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Notulae ad floram euro-mediterraneam pertinentes No. 9

JIŘÍ DANIHELKA & KAROL MARHOLD

# Validation of the name *Artemisia pancicii (Asteraceae)*

**Abstract**

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*Artemisia pancicii* is a widely recognized species, occurring in S Moravia (Czech Republic), Lower Austria and Burgenland (Austria), and the vicinity of Deliblato (Vojvodina, Serbia), but it is shown that its name has never been validly published. The species is therefore described as new. Data on the history of its discovery, relationships and present distribution are given.

The history of the scientific discovery of the plant presently known as *Artemisia pancicii* is long and ill fated (Wagner 1911). The Serbian botanist Josif Pančić collected it in July 1867 at Korn (Kapu Kornuluj) in the eolian sand area Deliblatska peščara, near Deliblato (Deliblát) in Vojvodina, Serbia (formerly, under the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, in Banatus, Hungary). Pančić found only sterile rosettes, which he considered to represent a new species of *Compositae,* perhaps of *Chrysanthemum* or *Anthemis*. He was unable to find flowering plants in situ during repeated visits, and the few specimens he took to the botanical garden in Belgrade were destroyed by dogs before they could set flowers.

Other contemporary botanists tried in turn to figure out the generic identity of the mysterious species. Victor Janka was unable to find it in the field but nevertheless he published a scientific name for it, *Chrysanthemum pancicii* (Janka 1881, see below). Vincze Borbás collected the species in 1874 near the village of Grebenac and identified it provisionally as *Chrysanthemum sinuatum* Ledeb. (Borbás 1881). He took a live plant with him on a trip to Berlin, where it soon died. He visited the Deliblato sands repeatedly and asked local foresters to watch the site and to notify him when the plant should flower, but he is reported to have waited for two decades in vain. Arpád Degen collected plants near Deliblato in 1887. In order to find out the generic identity of *"C. pancicii",* he sent several rosettes to the botanical garden in Budapest. One was about to flower, next year, when snails destroyed the stem, and then the plant died. János Wagner searched for flowering individuals unsuccessfully from 1894 until 1903. The main purpose of his 1908 trip to Deliblatska peščara was to find a live plant of *C. pancicii,* which he took to his garden in Oradea, where in October 1909 it bore two flowering stems. At the same time, he again visited the site of origin and found two more flowering individuals. The year 1910 gave a still

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better yield: two plants flowering in the garden and sixteen more in the wild. With the help of Degen, the plant was eventually identified as *A. latifolia* Ledeb., a species growing from central Russia eastwards to the Sachalin Peninsula (Wagner 1911).

In the former Czechoslovakia, what is now considered to be *Artemisia pancicii* was discovered in May 1923 by Josef Podpěra on the hills W of Mikulov in S Moravia, close to the Austrian border. Podpěra (1923) identified the plant as *A. laciniata* Willd.

In Austria, it was first collected on Bisamberg near Vienna in 1933 by F. Berger (Wendelberger 1960). Probably it was K. Ronniger who recognized that the plants from Lower Austria and Vojvodina in Serbia were conspecific and represented an undescribed species, different from *Artemisia latifolia,* and who proposed a new name for it, *A. pancicii* (Knoll & Kovarik 1938).

*Artemisia pancicii* is a member of *A.* (sect. *Abrotanum*) subsect. *Laciniatae* (Kitamura) Korobkov (Korobkov 1992, Meusel & Jäger 1992), which ranges from the Far East and Manchuria to Central Europe. According to Wendelberger (1960), Poljakov (1961), Ehrendorfer (1964), Korobkov (1992), Meusel & Jäger (1992) and Krasnoborov (1997), it comprises about 15 species, some of them of uncertain taxonomic status. Of these, *A. oelandica* (Besser) Kom., *A. insipida* Vill. (now extinct), and *A. pancicii* are stenoendemics of a few sites in Central and W Europe.

The total distribution range of *Artemisia pancicii* includes S Moravia in the Czech Republic (Danihelka 1995, Holub & Grulich 1999), Lower Austria and the province of Burgenland in Austria (Wendelberger 1960, Janchen 1977), and the surroundings of Deliblato in Vojvodina (Serbia) (Boža 1999); for more details see references above. Wendelberger (1960) recognized two geographically separate subspecies: *A. pancicii* subsp. *pancicii,* said to be endemic to Deliblatska peščara in Serbia, and *A. pancicii* subsp. *austriaca* in E Austria and S Moravia, based on vague differences in height, leaf size and shape, and indumentum colour. Having studied about 35 specimens from the whole species range, we consider these differences to be of no taxonomic importance, presumably caused by environmental conditions (cf. Ehrendorfer 1964, Tutin & al. 1976). The golden-brown indumentum colour of many old herbarium specimens from S Moravia and some from N Serbia is likely due to specimen age and treatment, as is the case in, e.g., *Achillea pannonica*.

