



A taxonomic revision of *Geschollia* (Asparagaceae, Urgineae)—from a monotypic genus towards its diversification, including the description of five new species

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Abstract

In the frame of a taxonomic revision of Hyacinthaceae subfamily Urgineoideae (Asparagaceae tribe Urgineae) combining morphological and genetic data from numerous samples across its whole range of distribution, we here present a taxonomic revision of *Geschollia*, a genus originally accepted as monotypic to include *G. anomala*. This genus was characterized by the single, synanthous, terete leaf; long racemose inflorescence; tepals connate for ca. 1 mm and reflexed at anthesis; spreading to patent stamens; and small polygonal seeds. Our morphological studies in combination with phylogenetic analyses evidence that *Geschollia* is indeed a strongly supported monophyletic group, which includes eight species matching most of the features cited above. In this context, we here describe five new species in this genus and accordingly expand the original characterization of *Geschollia* to accommodate these new taxa. Furthermore, two new combinations are presented for previously described species. An identification key is provided for all accepted species in the genus.

Keywords: distribution, ecology, Hyacinthaceae, nomenclature, taxonomy, Urgineoideae

Introduction

Hyacinthaceae includes ca. 1000 species of bulbous plants distributed in Africa, Europe and Asia, with a single genus, *Oziroë* Rafinesque (1837: 53), in South America (Speta 1998a, 1998b, APG 2003). Four monophyletic subfamilies are accepted in Hyacinthaceae: Hyacinthoideae, Ornithogaloideae, Oziroëoideae and Urgineoideae (Speta 1998b, Pfosser & Speta 1999, Manning *et al.* 2004, Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2011a). Alternatively, Hyacinthaceae are treated as Asparagaceae subfamily Scilloideae, and consequently the former subfamilies are reduced to the tribes Hyacintheae, Ornithogaleae, Oziroëeae and Urgineae respectively (APG 2009, 2016, Chase *et al.* 2009).

Urgineoideae commonly show short flowering periods, commonly proteranthous leaves, and small size in several species, which have greatly hindered a satisfactory taxonomic circumscription, which is still uncertain in many instances. Although some studies accept only ca. 100 species in Urgineoideae (Manning *et al.* 2004), we consider it to include at least 200 species given our current knowledge of this subfamily across their wide distribution range, and the lack of comprehensive taxonomic revisions (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2019b).

In recent decades subfamily Urgineoideae has been especially controversial regarding the generic circumscription (Speta 1998a, 2001, Pfosser & Speta 2001, 2004, Manning *et al.* 2004, Pfosser *et al.* 2012, Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2013a, 2013b, 2016, 2017, 2018a, 2018b, 2019a, 2019b, Pinter *et al.* 2013, Crouch & Martínez-Azorín 2015, Crouch *et al.* 2018, Manning & Goldblatt 2018). Indeed, on the one hand, Manning *et al.* (2004) presented a synthetic approach, accommodating the enormous variation in floral, fruit, seed and vegetative morphologies, and synonymizing several traditionally accepted genera with distinct morphological syndromes. An example of this broad generic circumscription approach was applied by Manning & Goldblatt (2018) to *Drimia* Jacq. ex Willdenow (1799: 165), which in this sense, however, contains multiple morphological exceptions or opposites in vegetative and most notably reproductive organs

(Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2019b). On the other hand, Speta (1998a, 1998b, 2001) and Pfosser & Speta (2001) favoured a more analytic approach, in which about 20 different genera were accepted. However, some of these genera have either proved to be, or been interpreted as, para- or polyphyletic (Pfosser & Speta 2001, 2004, Manning *et al.* 2004, Pfosser *et al.* 2012).

Interestingly, molecular studies on Urgineoideae (Pfosser & Speta 2001, 2004) showed that *Drimia anomala* (Baker 1870: t. 178) Baker (1897: 442) from South Africa form an independent well supported clade, leading Speta (2001) to describe the monotypic genus *Geschollia* Speta (2001: 169) to include this species, which was originally described as *Ornithogalum anomalum* Baker (1870: t. 178). In these phylogenetic analyses (Pfosser & Speta 2001, 2004) *Geschollia* formed a sister clade to *Boosia* Speta (2001: 168) and *Urgineopsis* Compton (1930: 107) although relationships among the latter genera were weakly supported. However, some years later, Pfosser *et al.* (2012) found *Geschollia* plus *Urgineopsis* to form a monophyletic clade with moderate support, where both latter genera appeared as supported sister clades.

Our phylogenetic analyses included more than 250 samples of all genera in Urgineoideae from its global distribution, using *trnL-F*, *matK*, and *ycfcpDNA* sequences, as well as a nuclear region (*Agt1*). Among these samples, 21 belonged to *Geschollia*, covering some populations of *G. anomala* (Baker 1870: t. 178) Speta (2001: 169) and other species in the genus. Our phylogenetic trees recovered *Geschollia*, including some undescribed species, as monophyletic with a strong bootstrap support (see fig. 3 in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2018).

Baker (1870) described and illustrated *Ornithogalum anomalum* from a plant native to the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) sent by Thomas Cooper. This plant was cultivated in England by W.W. Saunders and was illustrated in the Refugium Botanicum (Baker 1870) (Fig. 1). In the protologue, both the diagnosis and illustration show a plant having a semi-epigeal green bulb with a single, terete and fleshy leaf (ca. 6–7 mm wide at the base), and a long raceme with 30–40 flowers. Although Baker (1870) placed the new species in *Ornithogalum*, he clearly stated that it differed from all the other species of this genus in many features. Therefore, he described the subgenus *Ledebouriopsis* to accommodate this new species. Later, Baker (1873) cited specimens collected by P. MacOwan near Somerset East, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, as further material doubtfully belonging to *Ornithogalum*.

Bentham & Hooker (1883) were the first to relate *O. anomalum* to the subfamily Urgineoideae, and commented that this species may be included in *Drimia*. However, it was Baker (1897) who doubtfully placed this species in *Drimia* (subfamily Urgineoideae), providing a new combination and highlighting the spurred character of the bracts. Moreover, he included *Urginea eriospermoides* Baker (1887: 126) among synonyms and added further collections made by H. Bolus and W. Tyson.

Dyer (1951) first commented and illustrated (Fig. 2) on the peculiar habit of the leaf in *D. anomala*, i.e. its cylindrical and solid aspect, its length and diameter, and its peculiar withering process that occurs before maturity, starting from the tip and being arrested at different stages, according to moisture conditions. Dyer also noticed that the cultivated specimen with a complete leaf figured in Baker (1870) differed markedly from the plant he was studying, because in the latter the leaf had withered extensively. He also suggested that Cooper obtained bulbs in the Eastern Cape Province, so that the figured plant was collected there.

Jessop (1977) studied a selection of herbarium specimens covering a large distribution area in the southern part of central South Africa, which he attributed to *Drimia anomala* and that presented a considerable variation in morphology, especially regarding flower colour, being white, pale pink, beige, yellow or greenish.

Recently, Manning & Goldblatt (2018) included *Drimia anomala* in *Drimia* sect. *Ledebouriopsis* (Baker 1873: 284) Manning & Goldblatt (2018: 24), which covered 11 species with variable morphology and being polyphyletic based on the phylogenetic studies by Pfosser & Speta (2001, 2004) and our unpublished results (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* in prep.).

Our field work in South Africa during the last decade has shown that some undescribed species share the main diagnostic characters of *Geschollia*, such as the single (rarely two), terete leaf, the long racemose inflorescence, and the angulose or polygonal small seeds, but differ in distinct characters. We here present a taxonomic revision of *Geschollia* in which five new species are described and the genus circumscription is expanded to accommodate these taxa. Furthermore, *Ornithogalum calcaratum* Baker (1874: 723) and *Drimia occultans* Williamson (2012: 287), which also share the main diagnostic characters of *Geschollia*, are transferred to the latter genus, a solution also supported by our unpublished phylogenetic studies. A complete morphological description is presented for all accepted taxa, as well as information on ecology and distribution. An identification key is presented to facilitate identification and further research in the genus.

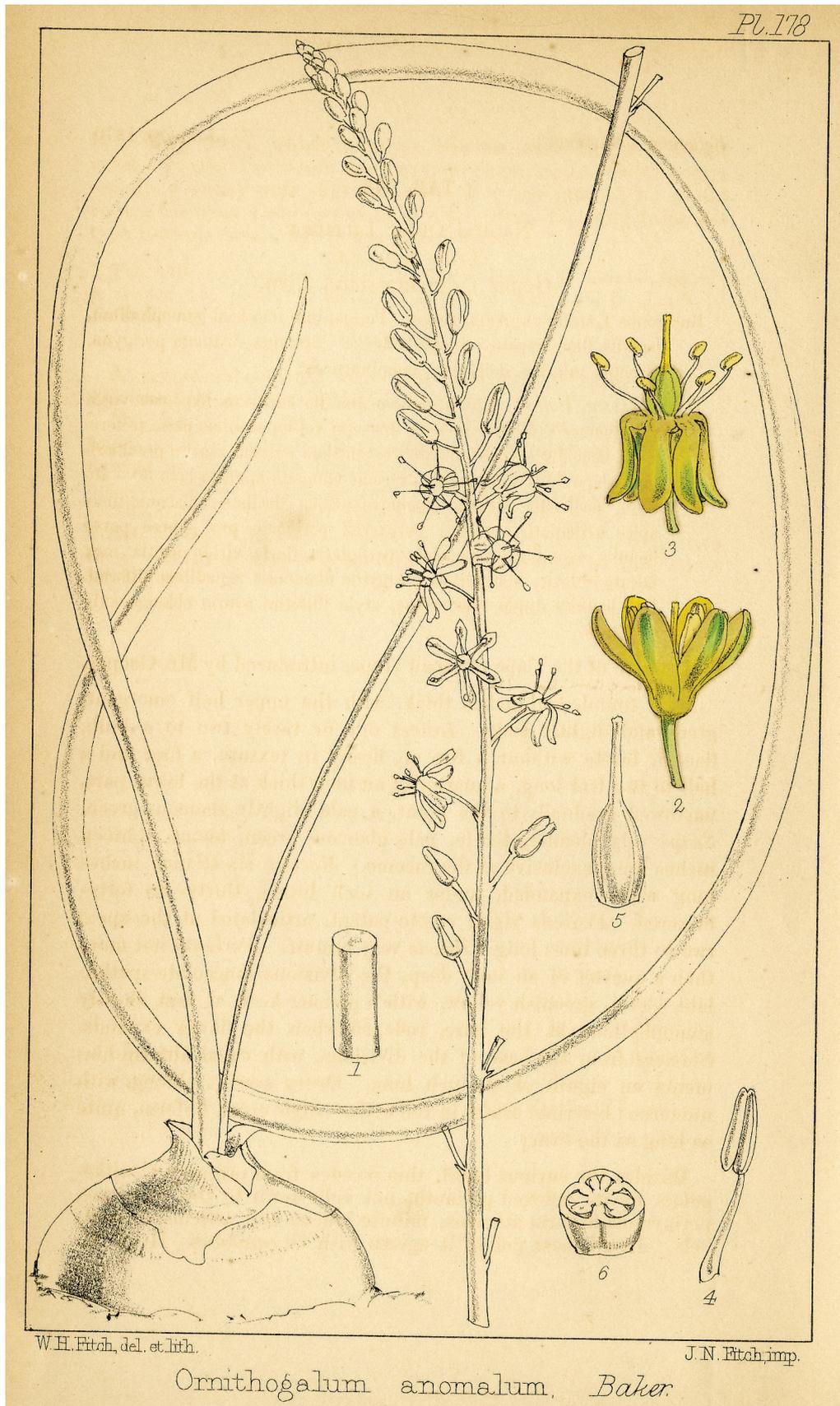


FIGURE 1. Lectotype (or perhaps holotype) of *Ornithogalum anomalum* Baker.

Materials and methods

Detailed morphological studies were undertaken on cultivated specimens following the terminology used for species of Hyacinthaceae in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2007, 2009). Herbarium specimens from the herbaria ABH, B, BLFU, BM, BOL, E, G, GZU, GRA, HAL, K, L, LINN, M, MO, NBG, NU, NY, P, PRE, S, TCD, UPS, WU, Z, ZSS and ZT (acronyms according to Thiers 2019) were studied. Authors of the cited taxa follow IPNI (2019). Orthography of geographical names and grid-number system follows Leistner & Morris (1976). Measurements of leaf width and tepals, stamen and ovary size presented in the morphological descriptions and the identification key were taken on fresh material. Measurements on dry specimens can show considerably lower values.

Results and discussion

Our field work in South Africa and Namibia revealed the existence of a large morphological variability of plants attributed to *G. anomala* and other related species that were widely distributed in this country, with the highest diversity and abundance in southern central South Africa. Our unpublished phylogenetic results showed a genetic variability that together with a distinct morphological differentiation support the recognition of eight species within this genus, five of them being new and two new combinations, requiring an expansion of the genus morphological characterization.

Manning & Goldblatt (2018) commented that capsules of *D. anomala* are remarkably small (4–6 mm long) considering the inflorescence size, and contain small, strongly angled seeds 1.5–2.0 mm long. This is one of the best diagnostic characters of *Geschollia*, together with the single, terete leaf that commonly withers from the tip (showing abscising plates), and the long-racemose inflorescence. Manning & Goldblatt (2018) accepted two further species here included in *Geschollia*: *Drimia occultans*, a species that shares the diagnostic characters of the genus, including the small capsules with small, angled, narrowly pyramidal seeds, and *Drimia calcarata* (Baker 1874: 723) Stedje (1987: 663). However, for this latter species we restrict its range to the Eastern Cape Province, with occasional disjunct populations occurring in the western and eastern regions of this country.

Taxonomic treatment

Geschollia Speta (2001: 169)

≡ *Ornithogalum* subgen. *Ledebouriopsis* Baker (1870: 178) ≡ *Drimia* subgen. *Ledebouriopsis* (Baker) Baker (1897: 437) ≡ *Drimia* sect. *Ledebouriopsis* (Baker) J.C.Manning & Goldblatt (2018: 24) pro parte (only *Drimia anomala*, *D. occultans* and *D. calcarata* s.str.).

Typus generis:—*Geschollia anomala* (Baker) Speta

Deciduous bulbous plant. Bulb hypogeal or rarely semi-epigeal, mostly solitary but rarely proliferous, usually with compact scales but rarely loose, outer scales brownish and membranous. Roots thickened and branched. Leaf solitary (rarely 2), terete, green, commonly leathery, synanthous or proteranthous, deciduous to evergreen, 0.5–7 mm in diameter, smooth, glabrous, usually withering from the tip showing transverse abscission plates. Inflorescence 1 or rarely 2 per bulb, long racemose, erect or slightly bent; peduncle elongated, erect, smooth or sometimes distinctly papillose at base; flower pedicels 2–30 mm long, subpatent. Bracts lanceolate, acute, the lowermost with a broad spur usually longer than the blade; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, diurnal, usually opening in the afternoon and withering in the evening. Flower yellowish, orange, greenish or white, with a discrete brownish, green or purple stripe along the middle of the perigone segments, more evident on the abaxial side. Tepals 6, biseriate, spreading to reflexed at full anthesis, with the base usually shortly connate for ca. 1 mm but almost free in general appearance. Stamens 6; filaments filiform, slightly fusiform, erect to spreading, adnate to the base of tepals, commonly glabrous and smooth, sometimes distinctly papillate; anthers yellow, oblong, dehiscent along their whole length. Ovary ovate to oblong, attenuate to truncate at top, green, sometimes with white maculae; style white, narrowly filiform to obtriangular, distinctly trigonous in section, as long as or longer than the ovary; stigma slightly three-lobed and papillose. Capsule ovate-globose, small, 3–6 mm long, trigonous, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds polygonal or irregularly compressed, commonly narrowly pyramidal, small, 1–2(–2.8) mm long, light brown to black, with wrinkled-rugose testa.

