

Atriplex sagittata BORKHAUSEN

A nomenclatural note

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Nomenklatorická poznámka

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KIRSCHNER J. (1984): *Atriplex sagittata* BORKHAUSEN. A nomenclatural note. — Preslia, Praha, 56 : 159—160.

A problem of the synonymy of *Atriplex nitens* SCHKUHR, *A. acuminata* W. et K. and *A. sagittata* BORKH. is dealt with. The name *A. nitens* SCHKUHR is shown to be illegitimate. All three names are supposed to denote the same taxon, *Atriplex sagittata* BORKH. being the oldest of them.

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In studying the genus *Atriplex* L. in Czechoslovakia (the study will form a part of the new Flora of Czech Lands — cf. KIRSCHNER et TOMŠOVIC, in prep.), I had to devote my interest also to the problem of the correct name for the taxon usually named *Atriplex acuminata* W. et K. or *A. nitens* SCHKUHR. These names were thoroughly examined by several authors recently, particularly from the viewpoint of the date of their effective publication. In this respect, the problem was summarized by S. RAUSCHERT (1974 : 642—643) who made the following conclusion: As the name *Atriplex nitens* SCHKUHR was published before the 9th May 1802, the priority of *A. acuminata* W. et K. 1802 or 1802—1803 is not probable.

However, some new findings seem to indicate that the problem ought to be examined from other points of view, too. It should be emphasized that the name *Atriplex nitens* SCHKUHR is an illegitimate name: SCHKUHR cited the name *Atriplex sagittata* BORKH. 1793 in the synonymy of the former name; moreover, it is obvious from the discussion (SCHKUHR 1802 : 541—542) that (also in SCHKUHR's opinion) these two names denote the same taxon (“... Hr. Dr. BORKHAUSEN hat allerdings recht, dass diese Melde eine neue Art ist...”). Some BORKHAUSEN's observations on this taxon are included in this discussion, too.

These notes on *Atriplex sagittata* BORKH. as well as some other points [P. AELLEN (1960 : 670) quoted *A. sagittata* BORKH. in the synonymy of *A. nitens* SCHKUHR.] led me to further examination of this name.

Atriplex sagittata BORKH. was thoroughly described in BORKHAUSEN's early work (BORKHAUSEN 1793 : 477—479). All the important features of the plants described point unequivocally to the species in question: “Es erreicht diese Melde eine Höhe von vier bis sechs Fuss. ... Die untern Blätter... sind oft eine Hand breit... und vollkommen pfeilförmig am Rande ausgefressen gezahnt mit einer langgezogenen ungezahnten stumpfen Spitze, oben glän-

zend grün, unten blaulich grün. . . Die Kelchstücke der weiblichen Blüten sind eiförmig, zugespitzt, vollkommen ganz. . . Die Zwitterblüte hat einen fünfblättrigen Kelch und fünf Staubfäden. . .“ In addition, *A. hortensis* L., *A. patula* L. and *A. hastata* „L“. (*A. prostrata* BOUCHER ex DC. s. l.) are also recognized in this work. The above description (latinized) is also quoted in an old flora of Giessen environs (WALTHERS 1802 : 702—703). After careful examination of BORKHAUSEN's paper, it can be stated that the name *A. sagittata* BORKH. was published validly and its taxonomic interpretation does not raise any doubts. Hence, it is evident that the names *A. nitens* SCHKUHR, *A. acuminata* W. et K. and *A. sagittata* BORKH. are actually synonymous.

In conclusion, we can summarize the problem: The name *Atriplex nitens* SCHKUHR is indubitably illegitimate. Basing on data from literature, the name *A. sagittata* BORKH. 1793 should be preferred to *A. acuminata* W. et K. 1802 (or 1803):

Atriplex sagittata BORKHAUSEN, Rheinisches Mag. Erweiterung Naturk. 1 : 477, 1793. — Syn.: *Atriplex acuminata* WALDSTEIN et KITABEL Ic. Deser. Pl. Rar. Hung. 2 : 107, tab. 103, 1802—1803. — *A. nitens* SCHKUHR Bot. Handb. . . 3 : 541, 1802 [nom. illeg.].

SOUHRN

Jméno *Atriplex nitens* SCHKUHR musí být považováno za neoprávněné (ilegitimní): v synonymice tohoto jména je SCHKUHREM (SCHKUHR 1802) citována *Atriplex sagittata* BORKHAUSEN. Navíc SCHKUHR (op. c.) explicitně obsah těchto dvou jmen ztotožňuje. Podle popisu druhu *A. sagittata* BORKH. (BORKHAUSEN 1793, WALTHERS 1802) je zřejmé, že jména *Atriplex nitens* SCHKUHR, *A. acuminata* W. et K. a *A. sagittata* BORKH. označují tentýž taxón. Proto je nutné považovat jméno *Atriplex sagittata* BORKH. 1793 za správné pro tento taxón.

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