

ANDROSACE MAXIMA L. About the Yonkers Wool Mill, July 8, 1894. A fruiting specimen; seeds approximately 2 mm. long; calyx-lobes entire. Native to Europe, North Africa and the Near East.

LIMONIUM LEPTOSTACHYUM (Boiss.) Kuntze. About the Yonkers Wool Mill, June 26, 1898. Described by Boissier in DC. Prod. **12**: 669 (1848). There is an excellent photograph of the multispicate form of the species in Acta Horti Petropolitani **35**: t. 2 (1921). Native to Persia and the adjacent country north (Bukhara, Samarkand).

Another two species are represented by Bicknell specimens inadequate for determination, but may be the following: *Pandertia pilosa* Fisch. & Mey. About the Yonkers Moquette Mill, September 1, 1894; flowers too young. Yonkers Cotton Mill, July 1, 1894; sterile. Closely related species have been proposed. Our sterile specimen has the hairs spreading as described for *P. turkestanica* Iljin (*P. pilosa* Auct. Turkest. non F. et M.). Native to the Near East. *Convolvulus pilosellaefolius* Desr. About the Yonkers Wool Mill, July 8, 1894; flowers too young. Native to the Near East.

The species from Yonkers listed above hardly can be considered actual members of our eastern flora. Whatever interest they may have is chiefly historical. What are the chances of *Limonium leptostachyum* ever appearing in the United States again? For that matter, what are the chances of *Thismia americana* N. E. Pfeiff. again being found in the vicinity of Chicago! It is not always easy to decide what elements to include in a manual primarily designed for the identification of the plants of an area.—NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN.

CORREA DA SERRA AND AMERICAN BOTANY.¹—The Portuguese diplomat and botanist Correa da Serra (1750–1823) is not often remembered in American botany but he influenced many phases of its growth during the early Nineteenth Century. Indeed, historians often neglected Correa; his name does not appear in the indices of either Henry Adams's or John B. McMaster's extended histories. Arriving an exile from France aboard the American warship, U. S. S. *Constitution* in 1812, then sixty-two years of age, he lived most of the next eight years in Philadelphia. There he met the "American illustrious" through letters of introduction from the "European illustrious." He was an

¹ The Abbé Correa in America, 1812–1820. The Contributions of the Diplomat and Natural Philosopher to the Foundations of Our National Life. By Richard Beale Davis. Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc., vol. **45**, pt. 2, pp. 110, 6 figs. May, 1955, \$2.00.

admired and admiring friend of former President Jefferson. Three years after Correa's death Jefferson wrote of him to Dr. John P. Emmet: "I suppose you were well acquainted, by character, if not personally, with the late Abbé Correa, who passed some time among us, first as a distinguished savant of Europe, and afterwards as ambassador of Portugal, resident of our government. Profoundly learned in several other branches of science, he was so above all others in that of Botany; in which he preferred an amalgamation of the methods of Linnaeus and of Jussieu, to either of them exclusively." Professor Richard Beale Davis of the University of Tennessee's Department of English has brought together the correspondence of Abbé Correa in America, 1812-1820, in a satisfying documented commentary. Davis considers Correa's botanical contacts in some detail (pp. 112-115), and the plant references appearing in his letters are noticed *passim* in this 110-page memoir. There are 26 "botanical names mentioned" in the index. Abbé Correa had three close friends in Philadelphia: Zaccheus Collins, William Maclure, and John Vaughan. The quartet supported Thomas Nuttall in his expedition to Arkansas, 1818-1820, and he dedicated his *Journal of Travels into the Arkansa Territory* to them. Earlier Nuttall had dedicated his *Genera* (1818) to Correa.

The Abbé took a lively interest in plant morphology and physiology, in circulating planting stocks, seeds, and information among a wide circle of correspondents beginning in 1772, when as a student he was corresponding with Linnaeus, to later years when he was in touch with Thouin in France, and Joseph Banks, Robert Brown, and Salisbury in England. Correa and Banks examined the Lincolnshire coast together and their account was published in the *Philosophical Transactions*. Colmeiro summarized Correa's pre-American years in 1858 but Professor Carvalho published "the most recent, detailed, and scholarly study" in Lisbon in 1948. Correa was never an important collector in the herbarium sense, however, and few, if any, sheets bearing his name exist in the Academy of Natural Sciences' Herbarium—I have seen none. Davis emphasizes that Correa's real service was in his personal contacts with amateurs, some of whom became important figures probably stimulated by him.