Eponymy:—Named after Georg Scholl (1751-1831), a gardener at Schönbrunn botanic garden, Vienna, who together with Franz Boos, travelled to South Africa between 1786 and 1799 collecting plants and animals for Emperor Joseph II of Austria. Their efforts greatly enriched the Schönbrunn gardens and provided much of the material for the beautiful illustrated works of N.J. Jacquin (Gunn & Codd 1981: 317; Glen & Germishuizen 2010: 386).

Main diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—Species of *Geschollia* share a syndrome of morphological characters that allow clear recognition, such as the single terete leaf (rarely 2), the long racemose inflorescence (rarely short and few flowered); flowers with shortly connate tepals at base, with spreading to reflexed free portion at anthesis; suberect to spreading filaments; and comparatively small capsules with small polygonal or irregularly compressed angled seeds.

As noted by Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2019b), the basic trimerous flower pattern in Hyacinthaceae is constant, as in most of petaloid monocot families, and variation mainly regards the degree of connation of tepals, adnation and/or connation of stamens and morphology of the gynoecium, which are the main basis for generic circumscriptions. However, based on previous phylogenetic studies, it is evident that these latter flower characters evolved several times as convergent events in relation to independent and usually distant clades or genera (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2011a). Therefore, quantitative and qualitative characters of flower morphology must be combined with vegetative, fruit and seed characters, together with biogeographic patterns, in order to recognize supported genera, as evidenced by Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2011a).

Flower morphology in *Geschollia* seems to be unspecialized, as tepals are nearly free to shortly connate for about 1 mm at the base, hence not providing a constant morphological feature. Accordingly, this character alone should not be used for generic circumscription. Qualitative characters of flower and inflorescence, together with fruit and seed morphology and vegetative characters, allow a confident identification of *Geschollia* species, and provide also a good basis for a multigeneric treatment in Urgineoideae (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* in prep.). In this treatment, the number of accepted genera is more or less the same than that widely accepted in Hyacinthoideae, where Manning *et al.* (2004) included 11 genera for southern Africa, to which ca. 20 further genera occurring in the northern hemisphere (cf. Speta 1998) have to be added.

Ecology:—Species of *Geschollia* are usually found on patches of open vegetation, in sandy or loamy soil, on flats or rocky ground on mountain slopes.

Distribution:—The center of diversity of *Geschollia* occurs in south-central South Africa from the Little Karoo in the west to the Eastern Cape, with one species extending to southern Namibia and northwestern Northern Cape Province, and some disjunct populations occurring in southwestern and eastern South Africa.

Karyology:—Unknown (cf. Goldblatt *et al.* 2012).

Number of species:—In the present revision, 8 species are included in *Geschollia*.

1. *Geschollia anomala* (Baker 1870: t. 178) Speta (2001: 169) ≡ *Ornithogalum anomalum* Baker (1870: t. 178), basion. ≡ *Drimia anomala* (Baker 1870: t. 178) Baker (1897: 442)

Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. Cape of Good Hope, “sent from South Africa by Mr Thos. [Thomas] Cooper”. (Holotype: icon in Baker (1870: Plate 178) (Fig. 1); **epitype (designated here)**: Fort Beaufort (3226): 22 km south of Bedford on R350, Normandale Farm, ca. 160 m SE from farmhouse (-CC), elevation 649 m, 8 December 2018 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16047* GRA!).

= *Urginea eriospermoides* Baker (1887: 126). Type: SOUTH AFRICA, *MacOwan 292-72* (holotype: K000257355!).

Bulb hypogaeal or semiepigeal and photosynthetic, ovoid to subglobose, sometimes depressed in old plants, 2–7 × 2–8 cm, with compact scales, outer scales brownish to greyish and membranous, sometimes with a hypogaeal bulb neck covered with papery brown cataphylls, sometimes transversally banded. Roots thickened and branched. Leaf solitary (rarely 2 in cultivation), terete, 10–35 × 0.3–0.7 cm, suberect, curved, leathery, smooth, glabrous, uniformly shiny green or sometimes striated, presenting longitudinal green nerves alternating with regions of shining, refractive cells under the microscope, synanthous or proteranthous, deciduous or evergreen, usually withering from the tip, with transverse abscission plates. Inflorescence 1 or rarely 2 per bulb; raceme elongated, 7–30 cm long, with 20–80 flowers, erect or slightly curved; peduncle elongated, erect, smooth or rarely minutely papillate at the base; flower pedicels 4–10 mm long, subpatent. Bracts lanceolate, acute, 1–2 mm long, the lowermost with a broad spur 2–5 mm long; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, diurnal. Flowers yellow, green, white or pink, with a discrete green, brown or purple stripe along the middle of the perigone segments, more evident on the abaxial side. Tepals 6, biseriate, strongly reflexed at full anthesis, shortly connate at the base for 0.5–1 mm, lanceolate-oblong, 4–6 mm long. Stamens 6; filaments filiform to narrowly fusiform, 2–4 mm long, attenuate to the apex, spreading, never approaching the style, adnate to the base of the tepals for less than 1 mm, smooth; anthers yellow, oblong, medifixed,



FIGURE 2. Illustration of *Geschollia anomala* (Baker) Speta (under *Drimia anomala*) published by Dyer in Flowering Plants of Africa.

1–2 mm long, dehiscing along their whole length; pollen yellow. Ovary ovate to oblong, attenuate to truncate at the top, 1.5–2.5 × 1–1.5 mm, green, sometimes with white maculae; style white, narrowly columnar, 2–3.2 mm long, trigonous in section, about as long as ovary or slightly longer; stigma slightly three-lobed and papillose. Capsule ovate, trigonous, 4–5.8 × 2.5–4.1 mm, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds polygonal or irregularly compressed, commonly narrowly pyramidal, 1.1–2 × 0.6–1 mm, light brown to black, with wrinkled-rugose testa.

Etymology:—Named after the deviant characters of this species with regards to *Ornithogalum*, especially when considered in a narrow sense (see Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2011a).

Phenology:—*Geschollia anomala* flowers after rain almost any time of the year with a peak in summer, between October and January.

Habitat:—*G. anomala* is found in the Albany Thicket, Fynbos, Grassland, Nama-Karoo, Savanna and Succulent Karoo biomes, as well as the Indian Ocean Coastal Belt and various azonal vegetation types (Mucina & Rutherford 2006). It grows in a wide range of soils from sandy to rocky and usually occurs in open vegetation and sunny position.

Distribution:—*G. anomala* is mostly distributed in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa (Fig. 3).

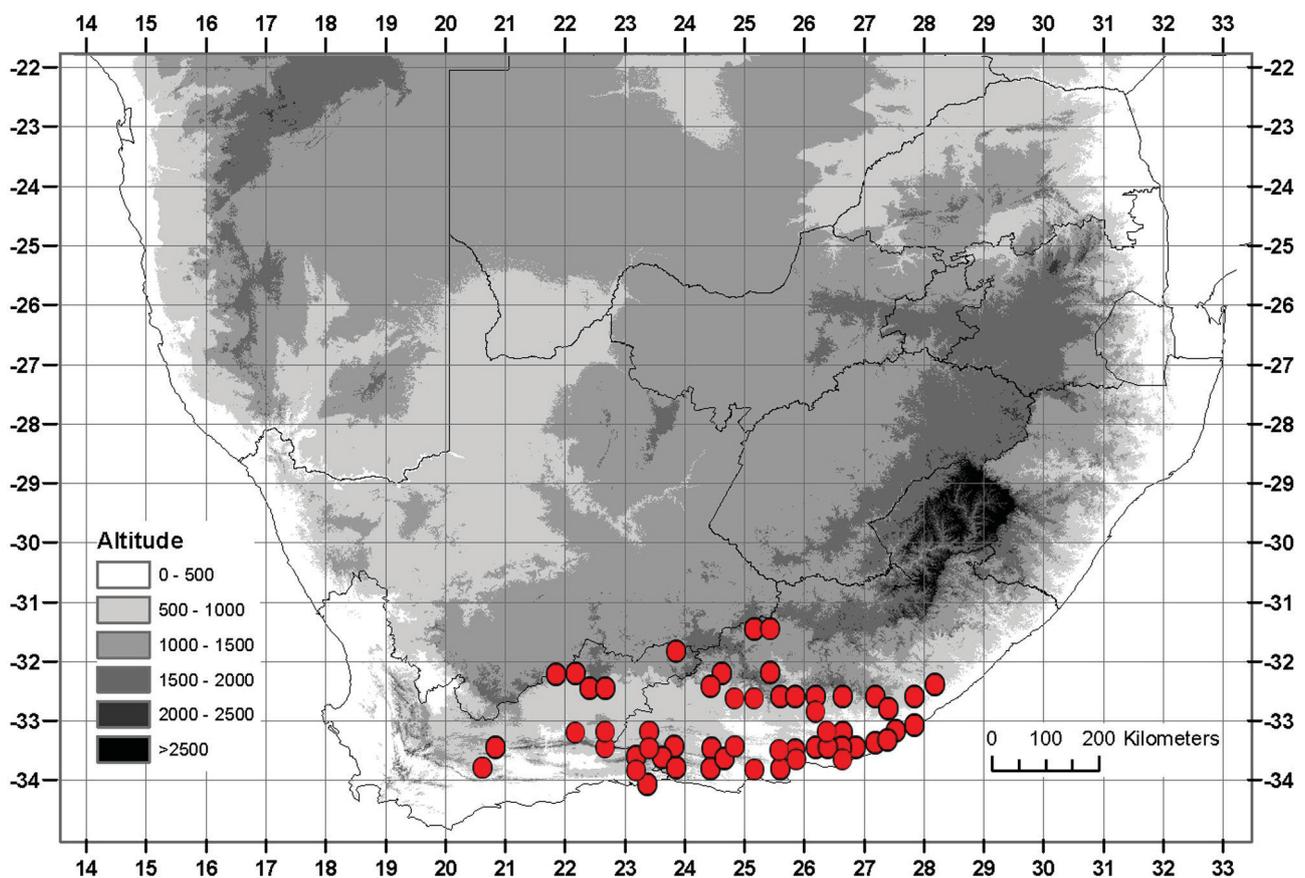


FIGURE 3. Distribution of studied materials of *Geschollia anomala* in South Africa.

Diagnostic characters and morphological variability:—*Geschollia anomala*, as circumscribed here, shows a considerable variability in morphology, but it can be recognized by the relatively thick leaf 3–7 mm wide; the long, multiflowered, racemose inflorescence with pedicels up to 10 mm long; and the small capsules and seeds typical of this genus. The thick leaf, which usually reaches 5–7 mm in cross-section in mature fresh plants, is one of the best diagnostic characters of the species, that differentiate it from *G. calcarata*, the latter showing a much thinner leaf up to 2.5 mm wide. However, this character can be confusing when working with herbarium material, in which leaf width decreases considerably in dry plants. It is also important to disregard young, immature plants of *G. anomala* in which leaves can be also thin.

The illustration and description of *G. anomala*, obtained from cultivated material in London, shows bulbs lacking a distinct neck or cataphylls, matching some wild populations. However, it is also common that the bulb neck bears

brown, papery cataphylls clasping the leaf base (*MacOwan* 1853 GRA!; *Dyer* 358 GRA!; *Barker* 5012 GRA!; *Galpin* 6293 BOL!; among others), and some populations show transversal dark markings, which range from scarcely evident (*Paterson* 2648 GRA!; *Dold* 16011 GRA!; *Dold* 16042 GRA!; *Dold* 16050 GRA!; *Dold* 16055 GRA!) to obvious (*Dold* 16018 GRA!), giving a zebra-banding pattern resembling that present in other Hyacinthaceae species, such as *Albuca bakeri* Mart.-Azorín & M.B. Crespo in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2011c: 12), *Coilonox zebrinum* (Baker 1904: 92) Speta (2001: 176) and *Rhadamanthus fasciatus* Nordenstam (1970: 174), among others.

Several collections showing plain brown rather than distinctly barred cataphylls in combination with usually white flowers (*Cruden* 195 GRA!; *Bayliss* 3082 PRE0051144!; *Dyer* 358 GRA!; *Dyer* 1206 GRA!; *MacOwan* 1853 GRA!; *Paterson* 2648 GRA!; *Rattray* 829 GRA!; *Stayner* 58 GRA!; *Barker* 5066 NBG73272!; *Barker* 7127 NBG72493!) were named *Urginea cataphyllata in scheda* by A.A. Obermeyer. We were not able to find reliable characters to differentiate these populations from *G. anomala*, and therefore we follow Manning & Goldblatt (2018) in placing this informal name in synonymy.

Peduncle of the inflorescence is commonly smooth, but in some populations they show papillae from minute and very scarce (*Dold* 16011 GRA!; *Dold* 16042 GRA!) to distinct and abundant (*Johnson* 167 GRA!; *Dold* 16055 GRA!), which sometimes co-occur with barred cataphylls; however, these characters appear to be random.

Inflorescence is usually a long raceme with many flowers, and pedicels commonly reach 4–6 mm in length, but in some populations around Willowmore and Steytlerville pedicels gradually lengthen to ca. 9–10 mm (*Barker* 5066 NBG73272!; *Barker* 7127 NBG72493! and *Bayer s.n.* NBG140530!) in combination with whitish flowers, papery whitish cataphylls surrounding the bulb neck and leaves are absent at the anthesis.

Flowers are also variable in colour and size: tepals are yellow, green, white or pinkish, with a discrete green, brown or purple stripe in the middle; they vary from 4–6 mm long, usually connate for 0.5–1 mm. Stamens are spreading, never connivent to the style, but their length varies from 2 to 4 mm. Gynoecium includes an ovoid-oblong ovary and a columnar, erect, style, but its size is also slightly variable.

Urginea eriospermoides Baker (1887: 126) was described from material sent by MacOwan and cultivated at Kew. Baker considered this species to differ from *O. anomalum* in its two, synanthous, terete leaves, only one fully developed, and in the whitish perianth with a broad, brown keel. However, the study of the holotype (K000257355!) revealed no differences with respect to the typical *G. anomala*, and the presence of two leaves per bulb can be regarded as due to cultivation conditions, a character also observed occasionally in nature. The whitish colour of flowers, as commented above, is also considered as part of the intraspecific variability.

At present, we were not able to find discrete patterns supporting the recognition of different taxa within the studied populations, although further morphological studies using living material and genetic analyses are needed to better understand this group of plants. This may facilitate the recognition of different taxa within this species complex. The considerable morphological variation observed in the current circumscription of *G. anomala* includes narrow to thicker leaves, which are synanthous or proteranthous; smooth to papillate base of peduncle; short to relatively long flower pedicels; and diverse colour and size of flower portions. This morphological variability may be due to either introgression among different ancient taxa co-occurring in the center of diversity of the genus (eastern Western Cape Province and western Eastern Cape Province), or to recent diversification within the group.

