



A review of Vellozo's names for Polygalaceae in his Flora Fluminensis

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Abstract

Names of Polygalaceae used by Vellozo in his Flora Fluminensis are reviewed within the current floristic context of the State of Rio de Janeiro and its bordering areas, as well as the morphological evidence provided. Nearly all of Vellozo's names are placed as synonyms of older names, except for a new combination for *Polygala disperma* as *Bredemeyera* and *Polygala appendiculata* which is considered a valid name for *P. leptocaulis*. All names not yet typified are here lectotypified, except for *B. austranii*.

Resumo

Nomes de Polygalaceae usados por Vellozo na sua Flora Fluminensis são revisados dentro do contexto florístico atual do Estado do Rio de Janeiro e seu entorno, como também das evidências morfológicas originalmente apresentadas por Vellozo. Quase todos os nomes de Vellozo são tratados como sinônimos de nomes mais antigos, exceto por uma nova combinação para *Polygala disperma* Vell. no gênero *Bredemeyera* Willd. e *P. appendiculata* Vell. que é aqui considerada o nome válido para *P. leptocaulis* Torr. & A.Gray. Todos os nomes não tipificados são lectotipificados aqui, com exceção de *B. austranii* Chodat.

Key words: *Polygala*, *Bredemeyera*, *Securidaca*, Rio de Janeiro

Introduction

Although Vellozo's Flora Fluminensis was published almost two centuries ago, most of the polygalaceous names have not been critically reviewed. Its publication history was a contributing factor in this, as the delay in publication until 1829 (with illustrations in 1831) made most of Vellozo's names synonyms to earlier published names. Furthermore, Vellozo's original collection has yet to be found (Carauta 1969, Lima 1995), and his descriptions and illustrations are sometimes incomplete or inaccurate (i.e. not reflecting any known species), making some of his species not easily recognizable.

Due to these factors, Vellozo's names for Polygalaceae, 17 (15 new names) in all, have been omitted or overlooked by most authorities on Polygalaceae, except for four names cited by Bennett (1874) in Flora Brasiliensis, and *Polygala bicolor* Vellozo (1829: 290) cited by Marques (1979, 1984, 1997).

An overview of all of Vellozo's names for Polygalaceae, including typifications based on the original plates (Vellozo 1831), new synonymizations, the revalidation of *P. appendiculata* Vellozo (1829: 292) for the species more known as *P. leptocaulis* Torrey & Gray (1838: 130), and a new combination for *Polygala disperma* Vellozo (1829: 290) as *Bredemeyera* Willdenow (1801: 412) are presented here.