

## A NOTE ON ALLIUM PHANERANTHERUM

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ABSTRACT. *Allium davisianum* Feinbr. is reduced to a synonym of the widespread SW Asiatic *A. phaneranthrum* Boiss. & Hausskn.

In a previous paper, I dealt with the species known as '*Allium descendens*' (Kollmann, 1971). In it, I recognised *A. davisianum* Feinbr. as an independent species occurring in Israel. However, after examination of the type specimen of *A. phaneranthrum* and other herbarium material from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Iran, I reached the conclusion that *A. davisianum* is conspecific with it. Boissier & Haussknecht described *A. phaneranthrum* from the north of Syria and also cited material from the Lebanon. Comparison of our material of *A. davisianum* with that of *A. phaneranthrum* showed that there were no differences between them in bulb, leaf or flower. *A. phaneranthrum* was described as having greenish-yellowish tepals, sometimes red on the tips. Populations of this species, however, were found to be very polymorphic in flower colour (Kollmann, 1971), varying in different plants from purple to green or greenish with the upper part purple. *A. phaneranthrum* has a fairly wide distribution including Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Israel.

*Allium phaneranthrum* Boiss. & Hausskn. in Boiss., Fl. Orient. 5:235 (1882).  
Syn.: *A. davisianum* Feinbr. in Palest. Journ. Bot., Jerusalem ser., 3:1-21  
(1943) emend. Kollmann in Notes R. B. G. Edinb. 31:121 (1971).  
*A. descendens* auct.; Feinbrun, l.c. (1943) non L.

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