Studied materials:—SOUTH AFRICA. Western Cape. Victoria West (3123): in lapidosis prope Murraysburg (-DD), elev. 4000 feet, October 1879 (in flower), *W. Tyson* 165 (BOL!); Merweville (3221): Beaufort West District, Layton Flats, Springbok camp (-BB), elev. 3000 feet, 22 December 1985 (in flower), *D.A.M.B. Shearing* 1173 (PRE0713551!); Beaufort West (3222): Beaufort West, Karoo National Park, Klipspringer Pass (-AD), elev. 1182 m, 6 December 2005 (in flower), *A.C. Mudau* 21 (NBG0210548-0!; PRE659249!); Beaufort West (3222): Stolshock, Karoo National Park (-AD/BC), elev. 900 m, 22 November 1988 (in flower), *P. Bruyns* 3423 (BOL61281!); Montagu (3320): Laingsburg, ca. 18 km south of Laingsburg on R323 (-BD), elev. 759 m, 3 October 2015 (in leaf), *M. Martínez-Azorín, M. Pinter, M.B. Crespo & M.A. Alonso* MMA1343 (ABH74913!); Montagu (3320): Barrydale (-DC), in flower, *P.L. Perry* 929 (NBG!); Oudtshoorn (3322): in collibus lapidosis prope Prince Albert (-AA), elev. 3000 feet, December 1904 (in flower and fruit), *H. Bolus* 11655 (BOL109653!); Oudtshoorn (3322): Klaarstroom, Koppieskraal (-BA), elev. 850 m, 13 December 2001 (in flower), *P.V. Bruyns* 8969 (NBG0200125-0!); Oudtshoorn (3322): near De Rust (-BC), October 1980 (in flower), *Mauve, Reid & Wikner* 151 (PRE0611288!); Oudtshoorn (3322): Meiringspoort (-BC), 5 December 1985 (in flower), bulbs and leaves ex hort 13 March 1986, *P.L. Perry* 3410 (NBG140545!); Willowmore (3323): Approximately 7 km East of Uniondale towards Baviaanskloof (-CA), 29 September 1980 (in leaf) flowers ex hort 13 March 1986 and 9 December 1986, *P.L. Perry* 1444 (NBG140513!; PRE728897!); Willowmore (3323): Uniondale Division, Hills near Avontuur (-CA), elev. 3000 feet, January 1923 (in flower), *H.G. Fourcade* 2490 (BOL!); Willowmore (3323): Uniondale Division, Hills from Nuigund to Spitzkop (-CC), elev. 2700 feet, December 1928 (in

flower), *H.G. Fourcade 4251B* (BOL61280!); Knysna (3423): Knysna, Plettenberg Bay (-AB), 26 February 1955, *E.E. Esterhuysen 24210* (PRE0051074!; BOL61296! two sheets). Eastern Cape. Steynsburg (3125): Middleburg, Bangor farm (-AC), elev. 4000 feet, December 1917 (in flower and fruit), *H. Bolus 14107* (BOL105687!); Steynsburg (3125): Middleburg Division, Rooispruit (-AD), 24 December 1951 (in flower), *E. Esterhuysen 19697* (BOL61285!); Graaff Reinet (3224): in declivus monte Cabe prope Graaff Reinet (-AD), elev. 3000 feet, December 1905 (in flower), *H. Bolus 12401* (BOL!); Graaff Reinet (3224): Graaff Reinet C.P., near Graaff Reinet (-BA/BC), 2 December 1950 (in flower), *W.F. Barker 7096* (NBG72473!); Graaff Reinet (3224): Ebenezer Farm, 27 km south-west of Pearston on R337, rocky hill behind (west) of farm dwellings (-DB), elevation 686 m, December 2018 (in flower ex hort.), *A.P.Dold 16048* (GRA!); Somerset East (3225): Welgedacht, west, north-west Cradock (-AB), 24 December 1980 (in flower ex hort), *P. Bruyns 1582* (NBG123652!); Somerset East (3225): Pearston commonage, roadside veld (-CA), elevation 710 m, 23 October 2018 (in flower and fruit ex hort.), *A.P.Dold 16022* (GRA!); Somerset East (3225): Somerset East Dist., near Charlton Falls, Boschberg (-DA), elev. 1200 m, 11 December 2008 (in flower), *V.R. Clark & J. Le Roux 491* (NBG0249515-0!); Somerset East (3225): 1.5 km SE of Somerset East, just before turn off ro R335 (-DA), elev. 715 m, 12 October 2011 (in leaf), *M Martínez-Azorín & A.P. Dold MMA1000* (ABH59357!); Somerset East (3225): In arenosis campis pr. Somerset East (-DA), elev. 2500 feet, November-December (in flower), *MacOwan 1853* (GRA!); Somerset East (3225): Somerset East district, prope Cookhouse (-DB), January 1902 (in flower), *Kensit s.n. sub BH31827* (BOL105667!); Fort Beaufort (3226): Bedford (-CA), *J. Erens 2209* (PRE0051150!); Fort Beaufort (3226): 22 km south of Bedford on R350, Normandale Farm, ca. 160 m SE from farmhouse (-CC), elevation 649 m, 8 December 2018 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16047* (GRA!); Fort Beaufort (3226): Stockenstroom C.P., Fort Armstrong, Balfour (-DA), 6 January 1950 (in flower), *B. Martin 147* (NBG72469!); Stutterheim (3227): Keiskamma Hoek – Red Hill (-CA), December 1921 (in flower), *F.J. Stayner 58* (GRA!); Stutterheim (3227): King William's Town (-CD), elev. 1500 feet, November 1893 (in flower), *T.R. Sim 1721* (PRE0051140!); Stutterheim (3227): Kei River bridge, near Komgha (-DB), elev. 1800 feet, December 1891, *H.G. Flanagan 1178* (PRE0051154!; BOL61291!); Butterworth (3228): Butterworth, Hospital Hill (-AC), December 1931 (in flower and fruit), *A. Pegler 1801* (BOL61290!; PRE051153!); Willowmore (3323): 20 miles N of Willowmore (-AB), 3 December 1950 (in flower), *W.F. Barker 7127* (NBG72493!); Willowmore (3323): Georgida (-AD), 1984 (in leaf), in flower ex hort Karoo NBG November 1985 (in flower), *M.B. Bayer s.n.* (NBG140530!); Willowmore (3323): Willowmore C.P., Miller (-BD), 5 December 1947 (in flower), *W.F. Barker 5012* (NBG72471!); Willowmore (3323): Willowmore, NE Luiskraal homestead, Maraisdal, Joubertina (-DA), elev. 400 m, ex hort Karoo NBG, *J.A. Forrester 400* (NBG140528!); Willowmore (3323): Uniondale, Die Hoek, N foot of Tszikamma mts. near Joubertina (-DD), 25 December 1951 (in flower and fruit), *E. Esterhuysen 18343* (BOL61293! three sheets); Steytlerville (3324): Steytlerville C.P., near Steytlerville (-AD), 3 December 1947 (in flower), *R.H. Compton 20314* (NBG72470!); Steytlerville (3324): Steytlerville C.P., Springbok Vlakte (-BD), 2 December 1947 (in flower), *W.F. Barker 5066* (NBG73272!); Steytlerville (3324): Humansdorp Division, Kromme River, E of Assegai Bosch (-CD), elev. 700 feet, January 1937 (in flower), *H.G. Fourcade 3943* (BOL71491!); Steytlerville (3324): Eastern Cape, Baviaans Kloof, (-DA), elev. 1000 feet, 17 December 1977 (in flower), *R.D.A. Bayliss 8285* (PRE0606290!); Steytlerville (3324): Kouga Dam (-DA), 19 November 2002 (in flower), *E.J. Van Jaarsveld 17120* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Addo National Park entrance, on R342 from Addo town to Paterson (-BC), elevation 144 m, 1 July 2017 (in flower), *A.P. Dold 16049* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Alexandria, foot of Zuurberg pass (-BC), elev. 800 feet, 17 December 1953 (in flower), *E.E.A. Archibald 5460* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Alexandria, Addo Nat. Park (-BD/DB), elev. 500 feet, 19 October 1951 (in leaf), *E.E. Archibald 3743* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Addo El. Nat. Park (-BD/DB), 18 December 1996 (in flower), *K. Johnson 167* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Alexandria, elev. 600 feet, 05 January 1956 (in flower), *E.E.A. Archibald 6154* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Somerset East C.P., Ann's Villa, Zuurberg (-BD), elev. 2400 feet, 30 December 1965 (in flower), *R.D. Bayliss 3114* (NBG82928!); Port Elizabeth (3325): turn off to Loeri Dam, off Hankey road (-CC), 31 May 2013 (in leaf ex hort.), 08 July 2013 (in flower ex hort), *corresponding to WW02455* (ABH!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Sundays River (-DB), January 1932 (in flower), *Harries s.n. sub NBG2604/29* (BOL61284!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Redhouse (-DC), December 1914 (in flower), *T.V. Paterson 506* (PRE051152!; BOL71490!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Redhouse (-DC), November 1914 (in flower), *T.V. Paterson 2648 s.n.* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Redhouse village, to the right (east) of main entrance to village between road and school (-DC), elevation 7 m, 7 June 2017 (in flower and fruit), *A. P. Dold 16018* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): roadside Kransdrift, between Hounslow and Kwandwe (-AB), elevation 598 m, 23 July 2017 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16022* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Alicedale (-AC), 24 January 1918 (in flower), *F. Cruden 195* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Table Farm, west of Grahamstown (-AD), elevation 793 m, 28 May 2017 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16011* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Albany, near Grahamstown on stony kopie ½ mile past Hamilton Dam and at Stones Hill near Beacon (-AD), elev. 2000-2200 feet, December 1925

(in flower and fruit), *R.A. Dyer 358* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown, Cradock Road beyond aerodrome flats (-AD), elev. 650 m, December 1982 (in flower), *A. Jacot-Guillarmod 9153* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown, Mountain Drive, 20 m south of Vodacom tower at west end of Mountain Drive (-AD), elevation 752 m, 28 May 2017 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16015* (GRA!); *ibidem*, 7 January 2019 (in fruit), *A.P.Dold 16055* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Mnt. tops, east side of Howison's Poort, Grahamstown (-AD), elev. 2000 feet, 16 December 1898, *E.E. Galpin 3097* (PRE0051142!); Grahamstown (3326): Just S of Fort Brown on road towards Grahamstown (-BA), 7 November 1997 (in flower), *D. Snijman 1641* (NBG759447!, NBG759448!); Grahamstown (3326): Fort Brown, Grahamstown District (-BA), elev. 750 m, November 1921 (in flower), *H.W.R. Marloth 10872* (PRE0051155!); Grahamstown (3326): Fort Brown (-BA), 2 February 2008 (in flower), *J.C. McMaster s.n.* (NBG0263013-0!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown (-BC), 30 December 1903 (in flower), *M. Daly 730* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown, Hillsview road (-BC), elevation 587 m, 10 December 2018 (in flower), *A.P.Dold 16046* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown, Mountain Drive, mountain bike track/ramps (-BC), elevation 686 m, 4 January 2019 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16050* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Turn off from R67 between Grahamstown - Port Alfred to Belmont Valley, open veld adjacent to farm school and church (-BC), elevation 501 m, 9 December 2018 (in flower and fruit), *A.P.Dold 16052* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown, Howieson's Poort (-BC), 18 January 2002 (in flower), *J.C. Manning 2702* (NBG!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown (-BC), January 1905 (in flower), *M. Daly 849* (BOL61290!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown (-BC), 30 December 1903 (in flower), *M. Daly 729* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Albany C.P., West of Frasers Camp (-BD), 30 November 1950 (in flower), *W.F. Barker 7001* (NBG72476!); Grahamstown (3326): Albany C.P., 24 miles E of Grahamstown (-BD), 30 November 1950 (in flower), *W.F. Barker 7015* (NBG72475!); Grahamstown (3326): Bathurst C.P., Trappes Valley (-BD), 11 January 1947 (in flower and fruit), *R.H. Compton 19121* (NBG72477!); Grahamstown (3326): Bathurst District, Trappes Valley (-BD), 19 December 1965 (in flower), *R.D.A. Bayliss 3082* (PRE0051144!); Grahamstown (3326): Alexandria, Ghio (-DA), elev. 200 feet, 24 March 1952 (in flower and fruit), *E.E.A. Archibald 4197* (GRA!); Peddie (3327): Kaffir Drift (-AC), 20 July 1971 (in leaf), *Jessop s.n.* (GRA!); Peddie (3327): near Kaffir Drift Police Station (-AC), 240 m elevation, 21 December 1993 (in flower and fruit), *P.B. Phillipson 4204 & A.P. Dold* (GRA!); Peddie (3327): Peddie Dist on Fish River Kaffir Drift outspan and Pont Reserve (-AC), elev. 280 m, 5 November 1993 (in flower), *A.P. Dold & A. Booii 496* (GRA!); Peddie (3327): East London C.P., Chalumna Conservancy (-BA), 29 November 1950 (in flower and fruit), *W.F. Barker 6965* (NBG72472! two sheets); Peddie (3327): East London District, Kaysers mouth of Chalumna River (-BA), elev. 15 feet, 24 December 1901 (in flower and fruit), *E.E. Galpin 6293* (BOL61287!); Peddie (3327): East London C.P., Buffalo Pass rock crevices (-BB), 28 November 1945 (in flower), *R.H. Compton 17783* (NBG72468!).

2. *Geschollia brachyandra* Mart.-Azorín, A.P. Dold & M.B. Crespo *sp. nov.* (Fig. 4)

Geschollia brachyandra resembles *G. calcarata* in the solitary narrow leaf, and elongated, multiflowered inflorescence, but the former differs in the leaf base surrounded by cataphylls which show dark, usually raised, transversal bars (not lacking zebrine cataphylls), the reddish flowers (not white), the tepals 3.2–4.2 mm long (not 4.5–5.3 mm long) with short and suberect filaments 1.4–1.9 mm long (not 2.5–4 mm long).

Type.—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern Cape. Grahamstown (3326): 19 km from Grahamstown on Cradock road, Brakloof (now Brack Kloof), 500 m from turn-off onto farm drive, 20 m off of road verge (-AD), 690 m elevation, 27 November 1993 (in flower and fruit), *A.P. Dold 438* (holotype GRA!).

