

NOTES ON CULTIVATED PLANTS

BY

B. K. BOOM

(Wageningen)

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**Setcreasea purpurea** sp. nov. (*Commelinaceae*).

*S. brevifoliae* (Torr.) Schum. & Sydov affinis, caulibus, foliis bracteisque pulchre purpureoviolaceis, calyce glabra, corolla rosea, filamentis subglabris differt.

Planta perennis, ad 40 cm alta. Caulis suberectus vel ascendens, purpureoviolaceus, lineis viridibus notatus. Folia sessilia, oblonga, acuta, basi amplexicaulia, margine longe ciliata, supra glabra vel pilis  $\pm$  arachnoideis albis obsita, obscure purpureoviolacea, pruinosa, basi virentia, subtus glabra, purpurea, basalia rosulata, 14–18 cm longa, 2–2,7 cm lata, caulinea minora. Vagina 1–2,5 cm longa, ciliata. Inflorescentia pauciflora, sessilis, bracteis involucrentibus 2, acuminatis, sessilibus, bracteolis triangularibus, membranaceis. Pedicelli  $\pm$  4 mm longi, glabri, apice longe albopilosi. Sepala 8–10 mm longa, oblonga, glabra. Petala 15–20 mm longa, pallide purpurea, basi cuneata,  $\pm$  connata. Filamenta  $\pm$  aequilonga, basi corollae adnata, purpurea, exteriora glabra vel pilis 1–2, interiora pilis 3–8 obsita, antheris aureis. Ovarium glabrum. Capsula?

Habitat: Mexico.

I found this fine plant in the botanical gardens at Darmstadt (Germany) without a name. The curator of this garden, Mr. F. Boerner, informed me that Mr. C. A. Purpus, who travelled in the beginning of this century in Central and North America, introduced this species together with a lot of Orchids. He sent many plants to his brother, the curator of the botanical gardens at Darmstadt.

The genus *Setcreasea* is indigenous to Mexico and adjacent countries. *S. purpurea* comes near to *S. brevifolia* (Torr.) Schum. & Sydov, the latter being distinguished by shorter and green leaves, the white corolla and pilose stamens. From *S. buckleyi* Johnst. (*Tradescantia speciosa* Buckley non L.) our plant differs in the more robust habit, the purple colour of the vegetative parts and the nearly glabrous filaments.

The colour of the leaves varies and depends with cultivated plants on the conditions in the glasshouse. Well cultivated the colour underneath the leaves comes the nearest to H. C. C. 934/3 (Plum-purple),

the colour of the top is not determinable with this chart. The colour of the petals is H. C. C. 634/1 (Cobalt-violet).

The type is in the Rijksherbarium, Leiden, coll. *Boom no. 28046*. This plant seems to be most suitable for baskets and is very easy to cultivate.

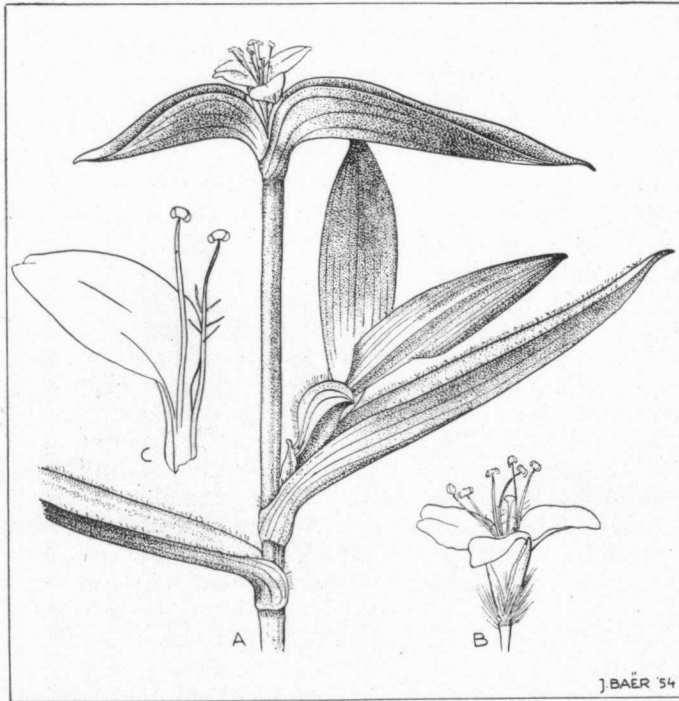


Fig. 1. *SETCREASEA PURPUREA* sp. nov.

