

A New Species of *Lobostemon* in the Linnean Herbarium.

By N. E. BROWN, A.L.S.

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IN the summer of 1917 my attention was directed by Mr. C. C. Lacaita to a specimen in the Linnean Herbarium from South Africa named *Echium argenteum*, which proved to be a species of *Lobostemon* that could not be identified with any species in the Kew Herbarium or at the British Museum; for it is entirely different from *Echium argenteum*, Bergius (now *Lobostemon argenteum*, Buek), with which Linné had supposed it to be identical. From enquiries made I am informed that there is no specimen like it in the South African or Bolus Herbaria, so that the following description of this new species is entirely based upon the unique specimen in the Linnean Herbarium which was collected at least 147 years ago, and does not appear to have been found by any collector since that date. Its chief characteristics are the ascending narrow silvery leaves with recurved tips, compact head-like cymes, and especially the large sepals.

LOBOSTEMON MAGNISEPALUM, N. E. Br.

Frutex vel fruticulus 30 cm. vel ultra altus, ramosus, ramis vel caulibus nudis ramulis foliosis. Folia subconferta, adscendentia, 10–17 mm. longa, 2–3 mm. lata, lineari-lanceolata, apice subacuta, recurva, adpresse argenteo-pubescentia. Cymæ subcapituliformes, circa 2 cm. longæ et $2\frac{1}{2}$ cm. latæ, 5–6-floræ. Bracteæ 15 mm. longæ, anguste lanceolatæ, acutæ. Sepala 9–10 mm. longa, $1\frac{1}{4}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. lata, lineari-attenuata, acuta, molliter subadpresse pubescentia. Corolla sepalis circa 8 mm. longiora, 10–12 mm. diametro, extra puberula.

A small shrub or shrublet; the specimen is about 30 cm. high, with about 8 branches at the upper part, naked below, leafy on the branches, which are softly and somewhat adpressedly villose. Leaves ascending, numerous, rather closely placed, 10–17 mm. long, 2–3 mm. broad, linear-lanceolate, subacute, with recurved tips, silvery-pubescent, with intermingled soft adpressed and slightly spreading fine hairs, no hard hairs. Cymes head-like, about 2 cm. long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ cm. broad, apparently about 5–6-flowered, with several narrowly lanceolate acute bracts about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cm. long. Sepals 9–10 mm. long, $1\frac{1}{4}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. broad, linear-attenuate, acute, softly pubescent, with

somewhat adpressed moderately long hairs. Corolla of the dried specimen about 8 mm. longer than the calyx and 10-12 mm. in diameter, puberulous outside.—*Echium argenteum*, Linn. Mantissa, ii. p. 202 (1771), not of Bergius; *E. fruticosum*, Linn. MS. No. 145, conf. Proc. Linn. Soc. 1917-18, Suppl. p. 10.

SOUTH AFRICA. "Montibus nigris" according to Linné, which probably means either the Zwartberg Range in Oudtshoorn Division, or the Great Zwartberg in Malmesbury Division, the latter being perhaps the more probable locality. Collected by C. R. TULBAGH.



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