Bulb hypogaeal, solitary, ovate to subglobose, depressed in old plants, 12–35 × 10–40 mm, usually extended into a hypogaeal neck to 6 cm long, covered with pale brown to greyish, membranous outer tunics and white fleshy tightly packed inner tunics. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 10–40 × 0.7–1.5 mm. Leaf solitary, terete, 8–35 × 0.1–0.2 cm, suberect, curved, glabrous, smooth, very slightly striate, usually withering from the tip showing transverse abscission plates, green, leathery, synanthous or proteranthous, surrounded at base by distinct zebrine cataphylls which show dark transversal bands that are commonly thickened and raised. Inflorescence 1 per bulb; raceme elongated, 5–18 cm long, erect, with 18–80 flowers; peduncle elongated, 12–25 cm long, greyish-green, erect, straight, smooth, sometimes minutely papillate at base; flower pedicels 1.5–3 mm long, patent to suberect at anthesis. Bracts lanceolate, acute, ca. 1 mm long, purplish, the lowermost with a broad, oblong spur ca. 2 mm long; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, flowering in the afternoon-evening. Flowers reddish-brown, campanulate with patent lobes, with a discrete red stripe along the middle of the perigone segments, evident on both sides. Tepals 6, biseriate, shortly connate at the base for less than 1 mm, erect at base and patent to slightly reflexed in the upper half, narrowly lanceolate-oblong, 3.2–4.2 × 1.2–1.8 mm, glandulous at apex. Stamens 6; filaments filiform, subfusiform, attenuate to

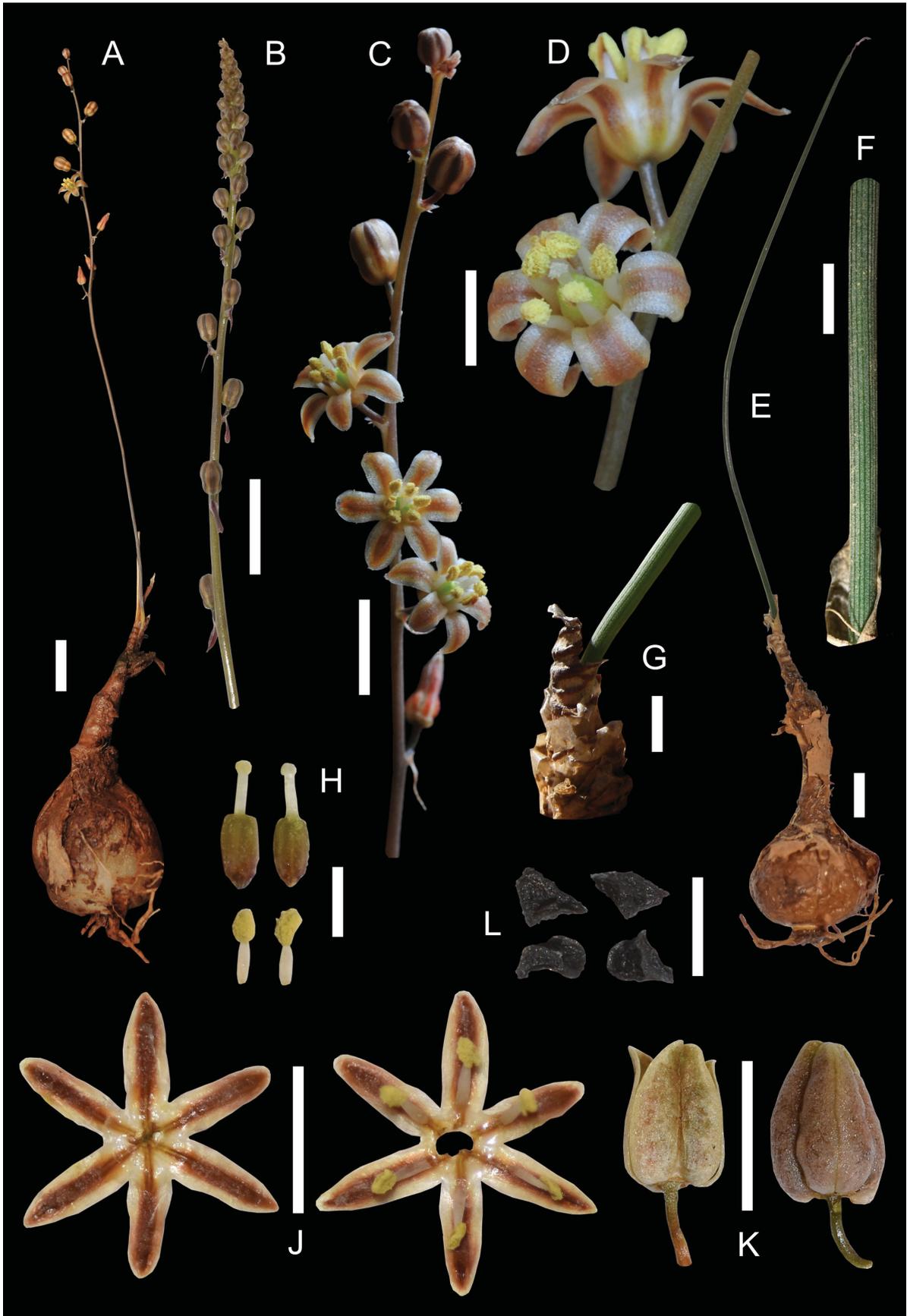


FIGURE 4. *Geschollia brachyandra* from the type locality. **A.** Plant in flower; **B.** Inflorescence with buds and spurred bracts; **C.** Inflorescence; **D.** Flowers, frontal and lateral views; **E.** Bulb and leaf; **F.** Leaf portion; **G.** Zebrine cataphylls and basal portion of leaf; **H.** Gynoecia and stamens. **J.** Dissected flower showing tepals and adnate filaments, right dorsal view and left frontal view; **K.** Capsules, lateral view; **L.** Seeds. Scale bars: A, B, E: 1 cm; C, F, G, J, K: 5 mm; D, H, L: 2 mm.

the apex, 1.4–1.9 mm long, mostly erect or slightly spreading, adnate to the base of tepals for less than 1 mm, smooth; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 0.8 mm long, dorsifixed, dehiscent along their whole length; pollen yellow. Ovary oblong, truncate to the style, 1.7–1.8 × 0.8–1 mm, green; style white, thickened, columnar, 1.3–1.7 mm long, erect, trigonous in section; stigma three-lobed and papillose. Capsule ovate, trigonous, 3.8–4.2 × 2.8–3.2 mm, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds polygonal or irregularly compressed, 1–1.5 × 0.8–1 mm, black, with wrinkled-rugose testa.

Etymology:—Named after the very short filaments, which are less than half the length of tepals.

Phenology:—*Geschollia brachyandra* flowers around October–November and fruits in December–January.

Habitat:—At a broad scale, the vegetation of the three known localities of *G. brachyandra* is mapped as Bhissho Thornveld in the Savanna Biome (Mucina & Rutherford 2006). At a finer scale, the Subtropical Thicket Ecosystem Planning (STEP) Project mapped the localities as Grahamstown Grassland Thicket. This vegetation unit is described as a mosaic of low thicket (2–3 m) consisting of small bush clumps in a matrix of short (0.1–1 m) grassland vegetation. Fynbos elements occur within the grassland matrix on moist south-facing slopes. Many rare and localised endemic species occur in the grassland associated with this unit. Non-seasonal rainfall dominates the region with MAP between 376 and 696 mm. The mean monthly maximum is 26.90 °C in February and the mean monthly minimum is 6.96 °C in July (Vlok & Euston-Brown 2002).

Distribution:—*Geschollia brachyandra* is only known from three localities northwest of Grahamstown, at Table Farm and Burntkraal farms, in the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa (Fig. 5). Further research is needed to more accurately establish the distribution range of this species.

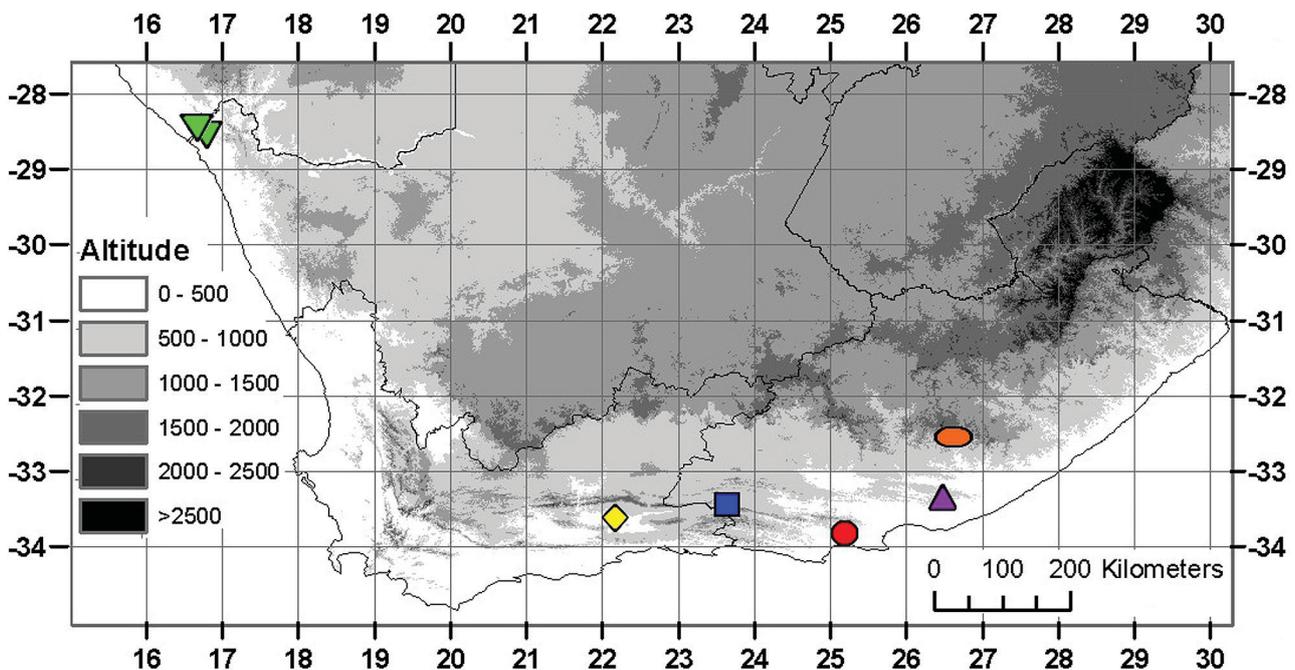


FIGURE 5. Distribution map of *G. brachyandra* (purple triangle), *G. globuligera* (red circle), *G. longipedicellata* (blue square), *G. occultans* (green inverted triangle), *G. prolifera* (orange ellipse) and *G. zebrina* (yellow diamond) in Southern Africa.

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—*G. brachyandra* shows a unique combination of morphological characters, such as the hypogean bulb with a neck surrounded by cataphylls which show dark, usually raised, transversal bars; the small reddish, campanulate flowers, with very short and suberect filaments of 1.4–1.9 mm long (less than half the length of tepals); and the small ovary (1.7–1.8 mm long) and style (1.3–1.7 mm long). *G. calcarata* approaches *G. brachyandra* in the solitary narrow leaf, and elongated, multiflowered inflorescence, but the former differs in the larger, white flowers, with filaments 2.5–4 mm long, about as long as the tepals; larger gynoeceum; and leaf base not surrounded by distinct zebrine cataphylls.

Additional material studied (paratypes):—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern Cape. Grahamstown (3326): Table farm, 6.5 km from Pony Club, Grahamstown (-AD), 585 m elevation, 21 November 2017 (in flower), *A.P. Dold 16024* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Table Farm, 6.5 km from Grahamstown west, on Cradock road to Bedford, south side of road, 240 m from roadside (-AD), 587 m elevation, 07 October 2019 (in flower), *A.P. Dold 16057* (GRA!);

Grahamstown (3326): Burnt Kraal commonage, Grahamstown west, Abandoned clay-pigeon shooting range (-AD), 645 m elevation, 9 December 2018 (in flower), *A.P. Dold 16051* (GRA!).

3. *Geschollia calcarata* (Baker) Mart.-Azorín, M.B. Crespo, A.P. Dold, M. Pinter & Wetschnig **comb. nov.** \equiv *Ornithogalum calcaratum* Baker (1874: 723), basionym. = *Drimia calcarata* (Baker) Stedje (1987: 663).

Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern District of Cape Colony, *MacOwan s.n.* Illustration by W.H. Fitch made from cultivated material sent by MacOwan to W. Saunders (lectotype designated by Stedje 1987): K!, (Fig. 6); **epitype (designated here)**: Somerset East (3225): Somerset East District, near Charlton Falls, upriver on ledges on rock-outcrops/low cliffs between homestead and falls, Boschberg, (-DA), 1400 m elevation, 11 December 2008, *V.R. Clark, R.J. Daniels, M. Fabricius & J. Le Roux 487* (NBG0267388!).

Bulb hypogaeal, solitary or rarely splitting, ovate to subglobose, slightly depressed in old plants, 12–23 \times 10–26 mm, usually extended into a short hypogaeal neck up to 1 cm long, with pale brown to greyish, membranous outer tunics and white fleshy tightly packed inner tunics. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 10–50 \times 0.7–1.5 mm. Leaf solitary, terete, 5–21 \times 0.10–0.25 cm, suberect, curved, smooth, glabrous, very slightly striate with prominent longitudinal nerves, usually withering from the tip showing transverse abscission plates, green, leathery, usually synanthous. Inflorescence 1 per bulb, rarely 2; raceme elongated, 2–10 cm long, erect, with 8–30 flowers; peduncle elongated, 12–25 cm long, greyish-green, erect, straight, smooth; flower pedicels 4–6 mm long, patent to suberect at anthesis. Bracts lanceolate, acute, ca. 1 mm long, brownish, the lowermost with a long spur ca. 4–6 mm long; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, diurnal. Tepals 6, biseriate, white, with a discrete green stripe along the middle of the perigone segments, more evident on the abaxial side, slightly reflexed at full anthesis, shortly connate at the base for less than 1 mm, narrowly lanceolate-oblong, 4.5–5.3 \times 1–1.5 mm, glandulous at apex. Stamens 6; filaments filiform, subfusiform, attenuate to the apex, 2.5–4 mm long, spreading, adnate to the base of the tepals for less than 1 mm, smooth; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 1 mm long, dorsifixed, dehiscent along their whole length; pollen yellow. Ovary ovate-oblong, truncate to the style, 1.5–2 \times 0.8–1.2 mm, green, sometimes with white maculae along septal nectaries; style erect, white, thickened, columnar or rarely obtriangular, 1.5–2(–2.5) mm long, trigonous in section; stigma three-lobed and papillose. Capsule ovate, trigonous, 4–4.5 \times 2.5–3 mm, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds polygonal or irregularly compressed, 1.2–2.1 \times 0.6–1.1 mm, black, with wrinkled-rugose testa.

Etymology:—Named after the large spurs of the lowermost bracts.

Phenology:—*Geschollia calcarata* flowers at different times of the year, related to rainfall patterns, but mostly between September and March.

Habitat:—*G. calcarata* is found in diverse biomes, such as Albany Thicket, Fynbos, Grassland, Nama-Karoo, Savanna and Succulent Karoo (Mucina & Rutherford 2006). Its populations range from coastal regions to high mountains and grow in a wide range of sandy to rocky soils.

Distribution:—*G. calcarata* is known from several localities in the Eastern Cape Province with some populations in the western regions of the Western Cape Province, and southern KwaZulu-Natal Province in South Africa, and Lesotho (Fig. 8).

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—*Ornithogalum calcaratum* was described by Baker in 1874 based on cultivated plants sent to Kew. At that time, Peter MacOwan was based in Somerset East and it is probable that the material sent by MacOwan was collected in the vicinity of that town. Recent collections, *Clark & Le Roux 294* (NBG!) and *Clark et al. 487* (NBG!) from the Boschberg (Somerset East), fit well with the original description and illustration (Fig. 6) of this species. A similar case regards *Albuca tenuifolia* Baker, a long overlooked species described by Baker in 1872 from material sent by MacOwan to Kew and illustrated from cultivated material, which was recently rediscovered at the Boschberg (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* 2011b, 2012), where both species co-occur on top of that mountain.

