



## ***Criscianthus*, a new genus of Eupatorieae (Asteraceae) with a key to members of the tribe in Africa**

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### **Abstract**

*Stomatanthes zambiensis* is segregated from the African genus *Stomatanthes* and raised as the only species of the new genus *Criscianthus* (Eupatorieae, Asteraceae). *Criscianthus zambiensis* is characterized by its verticillate phyllotaxy with three leaves per node, phyllaries with caudate apex, and an exclusive type of hair in its cypsela. A full description of the genus and its species, a morphological analysis, photographs, illustrations, and a distribution map are provided. A key to native and alien species of the tribe Eupatorieae in Africa is included.

### **Resumen**

Se segrega a *Stomatanthes zambiensis* del género africano *Stomatanthes* y se eleva como la única especie del nuevo género *Criscianthus* (Eupatorieae, Asteraceae). *Criscianthus zambiensis* se caracteriza por su filotaxis verticilada con tres hojas por nudo, filarias con el ápice caudado y un tipo exclusivo de pelo en su cipsela. Se incluye una descripción completa del género y de su especie, un análisis morfológico, fotografías, ilustraciones y un mapa de distribución. También se incluye una clave de las especies nativas y adventicias de Eupatorieae en África.

**Key words:** African Eupatorieae, Eupatoriinae, morphology, *Stomatanthes*

### **Introduction**

Generic circumscription and the number of accepted genera within the tribe Eupatorieae (Asteraceae) has changed significantly over the last 45 years. Most of the species of the tribe were once classified as *Eupatorium* Linnaeus (1753: 836). Between 1967 and 1986 in a series of papers of Robert M. King and Harold Robinson (King & Robinson 1987) the genus was split into ca. 100 new genera, mainly on the basis of micromorphological (i.e., microscopically observed) characters. Currently the tribe consists of 17 subtribes, 182 genera, and ca. 2200 species concentrated in the Americas with few representatives in the Old World (Hind & Robinson 2007).

The subtribe Eupatoriinae, as defined by King & Robinson (1987) and Hind & Robinson (2007), would comprise four genera: *Austroeupatorium* King & Robinson (1970a: 433; 13 species), *Eupatorium* (ca. 45 species), *Hatschbachiella* King & Robinson (1972: 393; two species), and *Stomatanthes* King & Robinson (1970a: 430; 17 species). Some authors (Schmidt & Schilling 2000 sub *Eupatoriadelphus*, Lamont 2004, Siripun & Schilling 2006) consider also the genus *Eutrochium* Rafinesque (1836: 78; five species) as a member of the subtribe whereas other authors (e.g., Hind & Robinson, 2007) do not recognize it.

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