SHORTER NOTES

A Binomial for a Common Hybrid Lycopodium.—The taxonomic status of Lycopodium porophilum Lloyd & Underwood (Lycopodiaceae) recently has been clarified by Waterway (Syst. Bot. 11:263–276, 1986). She presented convincing evidence for considering this taxon a species distinct from the similar clubmosses, L. lucidulum Michx. and L. selago L., with which it formerly had been confused. Hybrids between L. porophilum and L. lucidulum frequently are encountered. These hybrids are characterized by sterile spores and morphological characters intermediate between those of the parents. Waterway provided a helpful chart outlining the distinguishing features of these three taxa (p. 272).

The geographic range of the hybrid is wholly sympatric with the distribution of L. porophilum from Ohio and North Carolina west to Wisconsin, Iowa, and Arkansas. Although sterile, the hybrid reproduces readily by vegetative gemmae. On the unglaciated Appalachian Plateau in Hocking County, Ohio, the hybrid is common in habitats intermediate between those of its parents. Lycopodium porophilum typically is restricted to the upper portions of massive sandstone exposures; L. lucidulum grows on talus and soil at the foot of the cliffs and on alluvial terraces of small streams. The hybrid occurs both with L. porophilum and also on lower portions of the same rock faces. In the mesic coves of southeast Ohio, populations of the hybrid frequently are more extensive and vigorous than colonies of either parent. The hybrid plants usurp the space on the cliffs and ledges which is available to L. porophilum. This preemption of its habitat apparently is a significant factor in the present rarity of L. porophilum in Ohio. I have not seen the hybrid growing in soil with L. lucidulum.

Since this hybrid clubmoss is so common and widespread, it seems useful to provide it with a binomial to replace a cumbersome formula.

Lycopodium ×bartleyi Cusick, hybr. nov.—Type: Ohio, Hocking Co., mossy sandstone boulders above Keifel Rd, 0.3 mi NE, jct of Big Pine Creek Rd, Sect 7, Benton Township, 18 March 1987, Cusick 26204 (OS; isotypes MICH, MU).

Hybrida e Lycopodio lucidulo et L. porophilo exorta, aliis characteribus inter parentes media, sporis abortivis.

The epithet honors Floyd Bartley (1884–1974) of Circleville, Ohio, who collected thousands of plant specimens—including this hybrid—from southeast Ohio from the 1930s through the 1960s. Stuckey (Ohio J. Sci. 75:209–210, 1975) summarized Bartley's contributions to our knowledge of the Ohio flora.

Thanks to Kerry Barringer, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, for checking the Latin diagnosis.—Allison W. Cusick, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, OH 43224.

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