G. calcarata can be recognized by the solitary bulb (rarely splitting) with a single, terete, narrow leaf (to 2.5 mm wide in mature plants) and elongated peduncle and raceme together with the small capsules and seeds typical of the genus. However, our studies evidence a considerable variation in flower colour, morphology and size of tepals, filaments length and gynoeceium size. Some populations from the Little Karoo, east of Calitzdorp (ABH74916) differ from typical plants in their styles being slightly longer than the ovary and obtriangular (Fig. 7). Other populations present brownish, papery cataphylls at the base of the leaf (*Dold 612* GRA!). The species, as here circumscribed, covers different habitats, from coastal areas to elevated mountainous regions. The species is centered in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, but some disjunct populations are also found in the surroundings of Pietermaritzburg: *Schlechter 3290* (BOL61283!, PRE0559667!, GRA!); *Schlechter 3004* (GRA!); *Moll 1850* (PRE0048648!); *Martínez-*

Azorín *et al.* MMA1439 (ABH74241). Our genetic studies (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* in prep.) showed a considerable variability in the studied populations, which together with their diverse habitats and morphological variability indicate the need for further research.



FIGURE 6. Lectotype of *Ornithogalum calcaratum* Baker. Reproduced with permission by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

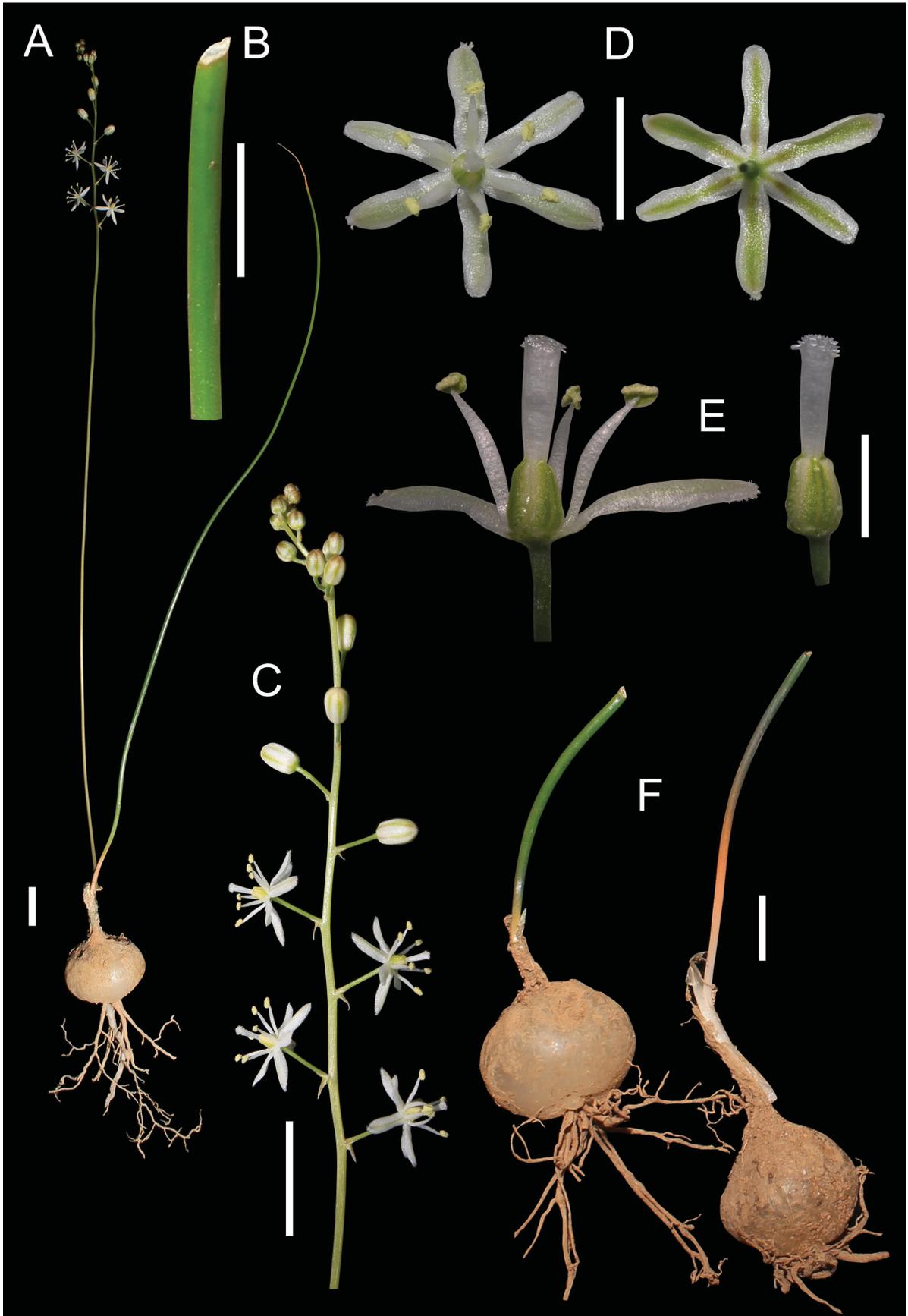


FIGURE 7. *Geschollia calcarata* from Redstone Hill Cottages, Little Karoo, South Africa. **A.** Plant in flower; **B.** Section of leaf; **C.** Inflorescence; **D.** Flowers, frontal and dorsal views; **E.** Dissected flower showing tepals, stamens and gynoecia; **F.** Bulbs with a single, terete leaf. Scale bars: A, C, F: 1 cm; B, D: 5 mm; E: 2 mm.

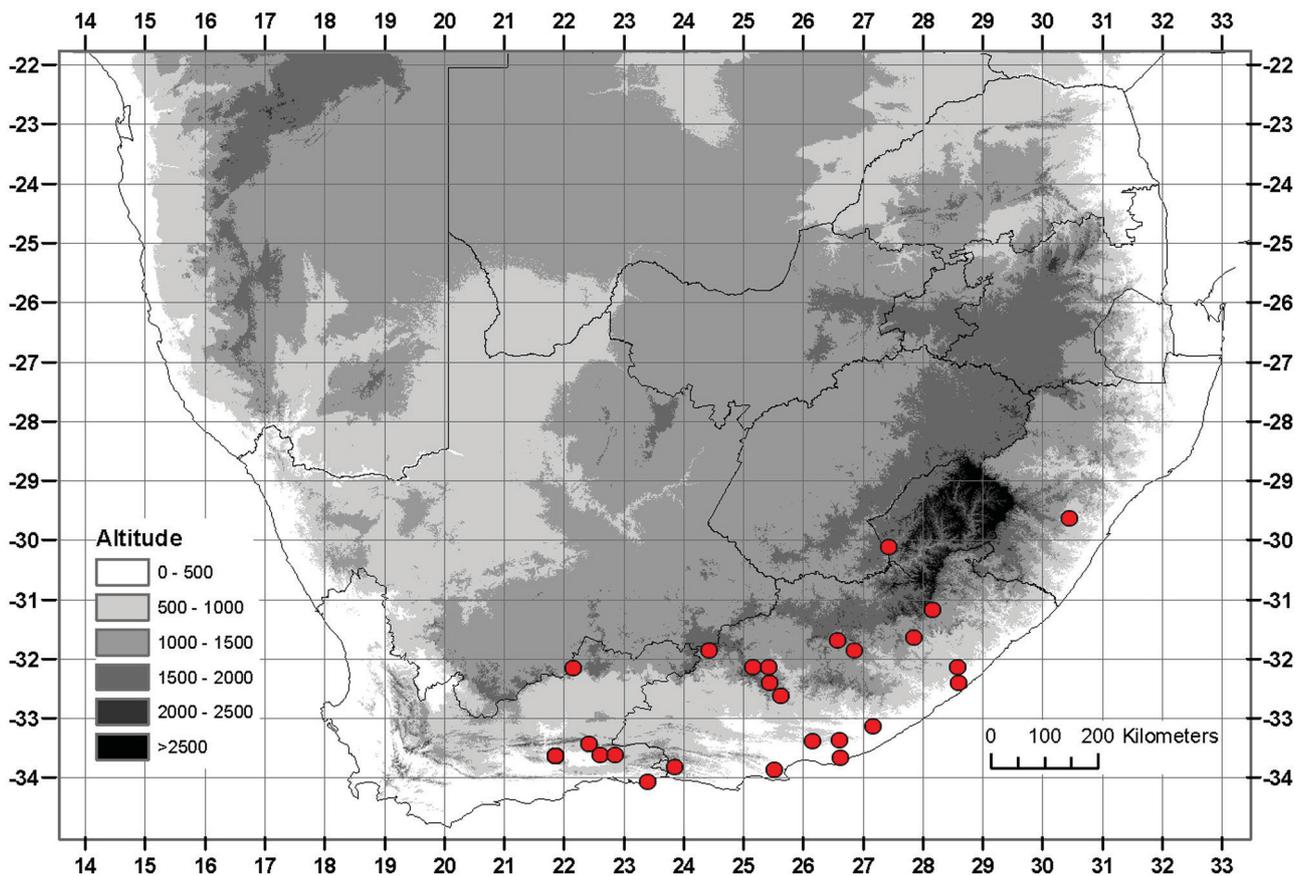


FIGURE 8. Distribution of studied material of *Geschollia calcarata* in South Africa.

Comments on other taxonomic treatments and current circumscription:—Jessop (1977) included the name *Ornithogalum calcaratum* among *nomina dubia* citing “Type: not located and description inadequate. Probably a species of *Drimia*”, but accepted a very broad concept of *Drimia modesta* (Baker 1892: 6) Jessop (1977: 302) including 13 heterotypic synonyms covering a large morphological variability and distribution in South Africa. Hilliard & Burt (1985), however, cited the illustration by Fitch as type and restricted the species concept to include only the name *Urginea modesta* Baker (1892: 6) from Pondoland, South Africa, as synonym. Stedje (1987, 1996) and Stedje & Tulin (1995) also accepted Fitch’s illustration as type and extended the distribution range of *Drimia calcarata* to East Africa, describing seeds from that area as 3–4 mm long. The most recent revision of *Drimia sensu lato* by Manning & Goldblatt (2018) cites that “As circumscribed by Jessop (1977), *Drimia calcarata* included several taxa from the Cape Floristic Region that are now understood to be distinct species, namely *D. dregei* and *D. salteri* [...], *D. hesperantha* [...] and *D. virens* [...]”. As Jessop (1977) considered *Ornithogalum calcaratum* as “*nom. dub.*”, hence Manning & Goldblatt (2018) refer rather to the very wide *Drimia modesta* concept of Jessop (1977). Furthermore, Manning & Goldblatt (2018) follow previous authors in describing seeds of *Drimia calcarata* as 3–4 mm long, which is out of range for any known *Geschollia* species.

In summary, our circumscription of *G. calcarata* strongly differs from that adopted in recent revisions of *Drimia* s.l. Our studies, based on genetic analyses including several samples of *Drimia modesta* and related species (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* in prep.), revealed that the taxa originally described from eastern South Africa (mostly KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng Provinces) and synonymised by Jessop (1977) and later authors to *Drimia modesta* or *Drimia calcarata*, form a sister clade to *Geschollia* that differs in presenting several leaves per bulb, in combination with larger capsules and seeds. Accordingly, those names are not included in this account and will be treated in the revision of Urgineoideae (Martínez-Azorín *et al.* in prep.). In this treatment, *G. calcarata* is near-restricted to the Eastern Cape Province, with a few populations in southern KwaZulu-Natal and eastern Western Cape Provinces).

Additional material studied:—SOUTH AFRICA. Western Cape. Ladismith (3321): ca. 18 km east of Calitzdorp, Redstone Hill Cottages, above Buschman Cottage (-DB), 395 m elevation, 04 October 2015 (in leaf), M. Martínez-Azorín, M. Pinter, M.B. Crespo & M.A. Alonso MMA1346 (ABH74916!); *ibidem*, 30 June 2013 (in flower ex hort. in Graz, Austria), WW04904 (ABH!); *ibidem*, 07 July 2013 (in flower ex hort. in Graz, Austria), WW04157 (ABH!);

ibidem, 15 July 2013 (in flower ex hort. in Graz, Austria), *WW03991* (ABH!); *ibidem*, 02 August 2013 (in flower ex hort. in Graz, Austria), *WW04157* (ABH!); *ibidem*, 10 May 2015 (in leaf ex hort. in Graz, Austria), *WW04157* (ABH!); Oudtshoorn (3322): southern foothills of Swartberg near Rust-en-Vrede (-AD), elevation 2100 feet, 26 December 1984 (in flower), *J.H.J. Volk 883* (NBG131982!); Oudtshoorn (3322): Kammanassie Mountains, upper Diep Kloof (-DA), elevation 1220 m, 11 January 2001, *E.G.H. Oliver & I. Oliver 11843* (NBG!); Oudtshoorn (3322): Uniondale Division, Laudina (-DB), 8 March 1951 (in flower), *E. Esterhuysen 18367* (BOL!); Willowmore (3323): Uniondale, Joubertina (-DD), ex hort at B.H. flowers January 1954, leaves August, Flower 5 March 1953, *E. Esterhuysen 21242* (BOL61295!, BOL two sheets); Knysna (3423): Titzikama, Flats, Bitou River, Div. Knysna (-AB), 30 March 1910 (in flower), *H.G. Fourcade 615* (BOL!, GRA!); Knysna (3423): Knysna Division, Plettenberg Bay (-AB), elevation 200 feet, 2 January 1934 (in flower), *R.H. Compton 4674* (BOL61294!); Knysna (3423): Knysna, Plettenberg Bay (-AB), on stony slope, 26 February 1955, *E. Esterhuysen 24210* (PRE0051074!). Eastern Cape. Hanover (3124): Farm Houdebek 9, (Richmond-Nieu Bethesda region), Sneeuberg, NW of Compassberg (-CD), 1860 m elevation, *V.R. Clark et al. 20* (NBG0213358!); Queenstown (3126): Andriesberg, near Bailey (-DA), elev. 5300 feet, 6 December 1896, *E.E. Galpin 2233* (PRE0051147!; BOL71495!); Queenstown (3126): Queenstown, near Fincham's Nek (-DD), elev. 3450 feet, November 1896 (in flower), *E. Galpin 2202* (BOL61292!); Lady Frere (3127): Transkei, hills near Engcobo (-DB), on dry cliffs, 12 October 1961 (in flower and fruit), *E. Esterhuysen 29244* (BOL61286!); Umtata (3128): Maclear, foot of Pot River Pass (-AA), 30 November 2012, *J.C. Manning 3401* (NBG277391!); Beaufort West (3222): Beaufort West, Karoon National Park, Brandewynsgat (-AA), elev. 1235 m, 7 December 2005 (in flower), *A.C. Mudau 35A* (PRE0659258.0!); Somerset East (3225): Mountain Zebra National Park, Farm 413, Elandsfontein (-AA), elev. 1262 m, 13 December 2005 (in flower), *A.C. Mudau 155* (PRE0659302.0!); Somerset East (3225): Mountain Zebra National Park, East of Doringhoek Dam, next to the road (-AB), elev. 1245 m, 12 December 2005 (in flower), *A.C. Mudau 129* (PRE0659289.0!); Somerset East (3225): Mountain Zebra National Park, next to Doringhoek Dam (-AD), elev. 1284 m, 12 December 2005 (in flower), *A.C. Mudau 109* (PRE0659278.0!); Somerset East (3225): Somerset East, Boschberg Nature Reserve, summit of Boschberg near Bloukop (-DA), 1550 m elevation, 5 December 2008, *V.R. Clark & J. Le Roux 294* (NBG0249514!); Butterworth (3228): Tsolorha, Mbashee River (-BA), 19 November 2002 (in flower), *E.J. Van Jaarsveld 16902* (NBG0257549!); Butterworth (3228): Transkei, Gatyana/Willovale, Gatyana coast, Beechamwoods FD reserve, area between Shixini and Nqabara Rivers (-BC), 23–26 December 1993 (in flower and fruit), *A.P. Dold 612* (GRA!); Port Elizabeth (3325): Bridgemead suburb, P.E., Parsons Vlei Farm (-CD), 175 m elevation, 8 December 1996, *A.P. Dold 2507 & M.Cocks* (GRA!); Grahamstown (3326): Alexandria, Tootabi Rd. (-AC), 13 January 1956 (in flower), *E.E.A. Archibald 6172* (PRE0051149!); Grahamstown (3326): Grahamstown, above Rabbit's Wood (-BC), recently burnt grassveld, 28 April 1964 (in flower and fruit), *J.P. Jessop 853* (GRA18693!); Grahamstown (3326): Alexandria, Bushman's River mouth (-DA), elevation 70–100 feet, 11 December 1953 (in flower and fruit), *E.E.A. Archibald 5429* (GRA!, PRE0051156!); Grahamstown (3326): Alexandria, Bushman's River Poort Heights (-DA), elevation 600 feet, 5 January 1956 (in bud), *E.E.A. Archibald 6136* (GRA!); Peddie (3327): Peddie (-AA), 11 January 1947 (in flower), *F.M. Leighton 2646* (BOL!). KwaZulu-Natal. Pietermaritzburg (2930): pr. Maritzburg (-CB), elev. 2000 feet, 18 September 1893 (in flower), *R. Schlechter 3290* (BOL61283!, PRE0559667!, GRA!); Pietermaritzburg (2930): Maritzburg (-CB), elev. 3000 feet, 20 September 1893 (in flower), *R. Schlechter 3004* (GRA!); Pietermaritzburg (2930): Pietermaritzburg, Oribi Aerodrome (-CB), elev. 2400 feet, 17 August 1965 (in flower), *E.J. Moll 1850* (PRE0048648!); Pietermaritzburg (2930): Pietermaritzburg, Marconi Pl to R103 (-CB), 699 m elevation, 15 October 2015 (in flower and fruit), *M. Martínez-Azorin, M. Pinter, M.B. Crespo & M.A. Alonso MMA1439* (ABH74241!). LESOTHO. Lady Frere (3027): Basutoland, Mohale's Hoek (-AB), 24–25 October 1946 (in flower and fruit), *E. Esterhuysen 13217* (BOL! two sheets).

