habit with soft, more slender branches, much smaller stipular glands, its frequently pink involucres and maroon bracts, its smaller capsule which is not ribbed in the sinuses and is borne on a longer pedicel, styles which are not appressed to the top of the capsule, and less prominently keeled seeds which are only ± 1.2 mm thick as opposed to 1.6 mm' in *E. glandularis*.

Plants collected near Nigramoep were 300–400 mm tall and thus, although geographically closest to *E. glandularis*, were actually more similar in stature to *E. exilis*. They were also extremely densely branched, as were those along the Groen River, far more so than plants seen at Hol River (Knersvlakte) but very similar to those seen at Quaggaskop on the Knersvlakte. Plants from the Groen River had slightly smaller stipular glands than those from Nigramoep (compare Figure 3B & 3C). Stipular glands of this size are also found on specimens from the Knersvlakte [*Hall 3734* (NBG) and others] and the minute stipular glands shown by Leach & Williamson (1990: fig. 4.9) had perhaps already dried out when drawn and were thus a fraction of their fresh size (Figure 3).

Recent collections suggest that the length of the female pedicel is an unreliable character. In particular, in *E. glandularis* the capsule is shown to squash the involucre on development (Leach & Williamson 1990: fig. 3.10) whereas in *E. exilis* this is not the case. In the material figured here from near Nigramoep (Figure 3G) the pedicel is slightly longer than that of a specimen from the Knersvlakte (Figure 3F). As can be seen in Figure 3E, F & I, the styles vary significantly in length at a single locality (Knersvlakte again), being quite close to the ovary (more like *E. glandularis*) in 3F & I and more erect in 3E (more like *E. exilis*). In the plant from Nigramoep (Figure 3G) they are much closer to the ovary, though not as closely adpressed as shown by Leach & Williamson for *E. glandularis*. The difference in the length of the united part of the styles (± 0.5 mm) and the 0.4 mm difference in thickness of the seeds given by Leach, are considered to be of questionable significance. Thus one of these names is unnecessary and *E. glandularis* is reduced to synonymy.

Specimens examined

CAPE.—2917 (Springbok): Klipfontein, (–BA), *Williamson 3773, 3789; Leach & Hilton-Taylor 17019* (all NBG); NE of Nigramoep, (–BC), *Bruyns 3214* (NBG). 3017 (Hondeklip Bay): 5 km NW Baievlei, (–DB), *Bruyns 4590* (BOL); 2 km towards Soutfontein, (–DB), *Bruyns 4588* (BOL); north of Groen River, (–DB), *Bruyns 3835* (BOL). 3018 (Kamiesberg): Kamagab, (–CD), *Bruyns 4586* (BOL). 3118 (Vanrhynsdorp): north of Vredendal, (–AD), *Hall 3734* (NBG); *Bruyns 3225* (NBG); Quaggaskop, (–BC), *Leach & Hilton-Taylor 16994* (NBG); *Bruyns 4035* (BOL); Hol River, (–CB), *Leach & Hall 14180* (NBG); Aties, (–DA), *Leach & Bayer 17129* (NBG).

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FABACEAE

THE IDENTITY OF *ARGYROLOBIUM OBSOLETUM* AND THE CORRECT NAMES FOR SOME SPECIES OF *POLHILLIA* (CROTALARIEAE)

The genus *Polhillia* C.H. Stirton comprises seven rare and highly localised species, all of which are endemic to the southwestern Cape Province of South Africa. The generic circumscription of Stirton (1986a) was slightly broadened by Van Wyk & Schutte (1989) to include two species that were previously misplaced in *Argyrolobium* Eckl. & Zeyh. and *Melolobium* Eckl. & Zeyh. The species of *Polhillia* all have the bilabiate calyx of *Argyrolobium* and *Melolobium* and also have a similar combination of quinolizidine alkaloids (Van Wyk *et al.* 1988; Van Wyk & Verdoorn 1990), but can easily be distinguished from the two genera by the absence of true peduncles (Van Wyk & Schutte 1989). The internode directly below the inflorescence is elongated to function as a peduncle, a condition that can be recognised by the presence of a foliage leaf at the apex of the pseudo-peduncle. Other diagnostic characters are the woody habit, conduplicate leaflets, virtual absence of bracts and bracteoles, sheathing stipules, short calyx, pubescent corolla, imbricate keel petals and a chromosome number of 2n = 32 (Stirton 1986a; Van Wyk & Schutte 1989).

