

# Three new nomenclatural combinations in *Agrostis* L. (Poaceae: Agrostidinae)

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## Abstract

Three new nomenclatural combinations are proposed for taxa previously classified in the genera *Chaetopogon* and *Polypogon*, recently transferred to the genus *Agrostis*.

**Key words:** Grasses, Nomenclature, *Chaetopogon*, *Polypogon*.

## Resumen

### *Tres nuevas combinaciones nomenclaturales en Agrostis L. (Poaceae: Agrostidinae)*

Se proponen tres nuevas combinaciones nomenclaturales para taxones anteriormente clasificadas en los géneros *Chaetopogon* y *Polypogon*, recientemente transferidos al género *Agrostis*.

**Palabras clave:** Gramíneas, Nomenclatura, *Chaetopogon*, *Polypogon*.

Recent phylogenetic studies have raised the need to establish a broader criterion for the delimitation of the genus *Agrostis* L., including species previously classified in the genera *Chaetopogon* Janch., *Linkagrostis* Romero García *et al.* and *Neoschischkinia* Tzvelev (Soreng *et al.*, 2017; 2022). On the other hand, Peterson *et al.* (2020) described two new genera, which include species previously included in *Agrostis* L. or in *Neoschischkinia* Tzvelev: the monotypic genus *Agrostula* P.M. Peterson *et al.* (type species: *A. truncatula* (Parl.) P.M. Peterson *et al.*) and *Alpagrostis* P.M. Peterson *et al.*, which includes four species previously classified in *Agrostis*, all of them occurring in the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands. Finally (so far), the genus *Polypogon* Desf., which remained independent in previous studies, has been included in *Agrostis* for Röser & Tkach (2024), based on the studies of Tkach *et al.* (2020).

These taxonomic changes have been complemented by subsequent nomenclatural proposals. For the species previously known as *Chaetopogon fasciculatus* (Link) Hayek the name *Agrostis subspicata* (Willd.) Raspail has been rescued, since the existence of *Agrostis fasciculata* (Kunth) Roem. & Schult., a synonym of the American species *Agrostis perennans* (Walter) Tuck., prevented the use of the epithet *fasciculatus*.

However, Romero García (2021b) recognises a subspecies endemic to the NW Iberian Peninsula: *Chaetopogon fasciculatus* subsp. *prostratus* (Hack. & Lange) M. Laínz, which had been previously studied by Paunero. (1952, sub *Chaeturus*). For this subspecies we propose the following nomenclatural combination:

***Agrostis subspicata* subsp. *prostrata*** (Hack. & Lange) Romero Zarco & Sáez, **comb. nova**

Basionym: *Chaeturus prostratus* in Vidensk. Meddel. Naturhist. Foren. Kjøbenhavn 1877-1878: 233 (1878)

On the other hand, for *Polypogon maritimus* Willd. the name *Agrostis mediterranea* Röser & Tkach should now be used, since *Agrostis maritima* Lam., a synonym of *A. stolonifera*, prevents maintaining the same specific epithet. In the taxonomic treatment of the genus *Polypogon* by Romero García (2021a) *P. maritimus* subsp. *subspathaceus* (Req.) K. Richt. is reported for the Balearic Islands, and the existence of intermediate forms between this taxon and the typical subspecies in the Iberian Peninsula is discussed. For the plant called *Polypogon subspathaceus* the name *Agrostis subspathacea* (Req.) Röser & Tkach has been proposed; however, the data and arguments of Romero García (l.c.) advise maintaining the subspecific category. We therefore propose the following nomenclatural combination:

***Agrostis mediterranea* subsp. *subspathacea*** (Req.) Romero Zarco & L. Sáez, **comb. nova**

Basionym: *Polypogon subspathaceus* Req. in Ann. Sci. Nat. (Paris) 5: 386 (1825)

Finally, for the species hitherto known as *Polypogon monspeliensis* (L.) Desf. Röser & Tkach (2024) accept the name *Agrostis alopecuroides* Lam. However, Lamarck's name is clearly a superfluous name (Kerguelen, 1999). Lamarck (1791, 1: 160, n.º 812) expressly cites two names previously published by Linné: "*Alopec. monspeliensis* & *paniceus*, L.". The epithet "*paniceus*" (Linné, 1762, 1: 90) could not have been used in the genus *Agrostis*, since an *Agrostis panicea* Lam. had been published previously (Lamarck, 1783, 1: 58), a name also superfluous for *Milium lendigerum* L. But the epithet "*monspeliensis*" (Linné, 1753) was available.

Therefore, articles 52.1 and 52.2(e) of the Shenzhen Code (Turland *et al.* 2018) are applicable here and another legitimate name for *Polypogon monspeliensis* should be established in the genus *Agrostis*. There are several synonyms for this species, but they are also illegitimate: *Agrostis crinita* Moench and *A. triaristata* Knapp are superfluous, and *A. panicea* (L.) Aiton is a later homonym for *A. panicea* (L.) Lam. (= *Gastridium ventricosum* (Gouan) Schinz & Thell.). Accordingly, we propose the following nomenclatural combination:

***Agrostis monspeliensis*** (L.) Romero Zarco & L. Sáez, **comb. nova**

Basionym: *Alopecurus monspeliensis* L. Sp. Pl.: 61 (1753)

## **CRedit authorship contribution statement**

Conceptualization: CRZ, LS. Investigation: CRZ, LS. Writing - Original Draft Preparation: CRZ. Writing - Review & Editing: LS.

## **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest relevant to the content of this manuscript.

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