4. *Geschollia globuligera* Mart.-Azorin, A.P. Dold & M.B. Crespo *sp. nov.* (Fig. 9)

Geschollia globuligera resembles *G. zebrina* in flower morphology based on the filaments with distinct retrorse papillae and the gynoecium morphology with long deflexed curved style, however the former differs in the bulbs composed by 10–12 loose, subglobose and shortly pedunculated scales (not compact), the lack of zebrine cataphylls surrounding the leaf base (present in the latter species) and the oblong, truncate ovary (not ovate and attenuate to the style).

Type—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern Cape. Port Elizabeth (3325): Port Elizabeth, Thornhill, Van Stadens Wildflower Reserve, West side of reserve on flats, 300 m to the east of river gorge (-CC), 230 m elevation, coarse sandy soil on flats, recently burnt Algoa Sandstone Fynbos, 20 January 2018 (in flower), *A.P. Dold TD16029* (holotype: GRA!; isotype: ABH!).

Bulb hypogaeal, 15–20 × 20–35 mm, composed of 6–12, loose, thickened, subglobose and shortly pedunculated scales, each 10–13 × 6–10 mm, lacking outer tunics. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 20–100 × 0.7–1 mm. Leaf solitary terete,

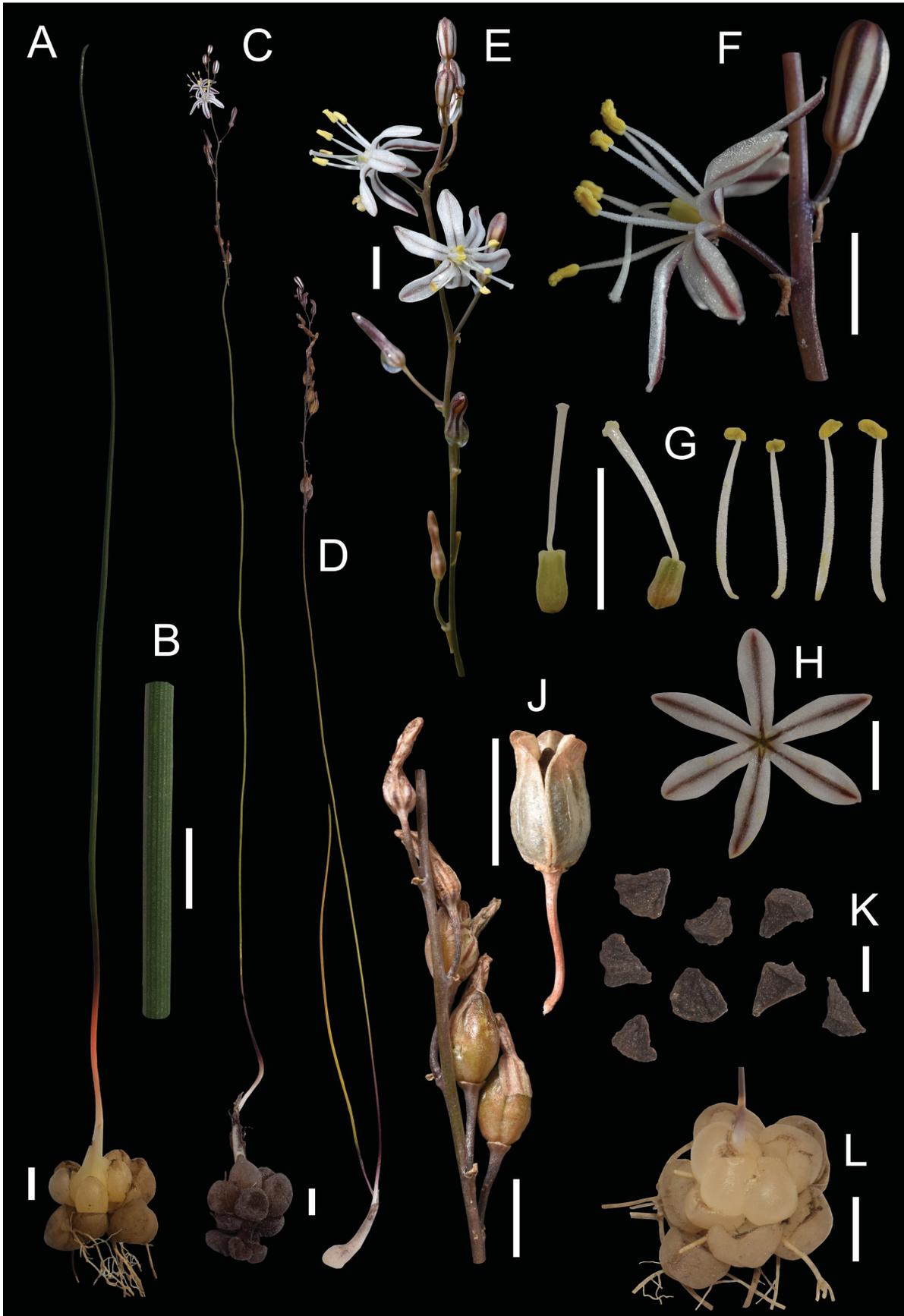


FIGURE 9. *Geschollia globuligera* from the type locality. **A.** Bulb with loose, globose, thickened scales and single terete leaf; **B.** Section of leaf; **C.** Plant in flower with withered leaf; **D.** Plant in fruit with withering leaf; **E.** Inflorescence; **F.** Detail of flower in lateral view showing micropapillate filaments and spurred bracts; **G.** Gynoecia and stamens; **H.** Tepals in frontal view; **J.** Dehiscent capsule, lateral view; **K.** Polygonal, triangular seeds; **L.** Bulb with loose, subglobose scales. Scale bars: A, C, D, L: 1 cm; B, E-J: 5 mm; K: 1 mm.

15–32 × 0.15–0.2 cm, suberect, curved, smooth, glabrous, striate with longitudinal nerves, usually withering from the tip showing transverse abscission plates, green, reddish-purplish at base, leathery, withered or almost withered at flowering time. Inflorescence 1 per bulb; raceme elongated, 7–10 cm long, with 10–16 flowers, erect, with slightly sinuouse axes; peduncle elongated, 25–35 cm long, green to greyish, purple at base, erect, usually slightly sinuouse and sometimes with a distinct bent at base, smooth; flower pedicels 3–4 mm long at anthesis, patent to suberect, slightly elongating in fruit to 5–6 mm long and erect. Bracts lanceolate, acute, ca. 1 mm long, purplish, the lowermost with a spur ca. 1.5–2 mm long; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, flowering in the morning. Flowers white, with a distinct purplish stripe along the middle of the perigone segments, more evident on the abaxial side. Tepals 6, biseriate, reflexed at full anthesis, shortly connate at base for ca. 1 mm, lanceolate, 6.5–8 × 1.8–3 mm. Stamens 6; filaments filiform, attenuate to the apex, 5.5–6 mm long, erect to slightly spreading, adnate to the base of the tepals for less than 1 mm, covered by distinct retrorse elongated papillae along the upper 2/3 of their length; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 1.3 mm long, subbasifixed, dehiscing along their whole length; pollen yellow. Ovary oblong, truncate to the style, 1.9–2.3 × 0.9–1.1 mm, green with longitudinal white areas between septal nectaria; style white, narrowly columnar, 5–6 mm long, deflexed, trigonous in section; stigma slightly three-lobed and papillose. Capsule ovate, 5–6 × 2.5–3.2 mm, trigonous, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds numerous per locule, subtrigonous or subpolygonal and irregularly compressed, 1.1–1.7 × 0.7–0.9 mm, brownish black, with slightly tuberculate testa.

Etymology:—Named after the subglobose, loose, thickened bulb scales.

Phenology:—*Geschollia globuligera* flowers in January at the type locality, opening at dawn and closing about noon. The species seems to flower after fires.

Habitat:—This species occurs in fairly coarse sandy soil derived from Ordovician sandstones of the Table Mountain Group, on flats dominated by fynbos vegetation. The only known population occurs in Algoa Sandstone Fynbos vegetation. This area is characterized by rainfall throughout the year (mean annual precipitation 680 mm) with a slight peak in March and October, with a mean annual temperature of 17° C and only three days of frost per year (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Distribution:—*G. globuligera* is only known from the type locality in the Van Stadens Wildflower Reserve, west of Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa (Fig. 5). Further research is needed to establish the distribution range of this species.

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—*G. globuligera* is unique in the genus in having hypogean bulbs composed by 10–12, loose, subglobose and shortly pedunculated scales and the large flower with tepals 6.5–8 mm long. Flower morphology of this species approaches *G. zebrina*, based on the filaments with distinct retrorse papillae and the long deflexed curved style. However, *G. zebrina* differs by the compact bulb, with a zebrine cataphyll surrounding the leaf, the smaller flower with tepals 5–6 mm long, and the ovary attenuate to the style, among other characters.

Additional material studied (paratypes):—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern Cape. Port Elizabeth (3325): Van Staadens [sic], near Port Elizabeth (-CC), November 1909, *T.V. Paterson 910* (GRA!).

5. *Geschollia longipedicellata* Mart.-Azorín, Wetschnig, M. Pinter & M.B. Crespo *sp. nov.* (Fig. 10)

Geschollia longipedicellata can be recognized by the long pedicels (20–25 mm long) combined with a solid, single bulb, single terete leaf, suberect stamens and slightly deflexed style being about twice the length of the ovary. All other species in the genus show pedicels up to 12 mm long and a different combination of characters.

Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern Cape. Willowmore (3323): Willowmore, ca. 1 km E of town (-BC), 860 m elevation, 4 May 2015 in flower ex hort in Graz Austria, *W. Wetschnig & C. Huber WW4944* (holotype: GRA!; isotype: ABH!).

Bulb hypogean, solitary, ovate, 10–35 × 10–32 mm, extended into a very short epigeal neck up to 1 cm long, with pale grey-brown membranous outer tunics and white fleshy tightly packed inner scales. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 8–25 × 1 mm. Leaf solitary, terete, withered or almost withered at flowering time, aerial portion 10–20 × 0.2 cm, suberect, curved, green, smooth, glabrous, very slightly striate with prominent longitudinal nerves. Inflorescence long racemose, raceme 15–22 cm long, with 50–90 flowers; pedicels 20–25 mm long at anthesis, smooth, glabrous, subpatent; peduncle 18–25 cm long, erect, greyish, minutely papillose at basal portion; bracts ovate-lanceolate, small, 1–1.5 mm long, clasping the pedicels, spurred, the lowermost with a spur ca. 2 mm long, membranous, brownish. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, diurnal; tepals white on the adaxial side with a greenish longitudinal central band on the abaxial side, lanceolate-oblong, 4.5–5.5 × 1.6–1.8 mm, free from the base or only connate for ca. 0.5 mm at base, strongly reflexed at anthesis exposing stamens and gynoecium, glandulous at apex, biseriate, outers slightly

