A NEW SPECIES OF REICHARDIA

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ABSTRACT. *Reichardia glauca* Matthews (Compositae) is described for the SW Asiatic species that has for long been incorrectly known as *Reichardia dichotoma* auct.

The new species described below is a distinctive SW Asian Composite that has long been incorrectly known as *Reichardia dichotoma* (Vahl) Freyn or *Picridium dichotomum* (Vahl) Fisch. & Mey. Both these names are based on *Scorzonera dichotoma* Vahl (1791). Vahl collected *S. dichotoma* near Tunis, which is far outside the range of *Reichardia glauca* Matthews, and by citing *Lactuca flava* Forssk. (Fl. Aeg.-Arab. 143, 1775) in synonymy he rendered the name *S. dichotoma* superfluous and illegitimate. As indicated in Index Kewensis, *Lactuca flava* (and *S. dichotoma* technically based on the same type) is almost certainly synonymous with *Launaea nudicaulis* (L.) Hook. fil.—a Saharo-Sindian species extending from India to Arabia and NW Africa. A new name therefore has to be found for the undescribed *Reichardia*.

Reichardia glauca Matthews, **sp. nov.** Fig. 1.

Syn.: *Scorzonera dichotoma* auct. non Vahl, Symb. Bot. 2:89 (1791).
Sonchus dichotomus (Vahl) Willd., Sp. Pl. 3, 3:1517 (1803) sensu Willd. non Vahl.
Picridium dichotomum (Vahl) Fisch. & Mey. in DC., Prodr. 7:183 (1838) sensu Fisch. & Mey. non Vahl.
Reichardia dichotoma (Vahl) Freyn in Öst. Bot. Zeitschr. 42:267 (1892) sensu Freyn non Vahl et var. *porphyrochrysa* Freyn & Sint., loc. cit. (1892).

Herba perennis, glauca, glabra. *Caules* erecti, (10–)30–80 cm alti, stricte ramosi. *Folia basalia* 6–16 cm longa, oblongo-spathulata plerumque ad $\frac{1}{2}$–$\frac{2}{3}$ pinnatilobata; folia caulina sparsa, ovato-oblonga vel lanceolata, breviter lobata vel dentata, amplexicaulia et auriculata; omnia marginibus crispis sinuato-dentatis spinuloso-denticulatis provisa. *Pedunculi* infra capitulum ± incrassati. *Capitula* multiflora, 2–3·5 cm lata (floribus inclusis). *Involucrum* cylindrico-campanulatum, 12–15 mm longum; phyllaria imbricata, 3–4-seriata, in bracteas pedunculorum transientia, exteriora patentia triangularia vel anguste ovata, auriculata, mediana et interiora adpresse lanceolata, saepe purpurascentia; ambitu anguste (0·25–0·5 mm) scarioso-marginata. *Flores* aurei. *Achenia* columnari-tetragona, 4–5 × 0·5–0·7 mm, 4-costata, 4-sulcata, costis tuberculatis; achenia interiora pallidiora et magis laevigata. *Setae pappi* 11–12 mm longi, capillaceae, albae, pluriseriatae, ad basim in annulum deciduum connatae. *Floret* Jun.–Aug. (–Sept.). Steppe, rocky and eroded slopes, 150–1700 m.

Turkey A4 Zonguldak: Karabük to Keltepe, 850 m, bare banks, perennial, flowers yellow, 3 viii 1962, *Davis & Coode, D.* 38841 (holo. E).

