
Brand's treatment of this variety—distinguished from the typical form only by the tendency of the leaves to be parted pedately several times—is certainly justifiable. But in accordance with the view as expressed in Bot. Gaz. lxi. 34 (1916) and Contrib. Gray Herb. xli. 54 (1917) that the genus Collomia cannot be maintained distinct from Gilia the above new combination becomes necessary. There is another member of this group of plants to which my attention has been called by a specimen secured by John Murdoch, Jr. (his no. 2667) in the Sierra National Forest of Madera County, California, which, in accordance with my interpretation of the genus Gilia must be known as

Gilia Rawsoniana (Greene), comb. nov. Collomia Rawsoniana Greene, Pitt. i. 221 (1888).


To my mind Gray's definition of the genus Loeselia, Syn. Fl. ii. pt. 1. Suppl. 412 (1886), is preferable to Brand's, Pflanzenreich, iv. Fam. 250. 172 (1907). So constituted it is a homogeneous group in aspect as well as in character. The inclusion in Gilia of the above species (and its three allies, G. Havardi, G. tenuifolia and G. guttata) disturbs in no fundamental way the definition of Gilia since these plants are aberrant only because of the more or less bilabiate corolla. Their inclusion in Loeselia, on the other hand, destroys the now perfect homogeneity of that group, since, in all respects save for the bilabiate corollas, they are good Gilias.


This species entirely replaces in western South America the closely related G. linearis (Nutt.) Gray of western North America.

Cryptantha echinosepala, spec. nov., mediocriter robusta 1–2 dm. alta plus minusve cum pilis patentibus hispida stricta vel
Contributions from the Gray Herbarium

plerumque a basi ipsa laxe ramosa; foliis cauliniis inferioribus oblongis vel oblanceolatis circa 2 cm. longis 2-3 mm. latis apice subobtusis basi plus minusve attenuatig utrinque subadpressae papilloso-hispidis, superioribus similibus sed brevioribus; cymis saepius 2-3-radiatis, spicis post anthesin laxifloris; calycis fructiferi lacinii lineari-lanceolatis, tribus circa 3 mm. longis solum mediocrer setoso-hispidis, duabus circa 4 mm. longis et densi setoso-hispidis, pilis fulvescentibus; nuculis (3-4) subtrigonis circa 1 mm. longis minute muriculatis saepius uno longiore, sulco ventrali albido fere ad apicem dilatato. — LOWER CALIFORNIA: Magdalena Island, March, 1917, Orcutt, no. 15 (TYPE, Gray Herb.).

When studying the Palmer specimens in 1915 I referred them very doubtfully to C. angustifolia (Torr.) Greene but because of the immaturity of the specimen from La Paz and because the Santa Agueda plants were found in "an old garden" I hesitated to base a new species on this material. With Mr. Orcutt’s excellent specimen before me, however, it is obvious that the plant is quite distinct from C. angustifolia to which species it bears nearest relation, as is shown by the heteromorphous asperulous nutlets. The diagnostic character of C. echinosepala is found in the calyx; two of the sepals are inordinately bristly, much more so and longer than the only slightly bristly other three. It may be noticed that the open ventral groove of the nutlets is not abruptly dilated at the base as in C. angustifolia.

Cryptantha quentinensis, spec. nov., undique adpressa strigillosa mediocrer a basiipsa diffuse ramosa circa 1.5 dm. alta; ramis gracilibus foliosissimis; foliis cauliniis linearibus sursum gradatim reductis inferioribus circa 2 cm. longis vix 0.5 mm. latis; spicis plerumque terminalibus, fructiferis mediocrer laxifloris; calycis fructiferi lacinii linearibus circa 3 mm. longis adpressae villoso-hispidis, pilis nonnullis longioribus firmiusculis subadpressis intermixtis; corollae limbo circa 5 mm. lato; nuculis (4) vix 2 mm. longis acutis subnitidulis plus minusve obscure muriculatis, angulis lateralis rotundatis, sulco ventrali tenui basi divaricato-furcato plerumque clauso. — LOWER CALIFORNIA: San Quentin, 1889, Palmer, no. 695 (TYPE, Gray Herb.).

This species belongs to the group typified by C. oxygona (Gray) Greene and indeed is seemingly most nearly related to that plant of southern California. It may be distinguished at once, however, by the very rounded angles of the nutlets. The nutlets of C. oxygona are acutely margined. As pointed out in Contrib. Gray Herb.
C. oxygona has apparently a very restricted range and C. quentinensis may likewise be local in its distribution.

Cryptantha barbigera (Gray) Greene, var. Fergusonae, var. nov., corollae limbo 5–6 mm. lato; nuculis formae typicae similibus sed sulco fere ad apicem dilatato. — California: Palm Springs, April 1, 1917, Margaret C. Ferguson, no. 42 (Type, Gray Herb.; co-type, Wellesley College Herb.).

The specimens of this species secured by Dr. Ferguson of the department of botany of Wellesley have been the means of calling to my attention the existence of two well marked forms. The typical form has small narrow inconspicuous flowers and the groove of the nutlets is dilated but a short distance above the base. The specimens secured by Parry & Palmer cited in the Syn. Fl. ii. pt. 1. 194 (1878), belong here although the expression “limb of the corolla sometimes 3 lines in diameter” in the description of Eritrichium barbigerum indicates that Dr. Gray saw material of the large-flowered form proposed above as a variety. Besides the much larger flowers the groove of the nutlets is dilated much higher up.

C. intermedia (Gray) Greene exhibits the same sort of variation. In the vicinity of Los Angeles I have seen large- and small-flowered plants growing together that were otherwise indistinguishable. Since the first material sent to Dr. Gray by Nevin, upon whose specimens the species was largely based, consisted of the inconspicuously flowered state it may be regarded as the typical form. Recently Mr. I. M. Johnston of Upland, California, has kindly furnished me with a large series of specimens of both forms and I take pleasure in connecting his name with this Cryptantha which is more common in many places than true C. intermedia itself. An analagous variation occurs also for C. Torreyana (Gray) Greene, which has been designated var. grandiflora (Ryd.) Nels. & Macbr.

C. intermedia (Gray) Greene, var. Johnstonii, var. nov., corollae limbo 5–6 mm. lato. — California: dry rocky ground, Claremont, Los Angeles Co., May 15, 1918, I. M. Johnston, 1938 (Type, Gray Herb.).


Heller, when proposing his species, l. c. 34, wrote that it “seems to be closely related to the common eastern P. Canadensis.” But
I. Further new or otherwise interesting Liliaceae 1
II. A Revision of Mirabilis, Subgenus Hesperonia 20
III. A Revision of Mentzelia, Section Trachyphytum 24
IV. Certain North American Umbelliferae 28
V. Reclassified or new Compositae, chiefly North American Helenieae 36
VI. Various American Spermatophytes, new or transferred 50

By J. Francis Macbride

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