

Typification of *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (Plumbaginaceae)

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Abstract

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A lectotype and an epitype are here designated for *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (Plumbaginaceae), an endemic taxon from the central part of the Iberian Peninsula, which is currently named *Limonium dichotomum* (Cav.) Kuntze

Keywords: nomenclature, typification, Cavanilles, *Statice dichotoma*, Plumbaginaceae.

Resumen

Ferrer-Gallego, P.P., Gómez, J., Laguna, E., Roselló, R., Peris, J.B. & Crespo, M.B. 2013. Tipificación de *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (Plumbaginaceae). *Anales Jard. Bot. Madrid* 70(2): 111-112 (en inglés).

Se designan un lectotipo y un epítipo para *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (Plumbaginaceae), un taxon endémico del centro de la península Ibérica, actualmente denominado *Limonium dichotomum* (Cav.) Kuntze.

Palabras clave: nomenclatura, tipificación, Cavanilles, *Statice dichotoma*, Plumbaginaceae.

INTRODUCTION

Statice dichotoma Cav., Icon. 1(2): 37, tab. 50 (XI-1791) was described and illustrated by Cavanilles (loc. cit.) from plants collected «*copiosissime in viciniis Conventus Sanctae Barbarae prope oppidulum vulgo Rivas, secundo a Matrilo lapide*». It is currently known as *Limonium dichotomum* (Cav.) Kuntze, a species being endemic to the central Iberian Peninsula, where it grows on dry steppes, roadsides and waste places, as well as near continental lagoons, mainly on gypsic marnes and soils.

Despite the exhaustive revision of the Iberian and Balearic taxa of *Limonium* undertaken by Erben (1993), some unresolved questions still exist on the correct typification of the Cavanillesian name, this being the aim of the present contribution

Although no type seems to have been selected for *Statice dichotoma*, a herbarium sheet (MA 476375) exists in the collection “*Typi Cavanillesianum*” (<http://herbario.rjb.csic.es/>) of the Real Jardín Botánico de Madrid (Herbarium MA), which is marked as “lectotypus”. It includes a rosette with four leaves, an inflorescence, and three labels. The first label bears “*Statice dichotoma* Cav. ic.”, most probably in a handwriting by José Demetrio Rodríguez (<http://www.floraiberica.es/caligrafia/index.php>), as formerly noticed by Garilleti (1993: 172), but undoubtedly not corresponding to A.J. Cavanilles. The second label holds the indication “Cavanillesii Typi 15 / *Statice dichotoma* Cav.” [the number handprinted with inking pad, and the binomen typed]. Finally, the third one is a revision label by F. Bellot and M.E. Ron, dated 7th of April 1972, and containing the word “*Lectotypus*”. However, this specimen cannot be accepted as a proper lectotype. On the one hand, it cannot be considered as original material suitable for lectotypification, since no evidence exists on collection data or Cavanilles’s original labels. On the other hand, the plant

pieces therein contained belong to *L. narbonense* Mill. (*S. limonium* sensu Cav., Icon. 1: 38. 1791) –a coastal species not growing in the province of Madrid (Erben, 1993), from where Cavanilles’s *S. dichotoma* was described– and they do not match at all the illustration in the protologue. According to our data, this lectotypification was never published, so it cannot be considered as effective, according to Art. 7.9 of the Melbourne Code (McNeill & al., 2012).

Among materials collected by Cavanilles at MA, we found two herbarium sheets in the general collection that can be *a priori* relevant for typification of the concerned name. First, the sheet MA 151194 contains among others a label handwritten by Cavanilles with the text: “*Statice dichotoma* / Icon. T. 50 / *vulgatissima ad margines Elda / Novelda & Julio et Aug.*”. This annotation is in two different inks, one of them in black (“*dichotoma*” and “*Icon T. 50*”, as well as the stroke line crossing out the word “*limonium*”), and the other in brown for the remaining text. In our opinion, both inks are by Cavanilles. However, the collection sites (Elda and Novelda, in Alicante province) are not mentioned in the protologue, so this specimen is not original material, and is not suitable for lectotypification. In addition, the fragments therein held do not belong to *Limonium dichotomum*, but to the Alicante endemic species *L. parvibracteatum* Pignatti (= *L. supinum* auct.).

On the other hand, the sheet MA 151195 contains only a specimen and an original label in Cavanilles’s handwriting (Garilleti, pers. com.). It is also written with two inks, one in brown with the words “10 / Julio / Ribas” (the collection date and site: 10th of July in Rivas, Madrid province), and the other in black, with “*Statice dichotoma* / Cav.!” . Unfortunately this specimen is quite incomplete and it does neither fit the description nor the icon 50 cited in the protologue, so even its acceptance as original material can be questioned.

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TYPIFICATION

Statice dichotoma Cav., Icon. 1(2): 37, tab. 50 (XI-1791)
[*Limonium dichotomum* (Cav.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2:
395 (1891)]

Ind. loc.: “*Habitat copiosissime in viciniis Conventus Sanctae Barbarae prope oppidulum vulgo Rivas, secundo a Matrilo lapide*”.

Lectotypus (hic designatus): [Icon]; Cavanilles, Icon. 1(2),
tab. 50 (XI-1791), *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (Fig. 1).

Epitypus (hic designatus): MA 238002 [Madrid: Rivas de
Jarama, loco dicto Convento de Rivas, loco classico, in locis
gypsaceis argillosisque, 11-IX-1980, Castroviejo n° 1998,
Cirujano & Erben lect.] (Fig. 2).

Observations: As the herbarium sheet MA 151195 is very incomplete we select here as the lectotype the element of the protologue which best matches the traditional concept of *Limonium dichotomum* (*Statice dichotoma*). In addition, an epitype is here designated as recommended by the Art. 9.8 of the Melbourne Code, in order to avoid the eventual ambiguity coming from a literal interpretation of the lectotype, since the Cavanillesian icon shows leaves with mostly pinnate veins, instead of parallel veins, as in fact it can be seen on the specimen of *L. dichotomum* in MA 238002, herein proposed as the epitype.



Fig. 1. Lectotypus [Icon] of *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (Cavanilles, 1791: tab. 50).



Fig. 2. Epitypus of *Statice dichotoma* Cav. (MA 238002), collected by Castroviejo, Cirujano and Erben in Rivas de Jarama, loco dicto Convento de Rivas.

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