The Quaker physician and botanist, William Baldwin, wrote to Dr. William Darlington: "On my passage from Elkton to Baltimore I became acquainted with the 'Chevalier Correa de Serra'—who, I suppose, is known to you. I was pleased with his plainness: and had a good deal of botanical talk with him." Dr. Baldwin had earlier characterized Abbé Correa to Henry Muhlenberg as an "excellent Botanist."²

Correa's 16-page pamphlet entitled *Reduction of all the Genera . . . in the Catalogus . . . of the late Dr. [Henry] Muhlenberg to the Natural Families of Mr. DeJussieu's System*, Philadelphia, 1815, of which Professor Davis reproduces the title page for us, was published both separately and as an appendix to the second edition of Muhlenberg's *Catalogus* (1818) and in somewhat altered presentation as an appendix to the New York edition of James Edward Smith's *A Grammar of Botany* (1822). Correa considered Stephen Elliott America's greatest botanist; others who came under his influence included Jacob Bigelow, Thomas Cooper, Francis Walker Gilmer, Reuben Haines, George Ord, Thomas Say, and Caspar Wistar. Dr. Bigelow wrote that he (Correa) "did me the honor to peruse my herbarium, and aid me with his explanations."³ This was probably in the year 1813 when the two made botanical excursions together in the vicinity of Boston. Correa must have associated with Benjamin Smith Barton, whose botanical lectures at the University of Pennsylvania he continued after Barton's death, but Professor Barton's increasing disability may have minimized those contacts. Five persons are conspicuous for their absence from Correa's correspondence as Davis has reported it: Dr. David Hosack (1769–1835), John Eatton LeConte (1784–1860), Charles Alexandre LeSueur (1778–1846), William Bartram (1739–1823), and Dr. Gerard Troost (1776–1850). Of course letters to or from them may yet come to our notice. Davis refers (p. 107) to a 'literary circle' described by the New York physician, John W. Francis, where Abbé Correa had been a guest. This was surely Dr. Hosack's 'circle' and a search of the Francis papers in the New York Public Library may establish this contact.

² Davis does not mention William Baldwin (1779–1819) among Correa's American acquaintances but cf. Darlington's *Reliquiae Baldwinianae*, 114, 172, 250, etc., 1843.

³ Cf. George E. Ellis, *Memoir of Jacob Bigelow, M.D., LL.D.*, Proc. Mass. Hist. Soc. p. 36 (of reprint), 1880.

Connections which do not come to notice at once will perhaps be detected by a closer scrutiny of the Correa correspondence. For example, Thomas J. Wray of Augusta (p. 103) was a correspondent of Nuttall's and there are collections both at Philadelphia and in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) labelled in Nuttall's hand as from him. Nuttall evidently met Wray in Augusta sometime in the Fall of 1815. Correa reached Augusta by October 16th that year and Wray must have met the two visitors about the same week if indeed they were not traveling together (?).—JOSEPH EWAN, TULANE UNIVERSITY, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

NOMENCLATURAL CHANGE IN THE GRASS GENUS *ECHINOCHLOA*.—The name *Panicum muricatum* Michx. (1803) is invalidated by the earlier use of the binomial by Retzius (1786). Palisot de Beauvois (1812) transferred this species to the genus *Setaria* and in the body of his work merely lists *Setaria muricata*; however, on page 178, he said, "*Panicum muricatum* Michx. equals *Setaria*". This name, invalid in *Panicum*, is valid in *Setaria* since there is no earlier binomial which is identical. The combination *Setaria muricata* is four years older than *Panicum pungens* Poir. (1816) and seventeen years older than *Oplismenus muricatus* Kunth (1829), the basonym discussed by Shinnars (1954).

Therefore, Beauvois' "muricata" is the oldest epithet used in a legitimate combination for the taxon; and as such, Fernald's (1915) use of the epithet in *Echinochloa* was valid, although in 1935 he adopted the name *Echinochloa pungens* because of the homonym rule.

Since the parenthetical citation refers to the first legitimate use of the epithet, the correct binomial for the indigenous barnyard grass is *Echinochloa muricata* (Beauv.) Fernald.

The essential synonymy is as follows:

Panicum muricatum Michx. 1803. Not Retzius 1786.

Setaria muricata (Michx.) Beauv. 1812.

Panicum pungens Poir. in Lamarck's Encycl. Méth. Bot. 1816.

Oplismenus muricatus (Michx.) Kunth. 1829.

Echinochloa muricata (Michx.) Fern. 1915.

Echinochloa pungens (Poir.) Rydb. 1931.



Ewan, Joseph. 1956. "Correa da Serra and American Botany." *Rhodora* 58, 45–48.

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