ca. 240 species of *Euphorbia* L. inhabiting Mexico, nearly 110 of these belong to *Euphorbia* subgenus *Chamaesyce* Raf. (= *Chamaesyce* Gray). There is still much debate as to whether or not this taxon should be recognized as a genus independent of *Euphorbia*. A current review of the controversy is provided by McVaugh (1993), a recently converted advocate of its generic recognition. I and many others still prefer to recognize *Euphorbia* in the broad sense, and thus the following combination is provided.

Euphorbia trialata (Huft) V.W. Steinm., comb. nov.—*Chamaesyce trialata* Huft in McVaugh, Contr. Univ. Michigan Herb. 20: 199(–201); fig. 2. 1995. TYPE: Mexico, Colima, 8 km “E” [i.e., nearly S] of Cd. Colima, disused quarry along Rte. 110, 8 Sep 1970, Burch s. n. (holotype MO [2238588!]).

This species is a rare element of tropical deciduous forest in southwest Mexico, from Colima to Guerrero. In addition to the two collections cited in the protologue, I am aware of only the following specimens: Michoacán: municipio de Huetamo, en

Cupandarillo, a 6 km al NE de Huetamo, 400 m, *J. C. Soto Núñez et al. 2943* (IEB, MEXU); municipio de Aguililla, along the road from Apatzingán to Aguililla, 11.5 km (by road) south of Aguililla, 18°49'47" N, 102°46'36" W, ca. 675 m, *V. W. Steinmann 2106* (IEB).

In 1894, Brandegeee described *Adelia virgata* Brandegeee based on collections he made a few years earlier in the Sierra de la Laguna of Baja California Sur, Mexico. This species has since been encountered in Sonora and Sinaloa. Apparently unbeknown to Brandegeee was the existence of *Adelia virgata* Poir., an entity now treated as a synonym of *Flueggea tinctoria* (L.) G.L. Webster (Webster, 1984). Because Brandegeee's epithet is a later homonym of Poiret's, the following new name is proposed.

Adelia brandegeeei V.W. Steinm., nom. nov. *Adelia virgata* Brandegeee, Zoe 4: 406. 1894; non *A. virgata* Poir., 1810. TYPE: Mexico, Lower California (Baja California Sur), Sierra de la Laguna, 20 Jan. 1890, *Brandegee s. n.* (holotype UC [#173938]!).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank Michael Huft and Sergio Zamudio for reviewing the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED

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Recibido en enero de 2002.
Aceptado en octubre de 2002.