New Combinations in Neotropical Grammitidaceae (Pteridophyta)

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Abstract. Continuing study on neotropical Grammitidaceae for various floras in press or in progress necessitates the following new combinations: Ceradenia oidiophora, C. phalacron, Lellingeria ciliolepis, L. dissimulans, L. hombersleyi, Melpomene gracilis, M. zempoaltepetensis, Terpsichore bipinnata, T. elastica, and T. flexuosa.

Examination of additional types of several rare and geographically restricted species of Grammitidaceae, as well as further study of problematic groups, has resulted in the need for several new combinations. This work is a continuation of observations previously published on the genera Ceradenia, Lellingeria, Melpomene, and Terpsichore (Bishop, 1988; Smith et al., 1991; Smith & Moran, 1992; Smith, 1993).


Known only from four collections from Oaxaca (Mickel & Beitel, 1988).


Ceradenia phalacron is known only from the type. It is somewhat aberrant in Ceradenia because of its relatively simple or only shallowly lobed blades, lack of laminar setae, and prominent veins, but it fits more comfortably there than in any other described genus. With other ceradenias, it agrees in the absence of hydathodes, castaneous rhizome scales with setulose margins, the prominulous venation, the lack of laminar or circumsoral setae, and the glandular paraphyses within the sorus.


On the basis of descriptions, this rare and poorly known species was mistakenly transferred to Melpomene (Smith & Moran, 1992), but examination of the type and several additional specimens from Guatemala (Johnson 678, NY, US; Steyermark 48781, US; Standley 71160, US) indicates that it belongs in Lellingeria (Smith et al., 1991). Lellingeria dissimulans is similar to L. randallii (Maxon) A. R. Smith & R. C. Moran, from Panama and Jamaica, except that the rhizome scales are larger and lack marginal setae, and the blades completely lack hairs and setae on the lamina and rachis abaxially; the sori are somewhat impressed. The species is so far known only from Guatemala.


This is known only from Trinidad and, like L. dissimulans, is also related to L. randallii.


I now believe this is sufficiently distinct from *M. pilosissima* to warrant species status. *Melpomene zempoaltepetensis* differs in lacking setae at the margins of segments and appears to be confined to southern Mexico.


I have now seen sufficient material from Madagascar and the Seychelles to be convinced that this species is not synonymous with *T. cultrata* (Bory ex Willdenow) A. R. Smith, as previously thought (Smith, 1993). It differs by the narrower blades and by the absence of rhizome scales, thus agreeing with *T. mollissima* (Fée) A. R. Smith. *Terpsichore elastica* is the only known species in the genus from Africa and islands of the Indian Ocean. Like many of its neotropical congeners allied to *T. cultrata* (Group 3 of Smith, 1993), the spores are ellipsoid, monolette, and binucleate when shed (van der Werff 12890, UC, from Madagascar).


On the basis of descriptions, this species was mistakenly transferred to *Lellingeria* by Smith and Moran (in Smith et al., 1991). Examination of the type and other specimens from Cuba shows that *Terpsichore flexuosa* is closely related to *T. staheliana* (Posthumus) A. R. Smith, also with setose sporangia, and not *Lellingeria pendula* (Swartz) A. R. Smith & R. C. Moran, as Maxon thought.

Literature Cited


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