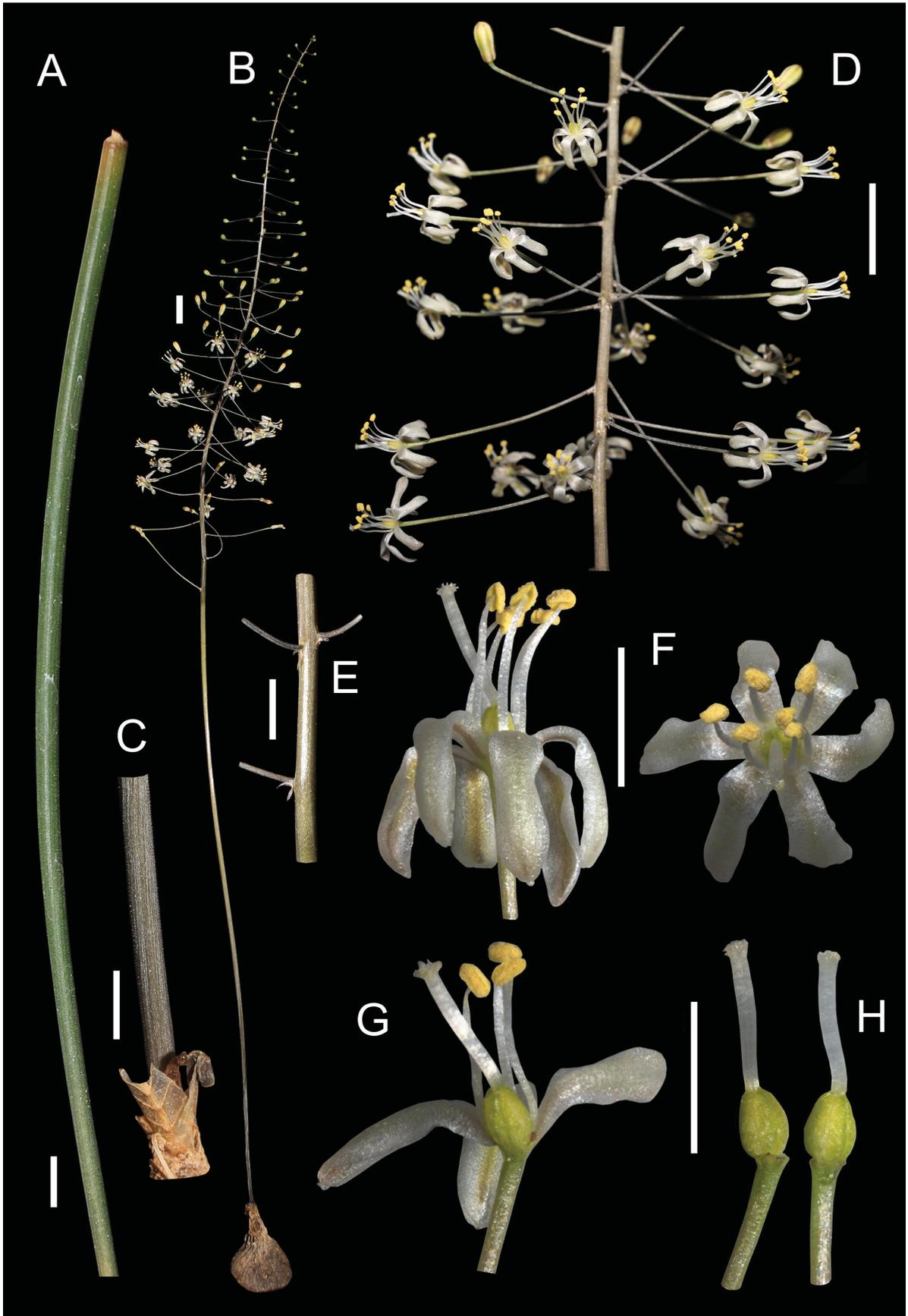


FIGURE 10. *Geschollia longipedicellata* from the type locality. **A.** Leaf; **B.** Plant in flower; **C.** Base of peduncle with micropapillae; **D.** Portion of inflorescence with long pedicels; **E.** Axis of inflorescence with spurred bracts; **F.** Flowers in lateral and frontal views; **G.** Dissected flower in lateral view showing stamens and gynoecium; **H.** Gynoecia in lateral views. Scale bars: B, D: 1 cm; A, C, E: 5 mm; F-H: 3 mm.

overlapping inners at base, with recurved margins at anthesis. Stamens 6, suberect, shortly adnate to perigone for ca. 0.5 mm; filaments white, terete, filiform, slightly curved, 4.5–5 × 0.2 mm, smooth; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 1 mm long before dehiscence, dorsifixed, dehiscing by longitudinal slits, with yellow pollen. Ovary yellowish-green, ovate, contracted to the style, 1.3–1.6 × 1 mm; style white, columnar, 3.2–3.7 mm long, slightly deflexed and curved, trigonous in transversal section; stigma small and glandulose. Capsule and seeds not studied.

Etymology:—Named after the long flower pedicels at the anthesis, being unique in the genus.

Phenology:—*Geschollia longipedicellata* flowers around May in cultivation in Europe.

Habitat:—The only known locality of *G. longipedicellata* is located in the Succulent Karoo biome with SKv12 Willowmore Gwarrieveld vegetation. This species occurs in patches of open vegetation on rocky ground. This area is characterized by an aseasonal bimodal (autumn-spring) rainfall pattern (mean annual precipitation 250 mm) with a slight optimum in March and from October to November, with a mean annual temperature of 16–17°C and fairly frequent frost (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Distribution:—Only known from the type locality in the surroundings of Willowmore in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. Further studies are needed to evaluate the real distribution of this species.

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—The single terete leaf of *G. longipedicellata*, together with its flower morphology place this species in *Geschollia*. Although no seeds are available at present, an important character for *Geschollia* identification, our phylogenetic studies (not shown) included a sample of this species from the type locality and confirmed its inclusion in this genus. No other species of *Geschollia* show such long flower pedicels. This character combined with its peculiar flower morphology, showing suberect stamens and slightly deflexed style (about twice the length of the ovary), support the description of this new species.

6. *Geschollia occultans* (G. Will.) Mart.-Azorín, M.B. Crespo & M. Pinter **comb. nov.** ≡ *Drimia occultans* G. Will. in *Cact. Succ. J. (Los Angeles)* 83(6): 287 (2012), basionym. (Fig. 11)

Type:—NAMIBIA. Oranjemund (2816): Southern Namib Desert, Swartkop Hill, 9 km E of Oranjemund (-DA), March 2011 ex hort. in Cape Town, *G. Williamson 5922* (holotype: NBG0271283!).

Herbaceous deciduous geophyte. Bulb hypogaeal, solitary, ovate to subglobose or sometimes depressed in old bulbs, 10–20 × 7–24 mm, extended into a hypogaeal neck up to 25 mm long, with pale grey-brown membranous outer tunics and white fleshy tightly packed inner scales. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 10–30 × 1 mm. Leaf solitary, terete, withered or almost withered at flowering time, aerial portion 2–4.5 × 0.05–0.15 cm, suberect, curved, green, smooth, glabrous. Inflorescence a short raceme 2–10 mm long, with 1–3 flowers; peduncle 20–50 mm long, erect, greyish, smooth; pedicels 2–4 mm long at anthesis, smooth, glabrous, spreading; bracts ovate-lanceolate, ca. 1 mm long, clasping the pedicels, spurred, the lowermost with a spur ca. 0.5 mm long, membranous, brownish. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, diurnal; tepals white on the adaxial side with a pale reddish-brown coloured longitudinal central band on the abaxial side, lanceolate-oblong, 5–6.5 × 1.4–1.8 mm, glandulous at apex, biseriata, outers overlapping inners at base, almost free from the base or connate only for ca. 0.5 mm at base; with margins slightly recurved at anthesis. Stamens 6, suberect to spreading, shortly adnate to perigone for ca. 0.5 mm; filaments white, terete, filiform or slightly fusiform, attenuate to the apex, 4.5–5.5 × 0.2 mm, smooth or minutely papillate; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 1 mm long before dehiscence, dorsifixed, dehiscing by longitudinal slits, with yellow pollen. Ovary pale orange, ovate-oblong, somewhat truncate to the style, 2.2–2.5 × 1–1.3 mm; style white, columnar, 1.9–2.2 mm long, erect, trigonous in transversal section; stigma small and slightly papillate. Capsule ovate, 4–4.5 × 3.5 mm, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds narrowly triangular-pyramidal, 1.3–1.8 × 0.8–1 mm, dark black, with rough texture.

Etymology:—Named after the difficulty of detecting the species due to its minute size and its hidden position amongst rocks (Williamson 2012).

Phenology:—*Geschollia occultans* flowers in late summer (March) in southern Africa. Flowers open towards late morning and wither the same day in the late afternoon (Williamson 2012).

Habitat:—*G. occultans* grows in sandy patches, sheltered between slabs of grey-blue to black metamorphosed schist covered in places by fine windblown sand, usually on southwestern aspects (Williamson 2012). Its populations are located in the Desert biome with Dn4 Western Gariep Lowland Desert. This area receives predominant winter rains (mean annual precipitation 45–60 mm) with an estimation of 50–60 days of fog per year. Temperatures are generally relatively mild due to the cooling effect of the nearby Atlantic Ocean, but can be up to 48 °C on berg-wind days, with no occurrence of frost. Winds and sand storms are frequent (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).



FIGURE 11. *Geschollia occultans* from E of Alexander Bay, South Africa. **A.** Inflorescence with buds and spurred bracts; **B.** Inflorescences with withered leaf; **C.** Flower, frontal and dorsal views, showing nectar drops; **D.** Dissected flower in lateral view showing stamens and gynoecium and tepals with shortly adnate filaments; **E.** Tepals, stamens and gynoecia, lateral views; **F.** Bulbs with single, terete leaf; **G.** Immature (left) and dehiscent (right) capsules; **H.** Seeds. Scale bars: B, F: 1 cm; A, C-E, G: 5 mm; H: 2 mm.

Distribution:—*G. occultans* was described from a single population in southern Namibia. Our field work along the banks of the lower Orange River revealed three further populations that represent a first record of this species in South Africa (Fig. 5).

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—*G. occultans* is characterized by the proteranthous, solitary, terete, short and thin leaf; the short raceme with few flowers; the comparatively large flowers in relation to plant and leaf size, and the narrowly triangular-pyramidal seeds. It shares the main diagnostic characters of *Geschollia*, such as the terete, single leaf, and small, polygonal seeds, but differs in size of leaves, size and morphology of flower organs, capsule and seed morphology, and in habitat and distribution. Moreover, our phylogenetic analyses included two samples of *G. occultans* from two populations, and confirmed their inclusion in *Geschollia*.

Additional material studied:—SOUTH AFRICA. Northern Cape. Oranjemund (2816): between Alexander Bay and Kuboes, rocky area overlooking bend of the Orange river (-BC), rock crevices filled with sand, 71 m elevation, 31 July 2016 in leaf, *M. Martínez-Azorín, M.B. Crespo, M.A. Alonso, J.L. Villar, A. Vicente, J. Moreno & A. Terrones MMA1582* (ABH 74363!); Oranjemund (2816): ca. 15 km E of Alexander Bay on R382, koppie W of Grootderm (Spogplaas) farm house, S of road (-DA), rock crevices filled with sand, 20 m elevation, 31 July 2016 in leaf, *M. Martínez-Azorín, M.B. Crespo, M.A. Alonso, J.L. Villar, A. Vicente, J. Moreno & A. Terrones MMA1578* (ABH 74359!); *ibidem*, 17 July 2018 (in flower ex hort in Alicante, Spain), (ABH!); Oranjemund (2816): Spogplaas, ca. 8 km E of Alexander Bay Airport on road to Kuboes, slopes facing W near farm house (-DA), sandy soil on steep rocky slope, 61 m elevation, 26 August 2017 in leaf, *M. Martínez-Azorín, M.B. Crespo, M.A. Alonso & M. Pinter MMA1864* (ABH77049!).

7. *Geschollia prolifera* Mart.-Azorín, A.P. Dold & M.B. Crespo *sp. nov.* (Fig. 12)

Geschollia prolifera resembles *G. calcarata* in leaf and flower morphology, but the former is easily identified by the proliferous, elongated and transversely constricted bulbs that form large clumps (not solitary) and the 2(–3) leaves per bulb (not single).

Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. Eastern Cape. Fort Beaufort (3226): Fort Fordyce Reserve, Fort Beaufort, East ‘lip’ of Fuller’s Hoek forest basin, below EC Parks office and lodge (-DA), elevation 900 m, flowered ex hort 25 November 2017, *A.P. Dold 16026* (holotype GRA!).

Bulb hypogaeal, proliferous by bulb division and clump forming, narrow and distinctly elongated, commonly transversally constricted, single bulbs 30–40 × 10–13 mm, with pale brown to greyish membranous outer tunics and white fleshy, tightly packed inner tunics, usually extended into a short hypogaeal neck up to 7 mm long surrounded by a single broad, acuminate, greyish cataphyll that sheaths leaves. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 10–90 × 0.5–1.8 mm. Leaves usually 2 per bulb, rarely 3 as a thin, small leaf, giving the appearance of bunches of leaves due to the proliferous nature of the bulbs, which soon produce leaves at early stages of bulb splitting: with the resulting sister bulbs sharing the mother outer tunics, 5–30 × 0.08–0.2 cm, terete, suberect, curved, smooth, glabrous, very slightly striate with prominent longitudinal nerves, usually withering from the tip showing transverse abscission plates, green, synanthous in cultivation. Inflorescence 1–2 per bulb; raceme 6–8 cm long, suberect to slightly bent, with 15–25 flowers; peduncle elongated, 13–17 cm long, suberect, curved, green, purplish at base, smooth; flower pedicels 4–5 mm long, patent at anthesis. Bracts lanceolate, acute, ca. 1 mm long, brownish, the lowermost with a spur ca. 1.5 mm long; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, diurnal. Tepals 6, biseriate, white, with a purplish longitudinal stripe along the middle on the abaxial side, reflexed at full anthesis, shortly connate at base for less than 1 mm, narrowly lanceolate-oblong, 4.8–5.5 × 1.7–2 mm, glandulous at apex. Stamens 6; filaments filiform, subfusiform, attenuate to the apex, 2.3–2.8 mm long, spreading, adnate to the base of the tepals for less than 1 mm, smooth; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 0.8 mm long, dorsifixed, dehiscent along their whole length; pollen yellow. Ovary oblong, truncate to the style, 1.8–2 × 0.9–1.1 mm, green; style white, thickened, columnar, ca. 2 × 0.5 mm, erect, trigonous in section; stigma three-lobed and papillose. Capsule ovate, trigonous, 4.5–5.5 × 3.5–4 mm, loculicidal, the 3 valves splitting to the base, with the withered perigone segments circumscissile below and forming an apical cap. Seeds polygonal or irregularly compressed, sometimes elongated, 1.8–2.4(2.8) × 0.8–1.4 mm, black, with wrinkled-rugose testa.

Etymology:—Named after the proliferous bulbs of this species, a distinct character not found in other known species in *Geschollia*.

Phenology:—*Geschollia prolifera* flowers in October–November, and fruits are produced in December–January.

