

A NEW COMBINATION IN *CHUSQUEA* (POACEAE: BAMBUSOIDEAE)

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ABSTRACT

A new combination, *Chusquea glomerata* (Swallen) Dorr, is proposed for *Neurolepis glomerata* Swallen, a species of bamboo with a disjunct distribution in the Venezuelan Guayana and northern Andes.

KEY WORDS: Bambusoideae, *Chusquea*, Poaceae

Fisher et al. (2009) concluded that chloroplast genomes indicate probable paraphyly of the genus *Neurolepis* Meisn. (1843) with respect to *Chusquea* Kunth (1822) (Poaceae: Bambusoideae). In the same paper, Clark transferred the species of *Neurolepis* to *Chusquea* and proposed a score of new combinations and new names. Both genera have been collected in Guaramacal (Dorr et al., 2000), a national park in the Andes of Venezuela, and as a treatment of the grasses is being finalized for a flora of this area (Dorr et al., in prep.) the names of the bamboo species present in the park were reviewed. In that review it was discovered that a nomen novum proposed in *Chusquea* for *N. glomerata* Swallen was superfluous.

Clark in Fisher et al. (2009) proposed “*Chusquea steyermarkii* L.G. Clark, nom. nov.” to replace *Neurolepis glomerata*, as she presumably concluded that a new combination was precluded by “*Chusquea glomerata* Munro.” However, this name has no nomenclatural standing, as Munro (1868) merely cited “*Chusquea* (*Rettbergia*) *glomerata*, Munro in herb. Trin. Coll. Dublin” as a synonym of *Merostachys capitata* Hook. (= *Athroostachys capitata* (Hook.) Benth.). Furthermore, if a combination based on *N. glomerata* had been blocked, there still would not have been a need to propose a nomen novum, because either one of the two heterotypic synonyms, *N. nigra* Swallen or *N. densiflora* Swallen, that Clark in Fisher et al. (2009) cited was available to serve as a basionym for a new combination in *Chusquea*.

Consequently, the correct name (and synonymy) for *Neurolepis glomerata* in *Chusquea* is this:

Chusquea glomerata (Swallen) Dorr, comb. nov. Basionym: *Neurolepis glomerata* Swallen in Maguire et al., Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 9: 399. 1957. *Chusquea steyermarkii* L.G. Clark in A.E. Fisher et al., Syst. Bot. 34: 681. 2009, nom. superfl. **TYPE:** Venezuela. Bolívar: Chimantá Massif, *Bonnetia* forest, northwestern part of summit of Abácapa-tepuí, 2125–2300 m, 13 Apr 1953 (fl), J.A. Steyermark 74925 pro parte (holotype: US-2182879!; isotypes: F-2 sheets, MO-fragment, NY, US-2182878!; probable isotype: US-2182881!).

Chusquea glomerata Munro, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 26(1): 50. 1868, nom. nud., pro syn.

Neurolepis densiflora Swallen in Maguire et al., Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 9: 399. 1957. **TYPE:** Venezuela. Bolívar: Chimantá Massif, lower mixed *Bonnetia* forest above southeast-facing upper shoulder on slope leading to summit of Apácará-tepuí, 2000–2150 m, 20 Jun 1953 (fl), J.A. Steyermark 75806 (holotype: US-2 sheets!; isotypes: F, NY).

Neurolepis nigra Swallen in Maguire et al., Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 9: 400. 1957. **TYPE:** **Venezuela.** Bolívar: Chimantá Massif, Central Section, open forested laterite slopes along tributary of east branch of headwaters of Río Tirica, 2185–2210 m, 13 Feb 1955 (fl), *J.A. Steyermark & J.J. Wurdack 860* (holotype: US-3 sheets!; isotypes: NY-3 sheets).

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