

FURTHER NOTES ON CAMPYLANTHUS

A. G. MILLER

ABSTRACT. *Chamaeacanthus pumilus* Chiov. from Somalia belonging to the monotypic Acanthaceous genus *Chamaeacanthus* Chiov. is shown to be identical to *Campylanthus spinosus* of Scrophulariaceae and reduced to synonymy. A new variety of *Campylanthus incanus* A. G. Miller, var. *anisotricha* A. G. Miller, is described from Somalia.

Since the publication of the revision of *Campylanthus* (Miller in *Notes RBG Edinb.* 38: 373-385, 1980) two sheets have been received on loan from Nairobi (EA) determined as *Campylanthus* sp. by Verdcourt in 1960. These represent the fourth and fifth gatherings of *C. incanus* A. G. Miller (op. cit. p. 376). They differ from the other gatherings in facies and hair type and I have therefore considered them to be a new variety. Initially these sheets had both been determined as *Chamaeacanthus* sp., a monotypic genus described by Chiovenda and placed by him in the Acanthaceae. On investigation, the description and photograph of *Chamaeacanthus pumilus* in *Flora Somalia* (266-268, 1929) seemed very similar to *Campylanthus spinosus* — a species not recorded from Somalia when *Chamaeacanthus* was described: the only apparent difference between *Chamaeacanthus* and *Campylanthus* being in the ovary which Chiovenda described in the latter as bilocular and uniovular, as opposed to bilocular and multiovular in *Campylanthus*. The type received on loan from Florence (FI) confirmed that *Chamaeacanthus pumilus* is indeed the same as *Campylanthus spinosus*. There are few flowers on the sheet and the ovaries are very immature, hence Chiovenda probably had difficulty in seeing the ovary structure. Though anomalous in Scrophulariaceae, *Campylanthus* with its opposite leaves, non-elastically dehiscent fruits, lack of hardened funicles, and winged seeds without endosperm, is certainly better placed in the Scrophulariaceae than the Acanthaceae.

Outside Socotra *Campylanthus spinosus* was previously known only from one gathering in Somalia; three further records are cited below.

Campylanthus spinosus Balf. f. in *Proc. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* 12: 84 (1884).

Syn.: *Chamaeacanthus pumilus* Chiov., *Flora Somalia* 266-268 (1929).

SOMALIA. Costa dei Migiurtini, Hafûn, 23 v 1924, N. Puccioni & J. Stefanini 616 (FI, type of *Chamaeacanthus pumilus*); [Northern Somalia], 3 x 1941, E. F. Peck s.n. (K); 95km E of Sinuuf, 40km NW of Eil Airstrip, 1 i 1973, Bally & Melville 15467 (K).

C. incanus A. G. Miller var. *anisotricha* A. G. Miller, var. nov. A var. *incanus* pilis bifurcatis in extremis (non in medio) affixis, apicibus ramorum \pm glabris et facie minus foliata differt.

Differs from var. *incanus* in the bifurcate hairs which are attached near the end, not the middle, in the \pm glabrous tips to the branches and in the less leafy facies.

SOMALIA. Maledere, Gowambohale, intricate, much-branched bush to 30cm, purple flowered, 24 i 1945, *Glover & Gilliland* 616 (holotype EA, iso. K); Anberoh nr Karin nr Berbera, 100m, open stony limestone plateau, spiny, woody-based herb to 30cm, 2 v 1945, *Glover & Gilliland* 1180 (EA).

Var. *anisotricha* and the type variety differ chiefly in hair type: both have bifurcate hairs which are attached laterally by a short stalk but in var. *incanus* the hairs are \pm medifixed, having arms of equal length, whereas in var. *anisotricha* the arms are very unequal, the longer arm pointing downwards, the hairs thus appearing parallel and retrorse. This affects the key to the species in Miller (op. cit. p. 374); the first lead should now read: 'Plants with parallel, bifurcate hairs' instead of 'Plants with parallel, medifixed hairs.'