

A nomenclatural correction in *Verreauxia* (Goodeniaceae)

Roger Carolin (1992: 300) used the name *Verreauxia villosa* E.Pritz. for a rather rare species of this small Western Australian genus. He cited *Verreauxia dyeri* E.Pritz. ex Hemsl. as a synonym. The name *V. villosa* is current on *FloraBase* (Western Australian Herbarium 1998–). In 2005, when checking the holdings of this species at Kew for imaging early Australian collections for the Global Biodiversity Information Facility/Australian Virtual Herbarium project, I found that the second of these names seems to be correct as its publication predates that of the former by just a few weeks. A typographical error in a date of publication apparently led to the previous interpretation. The publication and typification details are as follows.

Verreauxia dyeri E.Pritz. ex Hemsl., *Hooker's Icon. Pl.* ser. 4, 8: t. 2782 (Jan. 1905).

Type citation: 'WEST AUSTRALIA : Waranzering, Helms. ; Marmion, eighteen miles south of Menzies, L. Diels, 5191; railway between Cunderdin and Dedari, G. H. Thistleton-Dyer.'

All three collections are represented in the Herbarium of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K). Carolin (1992: 334) lectotypified the name on the collection by Thistleton-Dyer. The locality Waranzering (Helms) is a misprint of Warangering.

Verreauxia villosa E.Pritz., *Bot. Jahr. Syst.* 35(4): 573 (14 Feb. 1905 – see below for discussion of date).

Type citation: 'in distr. Austin meridionali pr. Menzies, in arenosis apertis flor. m. Oct. (D. 5191).' [i.e. in the southern Austin district near Menzies, in open sandy areas flowering in October (L. Diels 5191)] (*holo*: K).

At Kew there is material of Diels' collection consisting of two leaves and portions of several inflorescences with the annotations: '5191 L. Diels Marmion 25 km südlich von Menzies Lichte Geholze auf Sand', ('375 m. ü M. Oct. 1901', 'Blüten gelb'). There is a determinavit slip by Pritzel: 'Verreauxia (without a number) was collected at Menzies (North Coolgardie) by L. Diels and described as *V. villosa* by myself. I change the name in Verreauxia Dyeri n. sp. Det. E. Pritzel'. The slip is undated but was possibly included with the specimen referred to in the letter below, i.e. written in early March 1904. It mentions Pritzel's proposal to alter the specific epithet from *villosa* to *dyeri*. It is unclear why Pritzel wrote that there was no number. Attached to the sheet is the following handwritten letter, written from Gr. Lichterfolde, 15 March 1904:

Dear Sir

our only specimen of *Verreauxia Dyeri* has been sent to you, a few days ago, for figuring. The hairs on the calyx seem to be more copious in our specimen than in the sketch you sent us some time ago, and the style is more slender. Herewith I am sending also the description. The only real distinct difference from *V. Reinwardtii* consists in the tomentum.

I am, sincerely yours,

Ernst Pritzel

Since Pritzel stated that the material sent to Kew was their (Berlin's) only specimen, I regard it as the holotype of the name *V. villosa*, while also being a syntype of *V. dyeri*. Carolin annotated it thus: 'Part of the HOLOTYPE of *V. villosa* E.Pritzel LECTOTYPE of *V. dyeri* E.Pritzel ex Hemsl. Determinavit R.Carolin 26.9.1962', although in his *Flora of Australia* account of *V. villosa* (Carolin 1992: 300), he stated 'holo: B? (destroyed) *n.v.*'

Although Pritzel wrote that he was changing the epithet from *villosa* to *dyeri*, it appears that either his description under the former epithet was already too far advanced in publication for him to alter it (even though it did not appear until the following February), or he simply forgot to alter his own manuscript. Oddly, in the introductory paragraph of the account of *Verreauxia* in the *Botanische Jahrbücher*, he cited both names but used *V. villosa* in the description.

The account with the epithet *dyeri* was published in *Hooker's Icones Plantarum* in January 1905, just weeks or maybe days before the account in *Botanische Jahrbücher*. Volume 35 of the *Botanische Jahrbücher* was published in five parts (Heften). Each Heft has the year of publication and a precise date printed on the title page. These dates are 1904 and 15 April 1904 for Heft 1, 1904 and 6 Dec. 1904 for Heften 2 and 3 (published together), 1905 and 14 Feb. 1904 for Heft 4, and 1905 and 18 April 1905 for Heft 5. From this it is clear that '1904' in Heft 4 is a typographical error. In the copy at Kew the '4' of '1904' has been crossed out and '5' pencilled in. The third supplement of *Index Kewensis* in which both names were listed gave no dates of publication. The year 1904 was accepted by later workers in Australia (e.g. Gardner 1931), who therefore considered Pritzel's name *V. villosa* the earlier one. The corrected date is cited in Stafleu and Cowan (1976) and in the entry for *V. villosa* in Chapman (1991), but it was not picked up when the account was being prepared for the *Flora of Australia*. It seems clear that this date should be accepted, which makes the publication of the relevant part of *Hooker's Icones Plantarum* earlier by just a few weeks, and so the name *Verreauxia dyeri* has priority.

References

- Carolin, R.C. (1992). 11. *Verreauxia*. In: *Flora of Australia*. Vol. 35, pp. 298–300, 334. (Australian Government Publishing Service: Canberra.)
- Chapman, A.D. (1991). *Australian plant name index, Q–Z*. p. 2954. (Australian Government Publishing Service: Canberra.)
- Gardner, C.A. (1931). *Enumeratio plantarum Australiae Occidentalis* (Government Printer: Perth.)
- Stafleu, F.A. & Cowan, R.S. (1976). *Taxonomic literature: a selective guide to botanical publications and collections with dates, commentaries and types*. Vol. 1: A–G, p. 647, item 1444. (Bohn, Scheltema & Holkema: Utrecht.)
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998–). *FloraBase – The Western Australian flora*. <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/> [accessed 12 January 2010]

Alex George

'Four Gables', 18 Barclay Road, Kardinya, Western Australia 6163