

NOMENCLATORIAL CHANGES INVOLVING WYOMING GRASSES

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Grasses of Wyoming has been through two editions, the first by A.A. Beetle and Morton May (1971. Wyoming Agric. Exp. Sta. Res. J. 39: 1-151), the second by A.A. Beetle (1977. Wyoming Agric. Exp. Sta. Res. J. 39R: 1-154). A third edition is now in progress to be authored by A.A. Beetle, Quentin Skinner and Gregory P. Hallsten. During the preparation of this third edition there appeared a need for a few changes in the nomenclature.

Bromus marginatus Nees is a mountain grass occurring commonly in the higher areas of the West. Its distribution contrasts sharply with that of Bromus carinatus Hook. & Arn. with which it has frequently been confused, but which occurs from Oregon south to Mexico mostly at low elevations.

Among the many variations that have been described in this complex there is one which seems to be most closely related to Bromus marginatus and should be treated as follows:

Bromus marginatus Nees var. breviaristatus
(Buckl.) Beetle, comb. nov. (Based
on Bromus breviaristatus Buckl.,
Proc. Acad. Phila. 1862: 98. 1862.)

This grass, described from the "Rocky Mountains" where collected by Nuttall, differs sharply in its narrow blades and canescent to densely retrorse-pilose sheaths.

Elymus trachycaulus (Link) Gould ex Shinners var. latiglume (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron violaceum (Hornem.) Lange var.
latiglume Scribn. & Smith, U.S. Dept. Agr.,
Div. Agrost. Bul. 4:30. 1897.

Agropyron latiglume (Scribn. & Smith) Rydb.,
Torrey Bot. Club Bul. 36:539. 1909.

Agropyron caninum (L.) Beauv. var. latiglume
Pease & Moore, Rhodora 12:73. 1910.

Agropyron trachycaulum (Link) Malte var. latiglume (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, Rhodora 54:196. 1952.

This variety differs from the species in having a shorter spike, closely imbricate spikelets and pubescent lemmas. It is an arctic entity extending into the northern and central Rocky Mountains in the alpine and subalpine zones.

Elymus trachycaulus (Link) Gould ex Shinners var. majus (Vasey) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron violaceum (Hornem.) Lange var. major Vasey, U.S. Natl. Herb. Contrib. 1:280. 1893.

Agropyron trachycaulum (Link) Malte var. majus (Vasey) Fernald, Rhodora 35:171. 1933.

The spike is shorter and broader than that of the species and the spikelets, at least the upper ones, are closely imbricate.

Elymus trachycaulus (Link) Gould ex Shinners var. unilaterale (Cassidy) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron unilaterale Cassidy, Colo. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 12:63. 1890.

Agropyron trachycaulum (Link) Malte var. unilaterale Malte, Canada Natl. Mus. Ann. Rpt. 1930 (Bul. 68):46. 1932.

The lemmas of this variety have awns 17-40 mm long.

Elymus trachycaulus (Link) Gould ex Shinners var. unilaterale f. andinum (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron violaceum (Hornem.) Lange var. andinum Scribn. & Smith, U.S. Dept. Agr., Div. Agrost. Bul. 4:30. 1897.

Agropyron subsecundum (Link) Hitchc. var. andinum (Scribn. & Smith) Hitchc., Amer. Jour. Bot. 21:132. 1934.

Agropyron trachycaulum (Link) Malte var. unilaterale Malte f. andinum (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle Rhodora 54:196. 1952.

This form of var. unilaterale is found at or near tree line in the montane zone of the western states and has divergent awns and basally geniculate culms.

Elytrigia repens (L.) Desv. ex Jacks. f. aristatum
(Schum.) Beetle, comb. nov.

Triticum repens L. var. aristatum Schum., Enum.
Pl. Partibus Saellandiae Sept. & Orient. 1:38.
1801.

Agropyron repens (L.) Beauv. f. aristatum
(Schum.) Holmb., Skand. Fl. 2:274. 1926.

This is a long-awned form of E. repens, native to Eurasia and widespread in North America as a weed on moist disturbed sites.

Elytrigia riparia (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron riparium Scribn. & Smith, U.S. Dept.
Agr., Div. Agrost. Bul. 4:35. 1897.