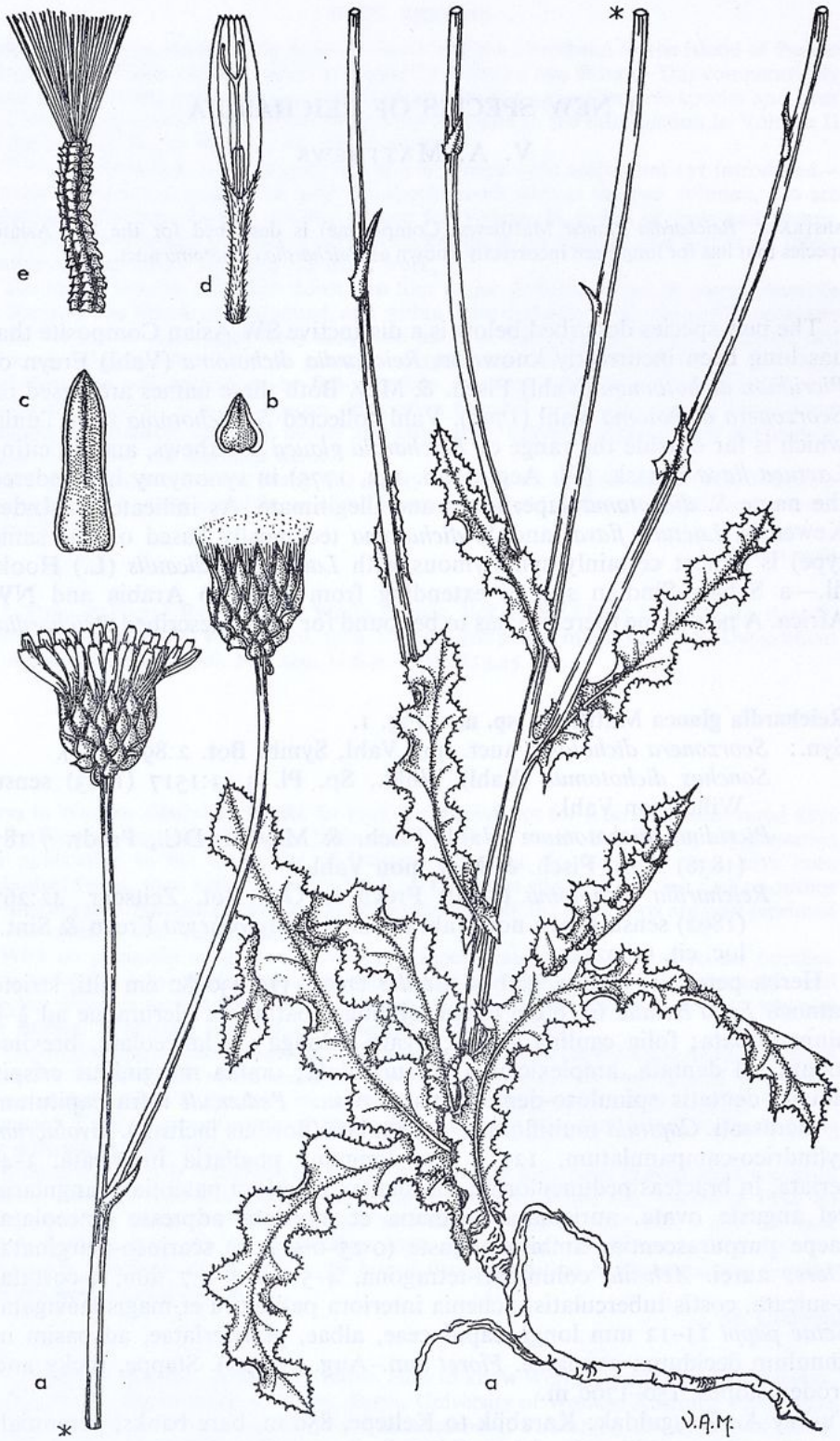

FIG. 1. *Reichardia glauca* Matthews: a, habit × ⅔; b, outer phyllary × 2; c, inner phyllary × 2; d, corolla × 2; e, achene and base of pappus x 4.

In Turkey this Irano-Turanian species is mainly found in NE, Inner and more rarely S, Anatolia; it also grows in Lebanon, Syria, Transcaucasia and perhaps NW Iran. The description covers all the material seen at Edinburgh (E).

I am grateful to R. D. Meikle of Kew for pointing out to P. H. Davis that the name *Scorzonera dichotoma* Vahl is illegitimate. When Vahl gave *Lactuca flava* Forssk. in synonymy, he obscured the issue by wrongly citing that binomial in a polynomial form.

BOOK REVIEW

Flora of Iraq. Six years have elapsed since the last part of the *Flora of Iraq* made its appearance. It is therefore particularly pleasing to welcome the publication of a further volume*—the fourth of a projected nine. It is entirely devoted to the Leguminales comprising the Caesalpiniaceae, Mimosaceae and Papilionaceae. The largest family by far is the last-named. It is also a most important family economically and contains some of the wild progenitors of several almost world-wide basic food plants—both for man and his animals.

In all, about 300 wild species of the Leguminales are dealt with. Quite the largest genus is *Astragalus* and its detailed taxonomic account occupies about a third of the volume. Mr C. C. Townsend has adopted a fairly conservative attitude in his taxonomy, even in the super-genus *Astragalus* only eleven species carry his name as author, and he has clearly not conflicted with the previously published accounts in the Floras of adjacent countries unless there was good reason to do so. *Astragalus*, with up to 1500 species in SW Asia, has now been dealt with in *Flora of Turkey* (372 species), *Flora Palaestina* (50 species), *Nouvelle Flore du Liban et de la Syrie* (126 species) and in this Flora (116 species). We now wait for the publication of the genus in *Flora Iranica*—the area of its greatest specific representation and morphological variation—and the account in *Flora of West Pakistan*, where there are an estimated 106 species. It is to be hoped that at a later date some courageous astragalophile, a latter-day Bunge, will undertake a general classification of the whole genus, utilising as its nucleus, as far as SW Asia is concerned, the vast quantity of information in these Floras. *Astragalus*, in fact provides an example of how, in a very large genus, the only realistic way of preparing a monographic revision is by synthesizing information from Floras.

One of the problems facing a writer of any Flora is that of cultivated or naturalized species. Should they be included, and if so, how? Some Floras bar them altogether, others include them all, yet others, such as the *Flora of Turkey*, compromise by only covering

* Flora of Iraq, vol. 3. Leguminales by C. C. Townsend; edited by C. C. Townsend & Evan Guest. Baghdad Ministry of Agriculture & Agrarian Reform 1974. vii, 662 pp. 111 plates. Obtainable from Robert MacLehose & Co. Ltd. University Press, Glasgow G13 1HX, Scotland. £3.75.