

ON THE VALIDATION OF *CHORIZANTHE* AND *MUCRONEA*
(POLYGONACEAE: ERIOGONEAE)

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ABSTRACT

Traditionally *Chorizanth*e R. Br. ex Benth. and *Muronea* Benth. (Polygonaceae: Eriogoneae) were considered to have been published in the third part of volume 17 of the Transactions of the Linnean Society sometime between 21 June and 9 July 1836. In fact, both names were validly published earlier, initially in May of 1835 in the London and Edinburgh Philosophical Magazine and Journal of Science, and again on 7 June 1836 in the journal Flora. No species were assigned to either genus until Bentham's paper on Eriogoneae was published in mid-1836.

KEY WORDS: nomenclature, George Bentham, Transactions of the Linnean Society, London and Edinburgh Philosophical Magazine

While assembling a new and updated bibliography on Polygonaceae Juss. trib. Eriogoneae Dumort., it was discovered that *Chorizanth*e R. Br. ex Benth. and *Mucronea* Benth. were validated in a review of the 7 April 1835 meeting the Linnean Society of London (Brewster et al. 1835) in which George Bentham presented a paper entitled "On the Eriogoneae, a tribe of the order Polygoneae." As may be seen from the dates given on the first page of individual signatures as well as the subsequently published table of contents, this notice was published in the May 1835 issue (pages 321–400) of the London and Edinburgh Philosophical Magazine and Journal of Science, or about a month after the meeting. On page 379 the following appears in part of that review:

The group [Eriogoneae] consists of three genera, namely, *Eriogonum* distinguished by its many-flowered involucre; *Chorizanth*e, a genus proposed by Mr. Brown, and distinguished from the former by having a single-flowered involucre; and lastly, *Mucronea*, characterized by its bidentate involucre, composed of two confluent bracts.

This same notice was reproduced almost word-for-word later (Beilschmied 1836) in the journal Flora (19: 332. 7 Jun 1836):

Diese Gruppe [Eriogoneae] besteht aus 3 Gattungen: *Eriogonum*, durch vielblüthige Hülle ausgezeichnet; *Chorizanth*e RBr., n.g., deren nur einblüthiges Involucre sie von *Eriogonum* unterscheidet, und *Mucronea*, welche sich durch ein aus zwei zusammenfliessenden Braeteen gebildetes Involucre bidehtatum charakterisirt.

According to Raphael (1970: 75), volume 17, part 3, pp. 315–464, along with plates 10–22, of the Transactions was published sometime between 21 June and 9 July of 1836. Thus Bentham's 1836 paper, long considered the first place of validation for both names (Bentham 1856; Torrey & Gray 1870; Goodman 1934; Reveal & Hardham 1989; Reveal 2005), did not appear until after at least two reviews were published wherein his new genera were validated.

Thus, the correct citation of both names is as follows:

Chorizanthe R. Br. ex Benth. in London Edinburgh Philos. Mag. & J. Sci., ser. 3, 6: 379. Mai 1835.
 LT.: *Chorizanthe virgata* Benth. in Trans. Linn. Soc. London 17: 416. 1836, designated by
 Goodman in Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 21: 19. 1934.

Mucronea Benth. in London Edinburgh Philos. Mag. & J. Sci., ser. 3, 6: 379. Mai 1835. T.:
Mucronea californica Benth. in Trans. Linn. Soc. London 17: 419. 1836.

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