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Lectotypification of *Lithodora prostrata* (Loisel.) Griseb. (Boraginaceae)

KEY WORDS: *Lithodora*, Lectotypification.

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SUMMARY

In this paper a lectotypus for *Lithodora prostrata* (Loisel.) Griseb is designated from the LOISELEUR-DESLONGCHAMPS herbarium (JLA).

LABURPENA

LOISELEUR-DESLONGCHAMPS (JLA) herbarioan dagoen materialean oinarrituz, *Lithodora prostrata* (Loisel.) Griseb-ren lektotipoa izendatzen da.

INTRODUCTION

In 1806, Lagasca described his *Lithospermum diffusum* based on materials gathered at Pajares Mountain Pass surroundings, in the Cantabrian Mountain Chain (NW of the Iberian Peninsula). Almost at the same time, Loiseleur published his Flora Gailica (1806), where he described his *Lithospermum prostratum* upon materials from the Bayonne vicinity (SW of France). Since then, these species —now in the genus *Lithodora*—haven suffered several vicissitudes.

JOHNSTON (1924) proposed to join both under Lagasca's epithet, which was the earlier one. The same classification was adopted by FERNANDES (1972). Recently VALDES (1981), in a clarifying taxonomic work, found morphological differences between these taxa and argued in favour of their separation at specific level; this author appointed the lectotypus for *Lithodora diffusa* (Lag.) Johnston (MA 96526). So, up to now, the lectotypification of *Lithodora prostrata* (Loisel.) Griseb. was lacking.

LECTOTYPIFICATION OF *LITHODORA PROSTRATA*

We found the material that Loiseleur used to describe his species in the JLA Loiseleur-Deslongchamps Herbarium, now located in the Requien Museum (*Histoire Naturelle*) of Avignon. There were two sheets from the type locality and we hereby designate as lectotypus the single specimen of the first one, which is the more complete of the two (fig. 1), labelled, without any number, as follows: «*Lithospermum prostratum* Lois. // Sur le bord des chemins et dans / les landes aux environs de / Bayonne, 3 juin 1803» (m. Loiseleur).

The second sheet represents an lectoparatype.

COMMENTS

Lithodora diffusa is an endemic plant from the Cantabrian Mountain Chain. Its most eastern locality is further than 100 km. from the locus classicus of *L. prostrata*.

Lithodora prostrata is widespread throughout the Atlantic side of SW Europe, from France to Portugal, and in the North of Morocco; in its southern distribution area it is represented by subsp. *lusitanica* (Samp.) Valdés.

We ascertained the homogeneity of the plants in the Cantabrian coastal area, verifying the main differential diagnostic character between them: stamens at the same or at different heights in the corolla tube.

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The chromosome number seems to have no taxonomic value in this group. All *L. diffusa* counts are diploids ($2n=16$) (cf. LUQUE & VALDES (1984)), while both diploid ($2n=16$) (cf. LUQUE & VALDES (I.c.)) and tetraploid levels have been found in *L. prostrata* subsp. *prostrata* (cf. LUQUE & VALDES (I.c.), GONZALEZ & ELENA (1985) and only tetraploids in subsp. *lusitanica* (cf. FERNANDES & LEITAO (1972), LUQUE & VALDES (I.c.)). Chromosome counts done *L. prostrata* subsp *prostrata* plants collected in Basque localities close to the locus *classicus* have given us diploid results ($n=8$) (fig.2).

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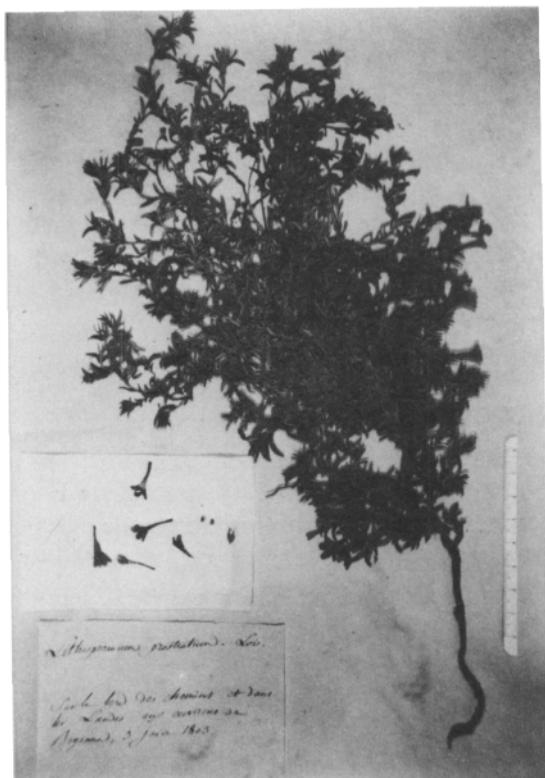


Fig. 1.— Lectotypus of *Lithospermum prostratum* Loisel. (Avignon. Herb. LOISELEUR DESLONGCHAMPS).

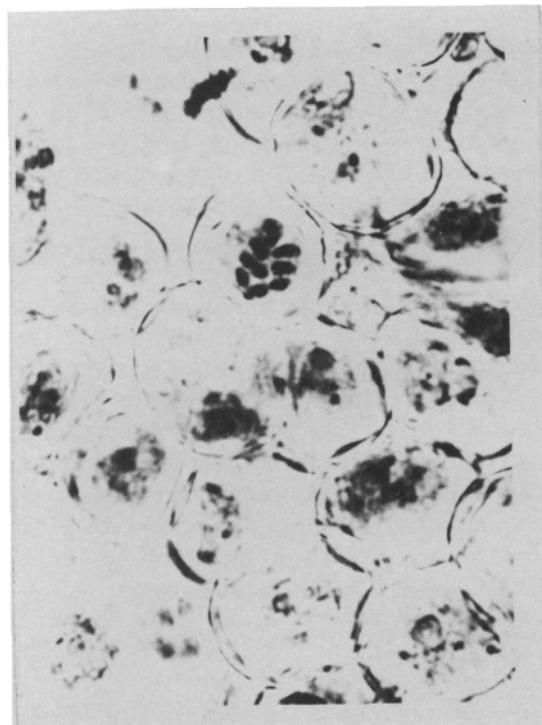


Fig. 2.— Pollen grain mitosis in *Lithodora prostrata* subsp. *prostrata* (near Bayonne, ARAN 142.88). $n = 8$ (x2000).