

Transfer of two species of *Aphanes* L. to the genus *Alchemilla* L. (Rosaceae)

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Abstract

Recent molecular phylogeny studies have shown that the least disruptive taxonomic option in the tribe *Potentilleae* Sweet is to include the taxa of the genera *Aphanes* L. and *Lachemilla* (Focke) Rydb. in the genus *Alchemilla* L. Two combinations are made and incorrect attributions are rectified.

Key words: Rosaceae, *Potentilleae*, *Alchemilla*, *Aphanes*.

Resumen

Transferencia de dos especies de *Aphanes* L. al género *Alchemilla* L. (Rosaceae).

Recientes estudios de filogenia molecular han puesto de manifiesto que la opción taxonómica menos disruptiva en la tribu *Potentilleae* Sweet es incluir los taxones de los géneros *Aphanes* L. y *Lachemilla* (Focke) Rydb. en el género *Alchemilla* L. Se realizan dos combinaciones y se rectifican unas atribuciones incorrectas.

Palabras clave: Rosaceae, *Potentilleae*, *Alchemilla*, *Aphanes*.

Molecular phylogeny studies of the family Rosaceae have shown that *Alchemilla* L. is a polyphyletic genus and extending its circumscription to include *Aphanes* L. and *Lachemilla* (Focke) Rydb. is desirable (Potter *et al.*, 2007; Gehrke *et al.*, 2008). This option, which had previously been adopted by some authors (Murbeck, 1915; Jahandiez & Maire, 1932; Rothmaler, 1935; Maire, 1980; Stevens, 2001; Kalkman, 2004), has now been widely accepted (POWO, 2024; WFO, 2024). Other proposals, such as the creation of the supergenus *Potentilla* L. (Christenhusz & Väre, 2012), have been considered more disruptive (Dobeš & Paule, 2010; Eriksson *et al.*, 2022).

This paper proposes combinations for the transfer of two species of *Aphanes* to the genus *Alchemilla*. Incorrect attributions are also rectified.

Alchemilla lusitanica* (Frost-Olsen) Lahora, *comb. nov.

Basionym: $\equiv$ *Aphanes lusitanica* Frost-Olsen in *Anales Jard. Bot. Madrid* 55(1): 195 (1997).

Aphanes lusitanica was described by Frost-Olsen (1997) during the revision of the genus for *Flora iberica* (Frost-Olsen, 1998). It is a Portuguese endemism with a very restricted distribution that had been overlooked in previous studies of the genus (Walters, 1968; Lippert, 1984).

***Alchemilla maroccana* (Hyl. & Rothm.) Lahora, comb. nov.**

Basionym: $\equiv$ *Aphanes maroccana* Hyl. & Rothm. in Svensk Bot. Tidskr. 32(2): 188, f. 2 (1938).

Homotypic synonym: $\equiv$ *Alchemilla arvensis* subsp. *maroccana* (Hyl. & Rothm.) Maire in Emb. & Maire, Cat. Pl. Maroc 4: 1023 (1941).

The species was described by Hylander (1938). Although the holotype sheet has the handwritten label 'Alchemilla maroccana Hyl. et Rothm. n. sp.' it was finally described as *Aphanes*. Maire combined it into *Alchemilla* as a subspecies (Emberger & Maire, 1941).

IPNI, WFO and POWO (2024) record as an accepted name '*Alchemilla maroccana* (Hyl. & Rothm.) Devesa, Fl. Vasc. Andalucía Occid. 2: 37 (1987)', however, this combination was not made in that work (cf. Devesa, 1987 and pers. comm.). Neither did Maire (cf. Emberger & Maire, 1941) make the combination '*Aphanes arvensis* subsp. *maroccana* (Hyl. & Rothm.) Maire in Jahand. & Maire, Cat. Pl. Maroc 4: 1023 (1941)' mentioned by POWO and WFO.

The transfer as a species to the genus *Alchemilla* is proposed here, together with the correction of incorrectly attributed names.

This species occurs in Morocco and CW and SW Iberian Peninsula (Devesa, 1986; Frost-Olsen, 1998).

Conflict of interest

None.

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