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NOTES AND NEWS

CONFUSION IN AUTHORSHIP OF *STEMODIA VERTICILLATA* HASSLER.—In 1964 I collected a small, weedy member of the Scrophulariaceae in a pasture at Horneman's Ranch ("Bella Vista") about 4 miles north of Bahia Academy, Isla Santa Cruz (Indifatigalbe I.), El Archipiélago de Colon (Galapagos I.), Ecuador.

While trying to identify this material, I found that it keyed to *Stemodia verticillata* (Mill.) Sprague, in Standley's *Flora of Costa Rica* (Fieldiana, Bot. 18:1111. 1938). A check of the Gray Herbarium Card Index revealed that this combination had been made twice prior to the publication of Sprague's paper (Bull. Misc. Inform. 1921:205-212. 1921). In each of the three cases, *Erinus verticillatus* Mill. (Gard. Dict. ed. 8, no. 5. 1768) was the basionym, so there is no doubt that each author was dealing with the same entity.

In 1909 Hassler (Trab. Mus. Farm. Fac. Ci. Med. Buenos Aires 21:110. 1909) published the transfer of *verticillatus* from *Erinus* to *Stemodia*, displacing the later *S. parviflora* Ait. Owing to the restricted circulation of this publication, Hassler's combination was overlooked and Boldingh again made the transfer (Zakfl. Landbouwstr. Java 165. 1916). In 1921 Sprague, failing to find the earlier papers, published *Stemodia verticillata* as a new combination for the third time.

Therefore, this weedy herb, which is widely distributed in the American tropics and has been introduced elsewhere, together with its applicable synonymy, should be listed as follows:

STEMODIA VERTICILLATA (Mill.) Hassler, Trab. Mus. Farm. Fac. Ci. Med. Buenos Aires 21:110. 1909. *Erinus verticillatus* Mill., Gard. ed. 8, no. 5. 1768. *Capraria humilis* Ait., Hort. Kew. ed. 1. 2:354. 1789. *Stemodia parviflora* Ait., Hort. Kew. ed. 2. 4:52. 1812. *Stemodia arenaria* H. B. K., Nov. Gen. Spec. 2:357. t. 175. 1817. *Conobea pumila* Spreng. Nov. Prov. 13. 1819. *Stemodia verticillata* (Mill.) Bolder., Zakfl. Landbouwstr. Java 165. 1916. *Stemodia verticillata* (Mill.) Sprague, Bull. Misc. Inform. 1921:211. 1921.—IRA L. WIGGINS, Dudley Herbarium, Stanford University.



Wiggins, Ira L. 1968. "Confusion in Authorship of *Stemodia verticillata* Hassler." *Madroño; a West American journal of botany* 19, 266–266.

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