Habitat:—This species grows on bare exposed sandstone rock sheets along edge of grassland bordering forest, sharing its habitat with many geophytes and succulents. The vegetation at the type locality is classified as Amathole Montane Grassland (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

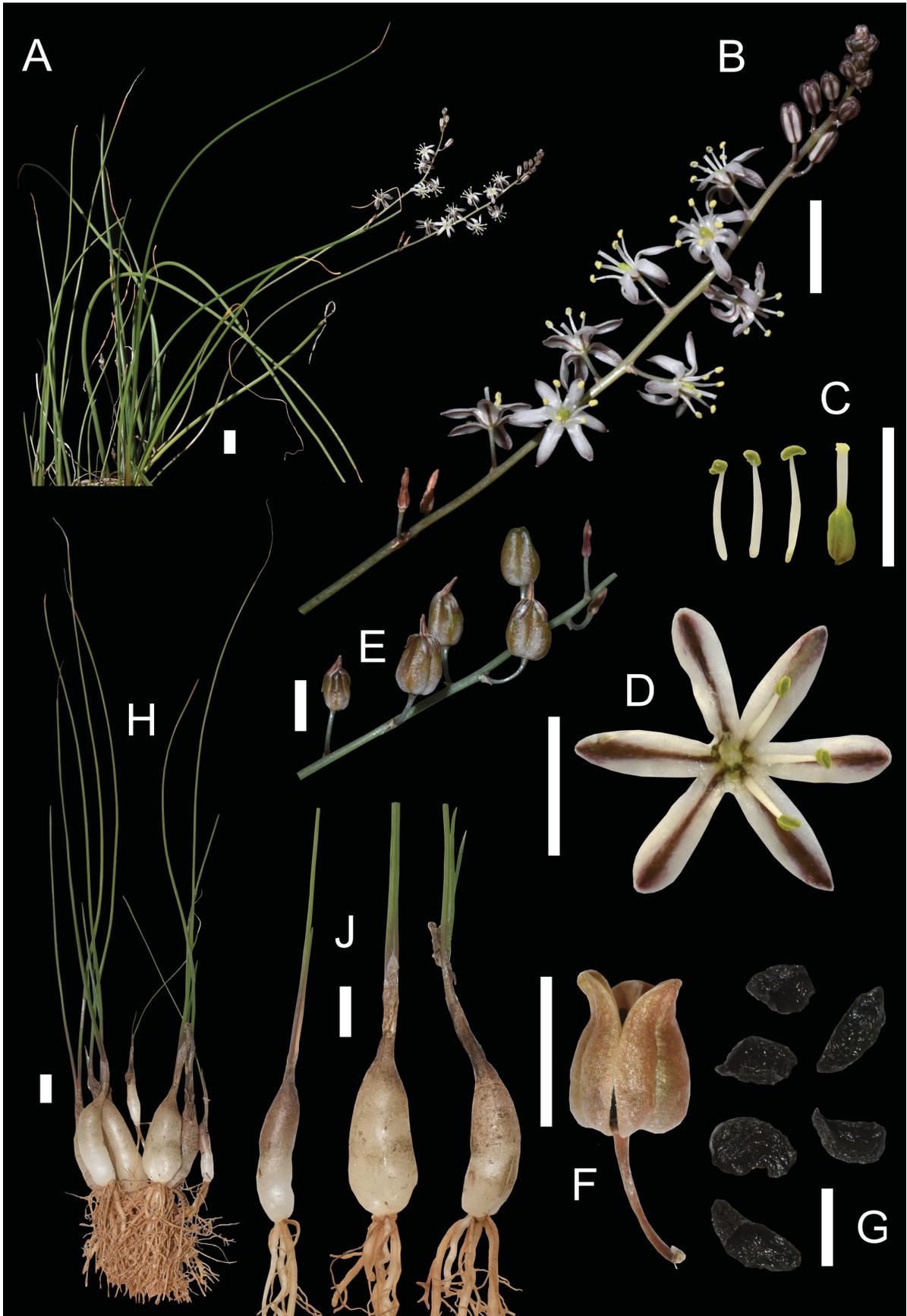


FIGURE 12. *Geschollia prolifera* from the type locality. **A.** Plants in flower; **B.** Inflorescence; **C.** Stamens and gynoecium; **D.** Dissected flowers, frontal view; **E.** Inflorescence with immature capsules; **F.** Dehiscent capsule; **G.** Seeds; **H.** Clump of bulbs with leaves; **J.** Bulbs with leaves. Scale bars: A, B, H, J: 1 cm; C, D, E, F: 5 mm; G: 2 mm.

Distribution:—*G. prolifera* is only known from the type locality at Fort Fordyce Reserve, ca. 16 km NW of Fort Beaufort, in the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa (Fig. 5). Further research is needed to establish the distribution range of this species.

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—*G. prolifera* is easily identified by the proliferous bulbs and the 2(–3) leaves per bulb, giving the appearance of bunches of leaves and inflorescences. The single, terete leaf is one of the distinct characters defining *Geschollia*, although in some species such as *G. anomala*, a second leaf can be produced in cultivated plants. The typical presence of 2(–3) leaves per bulb in *G. prolifera* can be understood as a secondary adaptation linked to the proliferous nature of the bulbs, which produce leaves soon after splitting. The resultant sister bulbs share the mother bulb outer tunics. The inflorescence and flower morphology of *G. prolifera* approaches *G. calcarata*, but the latter species presents single bulbs and leaves, and never clumps.

8. *Geschollia zebrina* Mart.-Azorín, A.P. Dold & M.B. Crespo *sp. nov.* (Fig. 13)

Geschollia zebrina resembles *G. globuligera* in flower morphology, both sharing filaments with retrorse elongated papillae and the deflexed and curved style, but the former differs by the compact bulb scales (not loose, globose, thickened and pedunculated), the presence of transversally-banded (zebrine) cataphylls surrounding the leaf base and the attenuate-ovate ovary (not truncated to the style).

Type:—SOUTH AFRICA. Western Cape. Oudtshoorn (3322): Grootkop Nature Reserve, NE of Oudtshoorn (-CA), 415 m elevation, 04 May 2015 in flower ex hort in Graz, Austria, *M. Martínez-Azorín, J. Vlok, A.P. Dold & A. Martínez-Soler MMA893* (holotype: GRA!; isotype: ABH!).

Herbaceous deciduous geophyte. Bulb hypogaeal or only slightly epigeal in the upper portions and then photosynthetic, solitary, ovate, 20–50 × 8–20 mm, sometimes extended into a short neck up to 1 cm long, with pale brown to greyish, slightly leathery outer tunics and white fleshy tightly packed inner tunics. Roots fleshy, white, branched, 8–50 × 0.7–1 mm. Leaf solitary terete, 6–25 × 0.08–0.15 cm, suberect, curved, smooth, glabrous, very slightly striate with prominent longitudinal nerves, usually withering from the tip showing transverse abscission plates, green, leathery, withered or almost withered at flowering time, surrounded by a sheathing membranous zebrine cataphyll 20–50 mm long bearing transversally raised dark bands. Inflorescence 1 or rarely 2 per bulb; raceme elongated, 10–25 cm long, with 20–30 flowers, erect; peduncle elongated, 10–18 cm long, greyish, erect or slightly curved, smooth; flower pedicels 4–6 mm long, subpatent at anthesis. Bracts lanceolate, acute, ca. 1 mm long, purplish, the lowermost with a spur ca. 3 mm long; bracteoles absent. Flowers pentacyclic, trimerous, stellate, erect-patent, flowering in the afternoon-evening. Flowers white, with a discrete green stripe along the middle of the perigone segments, more evident on the abaxial side. Tepals 6, biseriata, strongly reflexed at full anthesis, shortly connate at base for ca. 1 mm, lanceolate-oblong, 5–6 × 1.8–2.2 mm. Stamens 6; filaments filiform, subfusiform, attenuate to the apex, 3–4 mm long, erect to slightly spreading, adnate to the base of the tepals for less than 1 mm, coated by distinct retrorse elongated papillae along the upper 2/3 of their length; anthers yellow, oblong, ca. 1 mm long, dorsifixed, dehiscing along their whole length; pollen yellow. Ovary ovate, attenuate to the style, 1.7–1.9 × 0.8–0.9 mm, pale orange; style white, narrowly columnar, 4–4.5 mm long, deflexed and curved at base, trigonous in section; stigma slightly three-lobed and papillose. Capsule and seed not studied.

Etymology:—Named after the distinct zebrine epigeal cataphyll that sheaths the base of the single terete leaf.

Phenology:—*Geschollia zebrina* flowers during May in cultivation in Europe.

Habitat:—This species occurs in patches of open succulent vegetation on stony ground where plants are sheltered by rocks. The only known population is located in the Little Karoo region with Eastern Little Karoo vegetation, characterized by an aseasonal rainfall (mean annual precipitation 290 mm) with a slight optimum in March and pronounced decline in summer (December-January), with a mean annual temperature of 17 °C and fairly frequent frost (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Distribution:—*G. zebrina* is only known from the type locality, near Oudtshoorn in the Western Cape Province of South Africa (Fig. 5). Further research is needed to establish the distribution range of this species.

Diagnostic characters and taxonomic relationships:—*G. zebrina* is unique in the genus in having a zebrine, transversally-banded cataphyll together with filaments bearing distinct retrorse papillae, an ovate ovary and deflexed, curved style. Flower morphology of *G. zebrina* resembles that of *G. globuligera* based on the filaments with retrorse elongated papillae and the deflexed and curved style, pointing to a close relationship between these two species. However, *G. globuligera* clearly differs in its bulb with loose, globose and thickened pedunculated bulb scales, and the truncate ovary, among other characters. A sample of *G. zebrina* in our phylogenetic analyses (not shown) confirmed its inclusion in *Geschollia*.

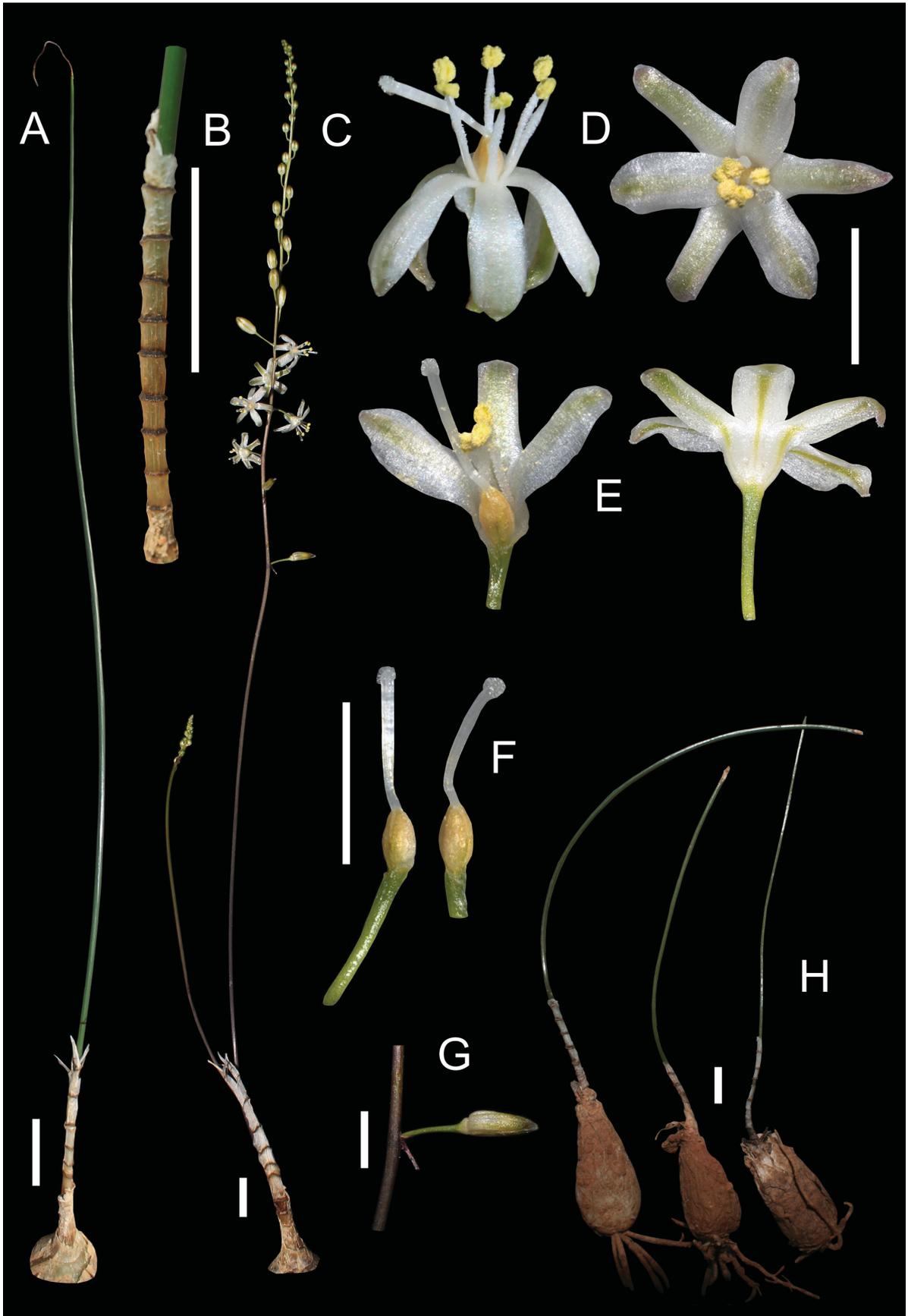


FIGURE 13. *Geschollia zebrina* from the type locality. **A.** Bulb with single, terete leaf; **B.** Zebrine cataphyll surrounding the base of the leaf; **C.** Plant in flower with a second emergent inflorescence and withered leaf; **D.** Flowers in lateral and frontal view showing papillate filaments; **E.** Developing flowers in lateral view, dissected on the left side; **F.** Gynoecia; **G.** Flower postanthesis with pedicel and spurred bract; **H.** Bulbs with a single terete leaf. Scale bars: A-C, H: 1 cm; D-G: 5 mm.

Within Hyacinthaceae, the zebrine or transversally banded cataphyll is a recurrent character appearing in several species from different genera and subfamilies, such as *Albuca annulata* Mart.-Azorín & M.B. Crespo in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2011d: 696), *A. bakeri*, *Coilonox zebrinum*, *Nicipe anguina* (F.M. Leight. ex Obermeyer 1978: 356) Mart.-Azorín, M.B. Crespo & Juan in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2011a: 31), *N. monophylla* (Baker 1897: 502) Mart.-Azorín, M.B. Crespo & Juan in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2011a: 32) and *N. zebrinella* (Müller-Doblies & Müller-Doblies 1981: 87) Mart.-Azorín, M.B. Crespo & Juan in Martínez-Azorín *et al.* (2011a: 32) (in subfamily Ornithogaloideae) or *Geschollia brachyandra*, *Rhadamanthus fasciatus* and most species of *Tenicroa* Rafinesque (1837: 52) (in subfamily Urgineoideae). The ecological adaptation of this character is uncertain, but it may be related to camouflage or aposematic signals of leaf bases against herbivores.

Additional material studied (paratype):—SOUTH AFRICA. Western Cape. Oudtshoorn (3322): Grootkop Nature Reserve, NE of Oudtshoorn (-CA), 415 m elevation, 28 September 2011 (in leaf), *M. Martínez-Azorín*, *J. Vlok*, *A.P. Dold* & *A. Martínez-Soler MMA893* (ABH59707!).

Key to the species of *Geschollia* (based on living material)

1. Bulbs elongated and proliferous, forming clumps; leaves 2(–3) per bulb 7. *G. prolifera*
- Bulbs ovate-globose, not proliferous; leaf mostly solitary 2
2. Pedicels of flowers 20–25 mm long 5. *G. longipedicellata*
- Pedicels of flowers up to 10 mm long 3
3. Inflorescence very short, with 1–3 flowers 6. *G. occultans*
- Inflorescence long racemose, with 10–90 flowers 4
4. Filaments coated with distinct elongated retrorse papillae 5
- Filaments smooth 6
5. Tepals 5–6 mm long; bulb scales tightly imbricate; base of leaf surrounded by a transversally banded, zebrine cataphyll; ovary ovate, attenuate to the style 8. *G. zebrina*
- Tepals 6.5–8 mm long; bulb scales loose, subglobose and thickened; base of leaf not surrounded by a transversally banded, zebrine cataphyll; ovary oblong, truncate to the style 4. *G. globuligera*
6. Flowers small; tepals 3.2–4.2 mm long; filaments 1.4–1.9 mm long; leaf surrounded at base by cataphylls with distinct transversal usually raised dark bars 2. *G. brachyandra*
- Flowers larger; tepals 4–6 mm long; filaments 2–4 mm long; leaf not surrounded by distinct transversally barred, raised cataphylls, sometimes showing weak transversal bandings 7
7. Mature leaves 1–2.5 mm wide; flowers white 3. *G. calcarata*
- Mature leaves 3–7 mm wide; flowers usually yellow to greenish, rarely white 1. *G. anomala*

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