In considering various species for inclusion in the new genus, Stirton (1986a) overlooked *Argyrolobium obsoletum* Harv. Harvey (1862) queried the correct taxonomic position of this species by inserting a question mark behind the generic name. The holotype in the Thunberg collection in Uppsala clearly belongs to the type species of *Polhillia*, hitherto known as *P. waltersii* (C.H. Stirton) C.H. Stirton. A name change is therefore unavoidable. I am also using this opportunity to change the gender of some specific epithets that were not given in the correct form when species were transferred from *Argyrolobium* and *Melolobium* by Stirton (1986a) and Van Wyk & Schutte (1989). To avoid confusion, all known species of *Polhillia* are included in the following synonymy.

Polhillia *C.H. Stirton* in South African Journal of Botany 52: 167 (1986a); Van Wyk & Schutte: 397 (1989); Van Wyk: 265–288 (1991).

Lebeckia Thunb. subgenus *Plecolobium* C.H. Stirton: 318 (1981). Type: *Polhillia waltersii* (C.H. Stirton) C.H.

Stirton. [now *P. obsoleta* (Harv.) B-E. van Wyk, see below].

1. **P. brevicalyx** *(C.H. Stirton) Van Wyk & Schutte* in Kew Bulletin 43: 420 (1989).

Argyrolobium brevicalyx C.H. Stirton: 443 (1984). Type: *Burgers 3188* (K!, holo.; STE!, iso.).

2. **P. canescens** *C.H. Stirton* in South African Journal of Botany 52: 174 (1986a). Type: *Bayer 3104* (NBG!, holo.).

3. **P. connata** *(Harv.) C.H. Stirton* in South African Journal of Botany 52: 174 (1986a), as '*P. connatum*'. Type: *Thom 37* (K!, holo.).

4. **P. involucrata** *(Thunb.) Van Wyk & Schutte* in Kew Bulletin 43: 420 (1989), as '*P. involucratum*'.

Psoralea involucrata Thunb.: 607 (1823). *Argyrolobium involucratum* (Thunb.) Harv.: 75 (1862). *Melolobium involucratum* (Thunb.) C.H. Stirton: 355 (1986b), as '*M. involucratum* (Harv.) C.H. Stirton'. Type: *Thunberg s.n. sub UPS-THUNB 17575* (UPS!, lecto., chosen by Stirton 1986b).

5. **P. obsoleta** *(Harv.) B-E. van Wyk*, comb. nov.

Argyrolobium obsoletum Harv., Flora capensis 2: 70 (1862). Type: Cape, without precise locality, *Thunberg s.n. sub UPS-THUNB 16504* (UPS!, holo.).

Lebeckia waltersii C.H. Stirton: 318 (1981). *Polhillia waltersii* (C.H. Stirton) C.H. Stirton: 173 (1986a). Type: *Rourke 1484* (K!, holo.; NBG!, STE!, iso.).

Aspalathus sericea sensu Thunb.: 574 (1823) non DC.

P. obsoleta is known only from one locality at Worcester, where the first recent collection was made in 1977 (Stirton 1986a). A specimen not seen by Stirton (1986a) however, indicates that the species may have been much more widely distributed in an area that is now largely under wheat cultivation. This specimen, *Edwards s.n. sub BOL 13438* (BOL), was collected at Porterville (3318 BB Cape Town) and sent to the Bolus Herbarium in 1909.

6. **P. pallens** *C.H. Stirton* in South African Journal of Botany 52: 171 (1986). Type: *Burgers 2633* (STE!, holo.; K!, STE!, iso.).

7. **Polhillia** sp. A. [see Stirton: 178 (1986a)].

Stirton (1986a) expressed uncertainty about the identity of an anomalous specimen, *Hutchison 253* (K), which was previously included by Stirton (1981) under *L. waltersii (P. obsoleta)*.

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PROTEACEAE

THE CORRECT AUTHOR CITATION FOR *PARANOMUS REFLEXUS*

In the most recent revision of *Paranomus* (Levyns 1970), the authority for *Paranomus reflexus* is given as *P. reflexus* (Phill. & Hutch.) N.E. Br. in *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa* 21: 263 (1933). This citation is also used in Gibbs Russell *et al.* (1987). However, an earlier combination made by Fourcade in 1932 has been overlooked. Curiously, Fourcade's combination was published in the same volume of the same journal as N.E. Brown's was, namely *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa* vol. 21, but in part 1 published in December 1932, whereas N.E. Brown's combination appeared in part 3 published in November 1933.

The correct author citation for this species is therefore *Paranomus reflexus* (Phill. & Hutch.) Fourcade in *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa* 21: 97 (1932).

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