



Andropogon × *guaraniticus* (Andropogoneae, Poaceae): a name for a natural hybrid from northeastern Argentina

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Abstract

A natural hybrid between *Andropogon macrothrix* and *Andropogon selloanus* from northeastern Argentina is named *Andropogon* × *guaraniticus*. A taxonomic treatment of *A.* × *guaraniticus* and an identification key including the parental species are presented.

Introduction

During field collection trips to the San Roque Department in Corrientes (Argentina), several collections of an unknown *Andropogon* Linnaeus (1753: 1045) were made. These plants grow in sandy soils on margins of the road, at an elevation of ca. 200 m. The first specimen was collected in summer, 1995 (*Quarín et al.* 41433), and two others at the same locality in 1996 (*Norrman* 227, 228). At the sites where these plants were collected, two other *Andropogon* species were found, *Andropogon macrothrix* Trinius (1832: 270) and *Andropogon selloanus* (Hackel 1889: 420) Hackel (1904: 266); the unknown specimens were considered to be putative natural hybrids between these two species. Galdeano & Norrmann (2000) have compared these putative natural hybrids to controlled hybrids (*A. macrothrix* × *A. selloanus*) and demonstrated that there are neither morphological, cytological, nor reproductive differences between them: therefore they deserve to be regarded as products of natural hybridization.

Based on morphological studies of living plants recently collected (summer 2012) and herbarium specimens, we describe and illustrate this hybrid as *Andropogon* × *guaraniticus* Nagahama & Norrmann.

Taxonomic treatment

Andropogon × *guaraniticus* Nagahama & Norrmann, *nothosp. nov.*, Figs. 1, 2

Type:—ARGENTINA. Corrientes: San Roque, Ruta 12, 30 km S de San Roque, 2 January 1996, 28°49'56"S, 58°43'45"W, 213 m, *Norrman* 227 (holotype CTES!; isotype CORD).

Andropogon × *guaraniticus* is distinguished from *A. macrothrix* by its longer hairs on the pedicel and the callus of the sessile spikelet, narrower apex of the rachis internodes, and a shorter awn. It is easily distinguished from *A. selloanus* by its long awns, which are lacking in *A. selloanus*.

Plants perennial, cespitose, culms 58.1–96.7 cm tall, nodes 5–7, glabrous. Innovations intravaginal, vernation conduplicate. Leaf sheaths generally longer than the internodes in the basal region and shorter than the internodes in the distal region, glabrous; blades 15.7–47.5 × 0.26–0.54 cm, straight, usually flat, the basal