***Calathea makoyana*** Morr. in Belg. Hort., **23**, t. 24, 25, 1872 (*Marantaceae*).

*Maranta makoyana* Morr., l.c. pro syn.

*Maranta olivaris* Hort. Veitch ex Gardn. Chron., **1872**, 1589, f. 339.

This plant was discovered by E. WITTIG, nurseryman at Rio de Janeiro and introduced into cultivation by Jacob-Makoy at Liege in 1871. As far as I know the flowers have never been described and the taxonomic position is still uncertain. MORREN's opinion was that the plant should be related to *C. lindeniana* or *C. veitchiana*. In October 1954 the plant flowered in our glasshouse and I am now able to give the diagnosis of the flowering plant.

*C. makoyana* belongs to the subgenus *Microcephalum* Benth., the inflorescence being small and containing not more than 5 bracts. The

scape bears one leaf, which corresponds to the other species of the subgenus. The diagnosis of this species has to be completed as follows: Acaulis. Spica ad 4 cm longa, pedunculo ad 10 cm longo, villosulo, apice  $\pm$  incrassato, basi folio comitata. Bractea 3-5, spiraliter dispositae, ovatae, villosulae, albomarginatae, inferiores apice cuspidatae,  $\pm$  recurvatae, superiores apice acutae vel acuminatae. Paria florum 2, bracteolis hyalinis, mesophyllis setaceis comitata. Sepala lineari-lanceolata, 11-13 mm longa. Corollae albae tubus 15 mm longus, lobi lineari-lanceolati, 10 mm longi. Staminodium exterius 8-10 mm longus. Cucullatum 7 mm longum. Capsula?

**Calathea lancifolia** nom. nov. (*Marantaceae*).

*C. insignis* Bull, Cat., 1905, 2, non Petersen, 1890

*Maranta insignis* Ward in Gardn. Chron., 1906, 1, 133.

This beautiful plant is still in cultivation; the flowers are unknown and the taxonomic position is therefore uncertain.

**Crassula mesembryanthemoides** (Haw.) D. Dietr., Syn. Pl., 2, 1031, 1840 non Schönl. & Bak. f. (1902) (*Crassulaceae*).

*Globulea mesembryanthemoides* Haw. in Phil. Mag., 64, 189, 1824 ("mesembryanthoides").

*Sphaeritis paucifolia* E. & Z., Enum., no. 1914, 1835.

*Sphaeritis trachysantha* E. & Z., l.c., no. 1915.

*Crassula trachysantha* (E. & Z.) Harv. in Harv. & Sond., Fl. cap., 2, 362, 1862 et Hort.

There is no doubt that this plant, which is common in cultivation must bear this name, because D. Dietr. refers to the name of Haworth whose description of *Globulea mesembryanthoides* is clear.

**Crassula corpusculariopsis** nom. nov. (*Crassulaceae*).

*Crassula mesembryanthemoides* Schönl. & Bak. f. in Journ. of Bot., 40, 284, 1902; Schönl. in Transact. Roy. Soc. S. Afr., 27, 256, 1928 (1929) ("mesembryanthoides") non *C. mesembryanthemoides* D. Dietr. (1840) nec Dinter & Berger (1914).

**Crassula dasyphylla** Harv. in Harv. & Sond., Fl. cap., 2, 355, 1862 (*Crassulaceae*).

*Crassula simiana* Schönl. in Journ. Linn. Soc. (Bot.), 31, 552, 1897.

*Crassula corallina* Hort. non Thbg.

This plant which is rather common in cultivation by amateurs, is always treated as identical with *C. corallina* Thbg. But in the diagnosis of THUNBERG it is stated that the roots should be fusiform and our plants are entirely destituted of such roots, these being thin and filiform. In herbaria I found specimens with and without fusiform roots representing the two species with well defined areals and in cultivation both are present though the last one is very rare.

