

Some plants of the genus *Chorizanthe* collected at Monterey have been brought to my attention. These have been called *Chorizanthe pungens* Benth. var. *nivea* Curran, a disposition which the writer accepted in the *Flora of California* (p. 392). It is now my judgment that this type of thing represents a distinct specific unit and should be designated as *Chorizanthe nivea* Jepson, n. comb.

The somewhat capituliform clusters are borne in dichotomous cymes on rather short branches in *C. nivea*, whereas in typical *C. pungens* the heads are racemosely scattered along elongated branches. The calyx of *C. nivea* is white with yellow tips; the calyx of *C. pungens* is white without yellow markings. The alternate involucre lobes of *C. nivea* have showy white borders; those of *C. pungens* are narrow, dull-colored and inconspicuous. *C. nivea* is erect or suberect in growth; *C. pungens* is trailing. Doubtless other points of difference may appear when these plants are better known.

The above names are published at this time on account of the returning of herbarium specimens of the species under the revised names.—W. L. JEPSON.

ALLOTROPA VIRGATA T. & G., near Lake Tahoe.—Grows similar to *Sarcodes sanguinea*, pushing its way up through decomposed bark, needles and soil, late in July, and during the first two weeks in August, but differing from the Snow Plant in its root formation. The specimens which I am sending taper down until they join thread-like roots. In a radius of fifty feet, beneath a couple of firs (*Abies concolor* Lindl. & Gord.) I counted twenty-four stalks. The thread-like roots appeared to have formed a network underground and the flower stalks appear to spring from these.

I have found specimens only on northern exposures, beneath fir at an elevation of 6,700 feet, or thereabout. This year (1916) is the third summer this particular colony has made its appearance. The largest group has eight flower stalks ranging from four to fifteen inches in height. In their natural state the coloring of these plants is exquisite. They are for all the world like a bit of old-fashioned jewelry, garnets and pearls. The stalk striped garnet and white, the bracts white with occasional faint edge of garnet. The petals are white, the filaments white, the anthers garnet, the ovary garnet, the style white, the stigma garnet. The garnet anthers and stigma being surrounded by the white petals have the appearance of a setting for an old-fashioned ring of garnets and pearls. This species is more delicate and far more beautiful than the Snow Plant.—ADELE DAHL.



Dahl, Adele. 1917. "Allotropa virgata T. & G., near Lake Tahoe." *Madroño; a West American journal of botany* 1, 62–62.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/132036>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/169425>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Not in copyright. The BHL knows of no copyright restrictions on this item.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.