Neotypification of the name Lapiedra martinezii Lag. (Amaryllidaceae)

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Abstract

In absence of original material, a neotype is designated for the name Lapiedra martinezii Lag. (Amaryllidaceae). The neotype is a specimen from SE Spain kept in the herbarium of the Royal Botanic Garden of Madrid (MA).

Key-words
AMARYLLIDACEAE – Lapiedra – Typification
Introduction

Lapiedra Lag. is a monotypic genus of Amaryllidaceae described by Lagasca (1816), comprising the western Mediterranean endemic species L. martinezii Lag. It has a wide disjunct area in S-SE Spain (ranging from the coast of Castellón to Málaga and including also some inland provinces, including Córdoba and Albacete) and an area in N Morocco, where it ranges from the coastal provinces between W Rif Mountains to the Gareb area and in Kert Ganc. This species grows in stony shrubby areas and in the fissures of calcareous rocks. Flowers usually bloom after early autumn rains, during September, and leaves fully develop after anthesis (Maire, 1959; Jury, 2002; Aedo, in press).

Three species were described and formerly included in this genus. Lapiedra chilensis Phil., distributed in South America, which was selected as the type species for the genus Traubia Moldenke by Moldenke (1963). It was later adscribed by Ravenna (1974) to T. modesta (Phil.) Ravenna. From S-SE Spain and NW Africa were also described Lapiedra gracilis Baker, currently synonymized to Narcissus cavanillesii Barra & G. López, and L. placiana Herb., lately identified as a heterotypical synonym of Lagasca’s name (Baker, 1888; Müller Doblies & Müller Doblies, 1978; Aedo, in press).

The main characters differentiating Lapiedra from the other genera of Amaryllidaceae are the leaves with a white line on the abaxial surface, the tepals slightly fused in the base, lanceolate, patents to erect-patents, white, with a green line with 3-4 nerves on the dorsal surface and anthers basifixed (Baker, 1888; Müller Doblies & Müller Doblies, 1978; Aedo, in press).

While addressing the generic treatment of Lapiedra for Flora Iberica, we realized that there was no type designated for the name L. martinezii. The purpose of this paper is to contribute to the stability of nomenclature by the neotypification of L. martinezii.

Neotype of Lapiedra martinezii Lag.

In the protologue by Lagasca (1816), two original locations were mentioned. The first is: “Hab. ad saxorum rimas subhumidas, in monte Arcis Saguntinae, prope Sanctuarium de la Fuen Santa juxta Algezares oppidum in Murciae Regno...” probably collected by Lagasca. Unfortunately, part of his personal herbarium was destroyed during his travel from Madrid to Gibraltar, thus some type specimens were lost (Stafleu & Cowan, 1979). The second reference is “... atque non procul a Malacensi urbe legit acerrimus Naturae scrutator D. Felix Haenseler... Collituir in R.M.H”. Haenseler was a pharmaceutical and naturalist, originally from Switzerland but brought up in Málaga, where he collected many specimens.

Lagasca and Haenseler also exchanged vouchers throughout Europe, and thus we can find specimens of their personal collections included in herbaria such as those of Boissier, Willkomm, Webb, Agardh, Swartz or Smith (C, COI, FI, G, S). For instance, Hemionitis pozoi Lag. was typified from a voucher kept in Swartz’s Herbarium in Stockholm (Morton, 1959). Thus, we decided to ask for possible type material included in those major herbaria. We also checked three local Andalusian herbaria where historic collections by Lagasca and Haenseler could be kept (Salgueiro, 1998): GDA, MGC and SEV. All keepers kindly responded to our letters, but, unfortunately, no specimens of Lapiedra martinezii neither from Lagasca or Haenseler have been found.

In the absence of original material the following specimen is proposed as the neotype of L. martinezii, since it was collected very close to the locality mentioned by Lagasca. It also bears many diagnostic characters of this species, usually absent in most of herbarium specimens.


Neotypus (here designated): Spain. Murcia: Cabo Tiñoso, Cala Cerrada, 37°32′31″N 1°9′35″W, 15 m, 9.X.2005, Aedo. C. 12305 (MA-731958) (Fig. 1).

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References


Fig. 1. – Neotype of Lapiedra martinezii Lag. [lower specimen, with the arrow].
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