*C. dasyphylla*: roots filiform; branches creeping and rooting at the nodes; leaves for 1/3 white (top) with rather large green points; petals expanded, later often reflexed, yellowish; East S. Africa.

Examined specimens: *Drège 6885* (type); Kew Gardens, 1901: *N. E. Brown* (plant sent by *MacOwan* from Matjesfontein); Wilgenbosfontein, 1909: *W. C. Worsdell*; Cradock division, 1932: *H. W. James 153*; Hanover, 1916: *F. A. Rogers 16374*; Mortiner: *L. Kensit 9314*.

*C. corallina*: roots fusiform, woody; branches procumbent, not rooting at the nodes; leaves for 2/3 white, with small brown, later green points; petals erect, white; Western S. Africa.

Examined specimen: Aus, 1929: *Dinter 6106*.

***Crassula radicans*** (Haw.) D. Dietr., Syn. pl., 2, 1031, 1840 (*Crassulaceae*).

*Globulea radicans* Haw. in Phil. Mag., 66, 27, 1825.

SCHÖNLAND in Transact. Roy. Soc. S. Afr., 27, 271, 1928 (1929) says, that the original diagnosis of HAWORTH does not cover the plant, which is generally known under this name. But SCHÖNLAND is in error; he cited the diagnosis of *Kleinia radicans* (Phil. Mag. Nov. 1823) in stead of *Crassula radicans* (Phil. Mag. 1825).

***Cordyline australis*** (Forst.) Endl., Prodr. Fl. ins. Norf., 29, 1833, quoad basonym; Hook. f. in Gardn. Chron., 1860, 702; in Bot. Mag. t. 5636, 1867 (not t. 2835) (*Liliaceae*).

*Dracaena australis* Forst., Prodr., 141, 1786.

*Dracaenopsis australis* (Forst.) Planch. in Fl. d. Serr., 6, 132, 1850–1.

*Cordyline indivisa* Reg. in Gartenfl., 1859, 331 non Kunth (1850).

*Cordyline superbiens* K. Koch in Wochenschrift, 1859, 380.

*Dracaenopsis calocoma* H. Wendl. in Bot. Zeit., 17, 277, 1859.

*Cordyline calocoma* Hort. ex Bak. in Journ. Linn. Soc. (Bot.), 14, 542, 1875.

***Cordyline obtecta*** (Grah.) Bak., l.c., 543 (*Liliaceae*).

*Cordyline australis* Endl., l.c., quoad descr., tab., syn., excl. basonym.

*Dracaena australis* Hook. in Bot. Mag., t. 2835, 1828, not Forst. (1786).

*Cordyline baueri* Hook. f. in Gardn. Chron., 1860, 762.

There is concerning these species still confusion in botanical gardens. As HOOKER f. l.c. pointed out ENDLICHER described a plant collected by BAUR on the Norfolk islands under the wrong name *Dracaena australis* Forst. this being a different species. The numerous garden varieties belong to *C. australis*, but in literature we find always Hook. f. as author. *C. obtecta* is rather common in botanical gardens and we find this plant under all the names mentioned above.

*C. australis* Endl. is indigenous to Australia and was introduced into cultivation in 1836 from New Zealand to Göttingen (Germany). This species has long and narrow leaves with 30–40 veins on each side; the top of the leaves is rather long-acuminate and the lower are strongly reflexed. The tepals are expanded and ± campanulate at the base; the inner tepals are minutely serrulate (under strong lens). One of the 3 bracteoles of each flower fascicle is larger and more acuminate; the 2 others are smaller and obtuse.

*C. obtecta* Bak. is indigenous to the Norfolk islands and was introduced in 1820 from the botanical gardens at Sydney to those of Edinburgh. This species had broader leaves with 20–25 veins on each side; the top of the leaves is acuminate, the lower leaves are spreading or a little reflexed. The tepals are more inclined, the apices more reflexed and the inner ones entire. The 3 bracteoles of each flower are  $\pm$  equal in length.

***Dracocephalum atlanticum*** nom. nov. (*Labiatae*).

*Dracocephalum mairei* Emberger in Bull. Soc. hist. nat. Afr. Nord, 21, 112, 1930 non Lév. (1914).

This nice, white-flowering plant is not uncommon in botanical gardens and figures in the various seed lists always as *D. mairei*.