

(2662) Proposal to reject the name *Hypochaeris urens* (Asteraceae)

Francesco Roma-Marzio,¹ Fabrizio Bartolucci,² Gianniantonio Domina,³ Lorenzo Peruzzi⁴ & Gabriele Galasso⁵

¹ *Sistema Museale di Ateneo dell'Università di Pisa, Orto e Museo Botanico, Via Luca Ghini 13, 56126 Pisa, Italy*

² *Centro Ricerche Floristiche dell'Appennino, Università di Camerino – Parco Nazionale del Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga, L'Aquila, Italy*

³ *Department of Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, University of Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, bldg. 4, 90128 Palermo, Italy*

⁴ *Department of Biology, University of Pisa, Via Derna 1, 56126 Pisa, Italy*

⁵ *Sezione di Botanica, Museo di Storia Naturale di Milano, Corso Venezia 55, 20121 Milano, Italy*

Author for correspondence: *Francesco Roma-Marzio, francesco.romamarzio@unipi.it*

DOI <https://doi.org/10.12705/676.31>

(2662) *Hypochaeris urens* L., Sp. Pl.: 810. 1 Mai 1753 [Angiosp.: *Comp.*], nom. utique rej. prop. Neotypus (vide Turland in Taxon 47: 363. 1998): [Italy, Sicily], “Palermo, S. Martino”, *Todaro 1257* (BM!).

Hypochaeris cretensis (L.) Bory & Chaub. (in Bory & al., Exp. Sci. Morée, Bot.: 237. 1832), based on *Seriola cretensis* L. (Sp. Pl., ed. 2: 1139. 1763), is the commonly accepted name for a species endemic to the central Mediterranean (Greuter in Euro+Med PlantBase. 2006–, <http://ww2.bgbm.org/EuroPlusMed/>).

Jarvis & Turland (in Taxon 47: 363. 1998) considered the name *Hypochaeris urens* L. to be a heterotypic synonym of *H. cretensis*. The latter name was wrongly treated as having priority over *H. urens*, but this is clearly not the case according to Art. 11.4 of the ICN (Turland & al. in Regnum Veg. 159. 2018), as the basionym of *H. cretensis* was not published until 1763. Linnaeus, himself, maintained the two species but transferred *H. urens* to *Seriola* as *S. urens* (L.) L. (l.c. 1763).

Within the researches promoted by the Group for Floristics, Systematics, and Evolution of the Italian Botanical Society, aimed at recognizing all the taxa described from Italy and their *loci classici* (Domina & al. in Taxon 61: 1351–1353. 2012; Peruzzi & al. in Phytotaxa

196: 1–217. 2015), we noticed this nomenclatural problem that surprisingly nobody had previously highlighted since the typification of the two names (Jarvis & Turland, l.c.: 363, 366).

We verified that, before the typification of the name *Hypochaeris urens*, it was treated as an independent taxon only by Spielmann (Prodr. Fl. Argent.: 33. 1766) and Lamarck (Encycl. 7: 121. 1806), whereas Thellung (in Mitt. Bot. Mus. Univ. Zürich 58: 565. 1912) speculated that *H. urens* could be treated as a synonym of *H. cretensis*. In all other cases *H. urens* was treated as a synonym of *H. cretensis*.

After its typification (Jarvis & Turland, l.c.: 363), the name *H. urens* was never mentioned, see, e.g., Greuter (l.c.), Bacchetta & al. (in Willdenowia 33: 71–78. 2003) or it was again considered as a heterotypic synonym of *H. cretensis* (Kilian & al., Cichorieae Syst. Portal. 2009–, <http://cichorieae.e-taxonomy.net/portal/>).

Furthermore, searching online for “*Hypochaeris urens*” (or its orthographical variant “*Hypochoeris urens*”) we obtained only 70 and 3 results, respectively, against the over 4000 results obtained searching for “*Hypochaeris cretensis*”.

After a comparison of the type specimens of *Hypochaeris cretensis* and *H. urens*, we confirm that both the names refer to a single

perennial species, characterized by typically dark scales below the heads, and by lobed leaves.

Although Roskov & al. (in Species 2000 & ITIS Catalogue of Life. 2018, www.catalogueoflife.org/col) and WCSP (in World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. 2018, <http://powo.science.kew.org/>) report *H. urens* as a synonym of *H. achyrophorus* L., we refute this hypothesis, according to type comparisons. The lectotype of *H. achyrophorus* (Jarvis & Turland, l.c.: 363) is annual, lacks dark scales below the heads and it is characterized by entire basal leaves.

Accordingly, in order to avoid a disadvantageous nomenclatural change (Art. 56.1 of the *ICN*) entailed by the strict application of the rules, and to promote nomenclatural stability in the most parsimonious way, we here propose the rejection, under Art. 56, of the name *Hypochaeris urens*.

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Nick Turland for his preliminary comments and suggestions and for stimulating some action concerning the name *H. urens*.
