- 1. The non-glandular trichomes on the sepals are uniformly short instead of a mixture of long and short trichomes as in *P. pseudofumarioides*.
- 2. The pseudo-umbels are 4-flowered. In *P. fumarioides* the pseudo-umbels consist of up to 5 (rarely 8) flowers, while in *P. pseudofumarioides* the number is 7-13.
- 3. The peduncles are 9-11 mm long. This falls within the range recorded for *P. fumarioides* (5-10, rarely up to 15 mm), in contrast to *P. pseudofumarioides* where the peduncle varies between 25 and 80 mm in length.
- 4. The plant is small and compact, while plants of *P. pseudofumarioides* are larger and more lax with long branches.
- 5. *P. fumarioides* is widely distributed throughout the drier southern South West Africa/Namibia, the Orange Free State, the whole Cape Province, and the southern Transvaal where it occurs in the same general area as *P. pseudofumarioides*; whereas *P. pseudofumarioides* is restricted to the cooler and moister southern Transvaal and the inland parts of Natal and northern Transkei. Though not imposssible, it seems unlikely that material of *P. pseudofumarioides* would have reached Europe by 1787.

As future students of *Pelargonium* may not have ready access to the type of *P. minimum*, a photograph is reproduced here (Figure 1a).

Acknowledgements

The Instituto Botanico Cavanilles, Madrid, graciously lent me the type of *Geranium minimum* for study. The continuing financial support by the University of Stellenbosch and the C.S.I.R. to Prof, J.J.A. van der Walt is herewith acknowledged.

References

CAVANILLES, A.J. 1787. Monadelphiae classis dissertationes decem, Vol. 4, Didot, Paris.

HARVEY, W.H. 1860. *Pelargonium*. In: Flora capensis, ed. Harvey, W.H. & Sonder, O. Vol. 1, Hodges & Smith, Dublin.

JUEL, H.O. 1918. Plantae Thunbergianae. Akademiska Bokhandeln, Uppsala/Karrassowitz, Leipzig.

KNUTH, R. 1912. *Pelargonium*. In: Das Pflanzenreich, ed. Engler, A. 4, 129, 53; 316-545, Engelmann, Berlin.

L' HÉRITIER DE BRUTELLE, C.-L. 1802. Compendium generalogium, Paris.

THUNBERG, C.P. 1794. Prodromus plantarum capensium, Vol. 1, Edman, Uppsala.

WILLDENOW, C.L. 1800. Caroli a Linné species plantarum . . . 4th edn, Vol. 3, Nauk, Berlin.

Fuirena obcordata (Cyperaceae): A correction

Patricia L. Forbes

Charles E. Moss Herbarium, Department of Botany, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 2050 Republic of South Africa

Accepted 15 December 1986

In order to validate publication of the name, *Fuirena* obcordata P.L. Forbes, an error in a previous paper is corrected and a Latin diagnosis is supplied.

Om die publikasie van die naam, *Fuirena obcordata* P.L. Forbes, geldig te maak is 'n fout in 'n vorige publikasie verbeter, en 'n Latynse diagnose word aangebied.

Keywords: Cyperaceae, Fuirena, taxonomy

Fuirena obcordata P.L. Forbes was published as an avowed substitute (nomen novum) in a recent paper (Forbes 1986). As this name is a replacement, however, for the misapplied name, F. microlepis sensu C.B. Clarke in Flora Capensis 7: 262 (1898) non Kunth, the requirements of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature for valid publication have not been satisfied. According to Article 33.3, Note 1 (ICBN 1978, 1983), it should have been treated as a new species and a Latin diagnosis should have been supplied. The correction is made below.

Fuirena obcordata *P.L. Forbes*, sp. nov. *F. hirsuta* (Berg.) P.L. Forbes affinis sed squamellis hypogynis obcordatis brevistipitatis, achenio substipitato brevirostri, cellulis extimis achenii amplis subhexagonis differt; a *F. umbellata* Rottb. laminis foliorum uninervibus (nec quinquenervibus), culmis trigonis (nec pentagonis) praecipue distinguenda.

TYPUS. — Port Natal, Drège 4339 (P, holotypus)

Acknowledgement

I am very grateful to Mr B.L. Burtt, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, for his helpful comments and advice.

Reference

FORBES, P.L. 1986. Studies in Cyperaceae in southern Africa: 12. A new specific name in *Fuirena* Rottb. *S. Afr. J. Bot.* 52: 237 – 240.