Elytrigia riparia is similar to E. dasystachya, differing in its narrower leaves and usually glabrous lemmas, and in its more mesic habitat. It occurs through much of the northern and western parts of the distribution of the latter species.

Elytrigia smithii (Rydb.) Nevski var. molle (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron spicatum (Pursh) Scribn. & Smith var.
molle Scribn. & Smith, U.S. Dept. Agr., Div.
Agrost. Bul. 4:33. 1897.

Agropyron smithii Rydb. var. molle (Scribn. & Smith) M.E. Jones, West. Bot. Contrib. 14:18.
1912.

The variety occupies much of the same range as the species and differs in having variously pubescent lemmas.

Elytrigia vaillantianum (Wulf. & Schreb.) Beetle, comb.
nov.

Agropyron vaillantianum (Wulf. & Schreb.) ex
Besser., Enum. Pl. 41. 1822, nomen; (Wulf. &
Schreb.) Trautv., Act. Hort. Petrop. 9:329.
1884.

Triticum vaillantianum Wulfen & Schreber, ap. Schweiger et Koerte, *Florae Erlangensis* 1:143. 1811.

Elytrigia repens (L.) Desv. ex Jacks. var. vaillantianum (Wulf. & Schreb.) Prokudin, *Proc. Bot. Inst. Kharkov.* 3:189. 1938.

A more complete synonymy is given elsewhere by Beetle (1981. *Phytologia* 49:33-35). Elytrigia vaillantianum closely resembles E. repens and has been reported for Europe, North America and Argentina.

Leymus simplex (Scribn. & Williams) D.R. Dewey var. luxurians (Scribn. & Williams) Beetle, comb. nov.

Elymus simplex Scribn. & Williams var. luxurians Scribn. & Williams, U.S. Dept. Agr., Div. Agrost. Bul. 11:58. 1898.

This is an awned variety apparently only known from sandy areas in Sweetwater County, Wyoming.

The following taxa have been relegated to the genus Elytrigia Desv. by Dewey (1983. New nomenclatural combinations in the North American perennial Triticeae (Gramineae)). While closely related to Elytrigia, these taxa separate well from the North American members of that genus in being caespitose or weakly rhizomatous and generally possessing long divergent awns. It seems proper on the basis of morphology to place these entities in the genus Roegneria C. Koch (type: R. caucasica C. Koch).

Roegneria albicans (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron albicans Scribn. & Smith, U.S. Dept. Agr., Div. Agrost. Bul. 4:32. 1897.

This species is found on dry shrub and grasslands on the plains, foothills and lower mountains of the northern and central Rocky Mountain states and into Canada.

Roegneria albicans var. griffithsii (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, comb. nov.

Agropyron griffithsi Scribn. & Smith ex Piper, *Biol. Soc. Wash. Proc.* 18:148. 1905.

Agropyron albicans Scribn. & Smith var. griffithsii (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, *Rhodora* 54: 196. 1952.

The variety differs from the species in having broader blades and glabrous lemmas. The distribution and habitat are similar to those of the species.

Roegneria spicata (Pursh) Beetle, comb. nov.

Festuca spicata Pursh, Fl. Amer. Sept. 1:83.
1814.

Agropyron spicatum (Pursh) Scribn. & Smith, U.S.
Dept. Agr., Div. Agrost. Bul. 4:33. 1897.

Roegneria spicata is found in dry situations from basins to the montane zone in the western United States and Canada, and into Alaska.

Roegneria spicata f. inerme (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle,
comb. nov.

Agropyron divergens Vasey var. inerme Scribn. &
Smith, U.S. Dept. Agr., Div. Agrost. Bul. 4:27.
1897.

Agropyron spicatum inerme Heller, N. Amer. Pl.
Cat. ed. 2. 3. 1900.

Agropyron inerme (Scribn. & Smith) Rydb., Torrey Bot. Club Bul. 36:539. 1909.

Agropyron spicatum (Pursh) Scribn. & Smith f.
inerme (Scribn. & Smith) Beetle, Leaflet. W. Bot.
6:162. 1951.

The form is awnless. It occupies habitats similar to those of the species and the two are often found together. The distribution is less extensive, apparently not ranging as far north or south.



Beetle, Alan A. 1984. "Nomenclatural changes involving Wyoming grasses." *Phytologia* 55, 209–213.

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