



## Taxonomic circumscription and distribution of a glandular Eurasian entity from the *Eragrostis pilosa* complex (Poaceae)

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### Abstract

*Eragrostis amurensis* (type from Amur Oblast, Russian Far East) and *E. voronensis* (type from Tambov Oblast, Middle Russia) were separated from *E. pilosa* by the presence of glandular pits. The location of glands along with spikelet details was studied on specimens from Europe and N Asia; and *E. voronensis* is considered conspecific with *E. amurensis*. The newly circumscribed *E. amurensis* is a species of riverside habitats and is widely distributed in temperate Eurasia. It is recorded for the first time for Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia. *Eragrostis amurensis* has recently invaded some areas of Eastern Europe and is still colonizing new watercourses. It is not synonymous with the robust glandular North American *E. perplexa* (type from South Dakota, U.S.A.) which has longer lemmas and more florets in each spikelet.

### Резюме

*Eragrostis amurensis* (описана из Амурской обл., Российский Дальний Восток) и *E. voronensis* (описана из Тамбовской обл., Средняя Россия) отличали от *E. pilosa* наличием погруженных железок. Расположение железок и строение колоска были изучены на образцах из Европы и Северной Азии – *E. voronensis* и *E. amurensis* признаны конспецифичными. В новом понимании *E. amurensis* – это широко распространенный в умеренных районах Евразии вид приречных местообитаний. Он впервые приводится для Украины, Казахстана и Монголии. *Eragrostis amurensis* за последнее время освоила некоторые территории Восточной Европы, продолжая заселять берега все новых рек. Этот вид не является синонимом высокой железистой североамериканской *E. perplexa* (описана из Южной Дакоты, США), имеющей более длинные нижние цветковые чешуи и большее число цветков в колоске.

**Key words:** Eragrostideae, Gramineae

### Introduction

*Eragrostis* Wolf (1776: 23), a large genus of Poaceae tribe Eragrostideae, includes ca. 350 species distributed mainly in tropical and subtropical regions (Peterson 2007; Peterson *et al.* 2010). Russia is situated in temperate and Arctic climate zones, and *Eragrostis* diversity is fairly low here. There are 15 species in the last checklist for the whole territory of the former U.S.S.R. (Czerepanov 1995). Also, *E. pectinacea* (Michaux 1803: 69) Nees von Esenbeck (1841: 406) and *E. virescens* J.Presl in Presl (1830: 276) were reported as aliens from Udmurtia (Baranova *et al.* 1992), *E. albensis* Scholz (1995: 74) described from Germany was discovered in the City of Volgograd (Scholz *et al.* 2002), and native *E. voronensis* Scholz (2010: 84) was described from Tambov Oblast.

Reviewing *Eragrostis* specimens for the forthcoming *Flora of Vladimir Oblast, Russia* (Seregin 2012, in press.), I tried to revise the taxonomy of *E. voronensis*. This species is said to grow everywhere in Middle Russia instead of *E. pilosa* auct. (Scholz 2010). Further studies of literature and herbarium collections revealed that three temperate species (i.e., *E. perplexa* Harvey (1954: 409), *E. amurensis* Probatova in