



## New species and new combinations in *Micromeria* (Lamiaceae) from the Canary Islands and Madeira

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### Abstract

Based on recent molecular evidence, one new species and one new subspecies of *Micromeria* are described for the Canary Islands: *M. pedro-luisii* and *M. hierrensis* subsp. *incana*. Six new combinations are proposed: *M. canariensis*, *M. canariensis* subsp. *meridialis*, *M. gomerensis*, *M. rupestris*, *M. herpyllomorpha* subsp. *palmensis*, and *M. hierrensis*. Three new hybrids are described for La Gomera: *M. lepida* subsp. *bolleana* × *M. gomerensis*, *M. lepida* subsp. *bolleana* × *M. pedro-luisii*, and *M. lepida* subsp. *lepida* × *M. pedro-luisii*. A new name is also given to the taxon from Madeira: *M. maderensis*. A revised key to the species present in the Canary archipelago is provided.

**Key words:** Distribution, endemism, Lamiaceae, Macaronesia, *Micromeria*

### Resumen

Sobre la base de nueva evidencia molecular, se describen una nueva especie y una nueva subespecie de *Micromeria* para las Islas Canarias: *M. pedro-luisii* y *M. hierrensis* subsp. *incana*. Se proponen seis nuevas combinaciones: *M. canariensis*, *M. canariensis* subsp. *meridialis*, *M. gomerensis*, *M. rupestris*, *M. herpyllomorpha* subsp. *palmensis*, y *M. hierrensis*. Se describen tres nuevos híbridos para La Gomera: *M. lepida* subsp. *bolleana* × *M. gomerensis*, *M. lepida* subsp. *bolleana* × *M. pedro-luisii*, and *M. lepida* subsp. *lepida* × *M. pedro-luisii*. Un nuevo nombre también es dado para el taxon de Madeira: *M. maderensis*. Se incluye una clave de identificación para las especies presentes en el archipiélago Canario.

**Palabras clave:** Distribución, endemismo, Lamiaceae, Macaronesia, *Micromeria*

### Introduction

*Micromeria* Benth (1829: 1282) belongs to the mint family Lamiaceae, subfamily Nepetoideae, tribe Menthae, subtribe Menthinae (Harley *et al.* 2004). It is mostly distributed in the Macaronesian and Mediterranean regions, eastern Africa, India, and south China, and is composed of ca. 54 species (Bräuchler *et al.* 2008). *Micromeria* is characterized by a thickened margin to the leaves caused by a continuous sclerenchymatous vein, bracteoles always present, calyx lobes usually straight or spreading, posterior lip of the corolla emarginated and curved upwards (Bräuchler *et al.* 2008).

Macaronesia is a biogeographical region composed by five archipelagos located in the Atlantic Ocean: the Azores, Madeira, Selvagens, Canary Islands and Cape Verde. In this region, *Micromeria* is present in the Madeiran, Canarian and Cape Verde archipelagos. Molecular analyses showed that the species of *Micromeria* from the Canary Islands and Madeira constitute a monophyletic group while the species present in Cape Verde cluster with other species from the West Mediterranean region (Bräuchler *et al.* 2005). This study also showed that the species of *Micromeria* on each of the Canary Islands form monophyletic groups, except in La Gomera where several colonization events from Tenerife and Gran Canaria are suggested (Meimberg *et al.* 2006, Puppo *et al.* 2015).

According to the last revision of Macaronesian *Micromeria* (Pérez de Paz 1978), there are 16 species present in the Canary Islands and Madeira and most are single island endemics. Two species are present in two islands: *M.*