



A revision of generic boundaries and nomenclature in the North American cleomoid clade (Cleomaceae)

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Abstract

The family Cleomaceae is in need of taxonomic revision, which begins here with a set of taxa informally recognized as the North American cleomoid clade. This group is evaluated first because molecular-based analyses almost comprehensively sample this lineage. These investigations revealed that the two largest genera, *Cleomella* and *Peritoma*, are para- or polyphyletic. Strong support from molecular data necessitates name changes for these taxa. Furthermore, controversy exists on the recognition of the remaining genera, owing to morphological variation and specialization. Three possible classification scenarios are described to accommodate monophyletic lineages based on previously-published evidence. The option to create the single large genus *Cleomella* is proposed, and as a result one new name, *Cleomella oxystyloides*, is provided, and 12 new combinations are made: *C. arborea*, *C. arborea* var. *angustata*, *C. arborea* var. *globosa*, *C. californica*, *C. jonesii*, *C. lutea*, *C. multicaulis*, *C. palmeri*, *C. platycarpa*, *C. refracta*, *C. serrulata*, and *C. sparsifolia*. Two lectotypes and one isolectotype are designated, and another lectotype is confirmed.

Key words—*Carsonia*, *Cleome*, *Cleomella*, *Oxystylis*, *Peritoma*, *Wislizenia*

It has long been evident from fluctuating trends of “lumping” and “splitting,” whether based primarily on morphology or molecular data, that the specialized genera of the Cleomaceae (Iltis 1950, Angiosperm Phylogeny Group 2009, Iltis *et al.* 2011) are derived from within a broadly circumscribed *Cleome* (Fig. 1; Hall *et al.* 2002, Sánchez-Acebo 2005, Hall 2008, Inda *et al.* 2008, Feodorova *et al.* 2010, Riser *et al.* 2013, Patchell *et al.* 2014). This broad paraphyly of *Cleome* has been recognized for some time, but little was done to rectify the taxonomy until somewhat recently, when some workers, particularly Iltis and Cochrane (Iltis & Cochrane 2007, 2014, Cochrane & Iltis 2014), have begun to dismantle, piecemeal, *Cleome* s.l. This deconstruction of *Cleome* has been approached from a regional floristic perspective, with transfers of species to new genera as necessary for floristic treatments (e.g., Flora of North America: Iltis & Cochrane 2007, Tucker & Vanderpool 2010). Because the family Cleomaceae lacks a modern systematic treatment, we are undertaking the work of addressing generic circumscription in the family clade by clade, integrating morphological definitions of genera with the desire that genera be monophyletic. We start here by revising a group informally recognized as the North American cleomoids, hereafter “NA cleomoids” (Hall 2008, Feodorova *et al.* 2010, Riser *et al.* 2013, Patchell *et al.* 2014). The monophyly of this clade and its principal subclades is strongly supported in the recent investigation by Riser *et al.* (2013), which, taking advantage of nearly exhaustive taxon sampling, provides the best resolved phylogeny thus far obtained for this group. This study indicates the lack of reliability of some of the morphological characters traditionally used in defining genera and suggests that currently recognized multispecies-genera cannot be upheld.

Based on recent floristic work (Tucker & Vanderpool 2010), the NA cleomoid clade includes the following five genera: *Carsonia* Greene (1 sp.), *Cleomella* Candolle (11 spp.), *Oxystylis* Torrey & Frémont (1 sp.), *Peritoma* Candolle (6 spp.), and *Wislizenia* Engelman (3 spp.). However, neither *Peritoma* nor *Cleomella* are monophyletic as currently circumscribed (Fig. 2; Feodorova *et al.* 2010, Riser *et al.* 2013, Patchell *et al.* 2014). Further, *Oxystylis* and *Wislizenia* are clearly derived from within a portion of *Cleomella* (Riser *et al.* 2013). Nearly exhaustive sampling of currently

Homotypic synonym: *Peritoma serrulata* (Pursh) Candolle (1824: 237).

Heterotypic synonyms: *Peritoma integrifolia* Nuttall (1834: 14). *Cleome integrifolia* (Nuttall) Torrey & Gray (1838: 122). Type: USA. [Towards the southern sources of the Missouri], s.d., *N. J. Wyeth s.n.* (holotype: BM 000629039; isotype: NY 00387725!).—*Cleome integrifolia* (Nuttall) Torrey & Gray var. *angusta* Jones (1895: 625). *Peritoma angusta* (Jones) Rydberg (1917: 371, 1062). *Cleome serrulata* Pursh subsp. *angusta* (Jones) Tidestrom (1925: 248, 249). Type: USA. Utah: Piute Co., Marysville Peak, alt. 7000 ft. [2134 m], Aug 1894, *M. E. Jones 6057a* (holotype: POM; isotype: US 364999).—*Cleome albiflora* Cockerell (1896: 34), a misprint for *C. serrulata* f. *albiflora* according to Cockerell (1902: 42). *Peritoma serrulata* (Pursh) Candolle f. *albiflora* (Cockerell) Cockerell (1902: 42). Type: no specimen cited; possibly *T. D. A. Cockerell s.n.*, Watrous, Mora Co., N.M. (following Holmgren & Cronquist 2005).—*Cleome inornata* Greene (1899: 16). *Peritoma inornata* (Greene) Greene (1900: 210). *Cleome serrulata* Pursh f. *inornata* (Greene) Weber (in Weber *et al.* 1981: 325). Type: USA. Colorado: Grand Junction, 26 Aug 1896, *E. L. Greene s.n.* (holotype: NDG 04819).—*Peritoma serrulata* (Pursh) Candolle var. *clavata* Lunell (1919: 236). Type: USA. North Dakota: Benson Co., York, 09 Aug 1918, *J. Lunell s.n.* (isotypes: MO 1011554, NY 00387726).

25. *Cleomella sparsifolia* (Watson) J.C.Hall & E.H.Roalson, *comb. nov.*

Basionym: *Cleome sparsifolia* Watson (1871: 32, plate 5).

Type: USA. Nevada: NW Nevada, Carson Desert, alt. 4000 ft. [1219 m], July 1867, *S. Watson 133* (holotype: US 6564; isotypes: GH 00042298, NY).

Homotypic synonym: *Carsonia sparsifolia* (Watson) Greene (1900: 212).

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