



The renaming of *Asclepias xysmalobioides* with *Asclepias monteavaga* (Apocynaceae, Asclepiadoideae)

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ABSTRACT

Asclepias xysmalobioides Hilliard & B.L. Burtt (1986: 193) is a later homonym of *Asclepias xysmalobioides* S. Moore (1912: 342). There are no valid synonyms available, and so we propose the new name *Asclepias monteavaga* M. Glen, Nicholas & Bester here.

Key words: Apocynaceae, Asclepiadinae, *Asclepias monteavaga*, *Asclepias xysmalobioides*, homonymy; nomenclature

INTRODUCTION

Asclepias xysmalobioides (*non* S. Moore) was published by Hilliard and Burtt in 1986 to describe a montane species of *Asclepias* endemic to the southern Drakensberg in South Africa and Lesotho. However, *Asclepias xysmalobioides* S. Moore was published in 1912 to describe a species endemic to Angola. Therefore, *Asclepias xysmalobioides* Hilliard & B.L. Burtt is a later homonym and, according to the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (Melbourne Code) (McNeill *et al.* 2012), needs a valid name. We thus propose *Asclepias monteavaga* as the replacement name. The specific epithet *monteavaga* means ‘mountain wanderer’, an appropriate name for this montane species.

NOMENCLATURE

Asclepias monteavaga M. Glen, Nicholas & Bester, *nom. nov.* **Type:**—SOUTH AFRICA. KwaZulu-Natal Province, Underberg, near Tarn Cave, Bushman’s Nek, 19 January 1984, elevation 2440 m, Hilliard & Burtt 17342 (holotype NU!; isotypes E!, K!, PRE!, PRF!, S!).

Asclepias xysmalobioides Hilliard & B.L. Burtt (*non* S. Moore) *nom. illeg.* Notes of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh 43: 193–194. 1986. **Type:**—As above.

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