The name *Artemisia pancicii* has been generally (e.g. in Tutin & al. 1976) accepted as validly published and is ascribed to "(Janka) Ronniger" (in Knoll & Kovarik, Samen-Tauschliste Bot. Gart. Univ. Wien 1938: 5. 1938), a combination allegedly based on *Chrysanthemum pancicii* Janka. The latter name was published in a comment at the end of a letter to Oesterreichische Botanische Zeitschrift: "Das *Chrysanthemum Zawadzkii* erinnert mich an ein anderes *Chrysanthemum* (oder *Tanacetum*), das 1867 von Pančić im Banate entdeckt wurde, und das, obwohl bisher nur die Blätter davon bekannt sind, doch von allen bisher bekannten Species verschieden ist. Die Blätter ähneln etwas den Herbstblättern einer *Anemone Pulsatilla,* auch sind sie oft derjenigen von *Artemisia absinthium* nicht unähnlich. Die Pflanze dürfte in unmittelbarer Nähe von *Chrysanthemum millefoliatum* Willd. gehören. Ich benenne selbe nach meinem Freunde *Chrys. Pančićii*." (Janka 1881). This cannot, however, be considered as a diagnosis or description as required by the Code (Greuter & al. 2000: Art. 32.1), and therefore *C. pančićii* cannot serve as basionym for a new combination.

Gustav Wendelberger, having consulted nomenclatural matters with J. F. Widder, was the first to point out this fact (Wendelberger 1960: 137-138). He therefore ascribed the name *A. pancicii* to Ronniger alone (in Knoll & Kovarik 1938: 5), who published it to replace a misapplied name: "*Artemisia Pančićii* (Janka) Ronniger in schedis = *A. latifolia* J. Wagner in Magy. Bot. Lap. X (1911), S. 2, T. 1, non Ledebour". Under the Code (Greuter 2000: Art. 33, Note 2 and Example 8), a reference to a description or diagnosis in Latin would have been necessary in 1938 (Greuter & al. 2000: Art. 36), but, contrary to what Wendelberger (1960: 138) asserts, Wagner's (1911) report, written in Hungarian and German, does not contain any description or diagnosis in either German or Hungarian, let alone Latin. Reference to the illustration accompanying the paper was no acceptable surrogate for a description after 1907 (cf. Greuter & al. 2000: Art. 44). We must therefore conclude that the name *Artemisia pancicii* has not so far been validly published. We publish it here anew as the name of a new species.

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***Artemisia pancicii*** Ronniger ex Danihelka & Marhold, **sp. nova**
Holotypus: "*Artemisia latifolia* Ledeb., Comit. Temes, praedium arenarium 'Deliblati homokpuszta'. In collibus arenosis prope pag. Deliblat, loco 'Korn' dicto, alt. c. 170 m", 1.9.1915, *J. Ajtay,* Fl. Hung. Exs. no 586 (BRNU 92751; isotypi: BP 463647, 541788). – Note: The type specimen in BRNU was identified as *A. pancicii* f. *angustifolia* by Wendelberger and it is stamped "Iso-Typus".
= *Artemisia laciniata* f. *integra* Podp. in Sborn. Klubu Přír. v Brně 6: 11. 1924. – Lectotypus (hoc loco designatus): "*Artemisia laciniata* Willd. var., Flora moravica: Johannes a Fuchsen-Berg u Mikulov; j. v. D. Dyjákovic. [recte D. Dunajovic!] S. M. ± 280 m", 5.1923, *J. Podpěra* (BRNU 32784). – Note: On the same sheet, on the right, there is a single leaf of a plant cultivated in the botanical garden of Masaryk University, Brno.
– *Chrysanthemum pancicii* Janka in Oesterr. Bot. Z. 31: 304. 1881, nom. inval. (Greuter & al. 2000: Art. 32.1).
– *Artemisia pancicii* "(Janka)" Ronniger in Knoll & Kovarik, Samen-Tauschliste Bot. Gart. Univ. Wien 1938: 5. 1938, nom. inval. (Greuter & al. 2000: Art. 32.3).
– *Artemisia pancicii* subsp. *austriaca* Wendelberger in Biblioth. Bot. 125: 139. 1960, nom. inval. (Greuter & al. 2000: Art. 43.1).
– *"Artemisia latifolia"* sensu Wagner in Magyar Bot. Lapok 10: 2. 1911 (non Ledeb. in Mém. Acad. Imp. Sci. St. Pétersbourg Hist. Acad. 5: 569. 1815 [n.v.]).
– *"Artemisia laciniata"* sensu Podpěra in Sborn. Klubu Přír. v Brně 6: 1. 1924; Polívka & al., Klíč Květ. Rep. Československ.: 637. 1928; Domin in Preslia 13-15: 233. 1936 (non Willd., Sp. Pl. 3: 1843. 1803).

*Herba perennis,* griseo-viridis, non aromatica, rhizomate longe repente. *Caules* steriles 5-10 cm alti, foliis vulgo 3-5 praediti, caules florentes (20-)30-90(-95) cm alti. *Folia* 2(-3)-pinnatifida, caulina superiora interdum solum pinnatifida, utrinque adpresse argenteo-pilosa, aestate exeunte et autumno superne interdum glabrata; petiolus foliorum radicalium (2.5-)4-11(-16) cm longus, canaliculatus, basi non auriculatus, lamina ambitu late ovata, late elliptica vel late obovata, (2-)4-10(-13) cm longa et (2.3-)3.5-6(-7) cm lata; folia caulina media breviter petiolata, superiora subsessilia; pinnae ambitu anguste ovatae vel anguste obovatae, plerumque c. 20 mm longae; pinnulae anguste oblanceolatae usque lanceolatae, 4-8 mm longae et 0.8-2.0 mm latae, apice acutae vel acuminatae. *Inflorescentiae* racemosae, unilaterales, axillares et terminales, paniculam angustam 8-38(-59) cm longam formantes; bracteae sessiles, integrae, subauriculatae, dentatae vel integerrimae. *Capitula* breviter pedunculata, nutantia, subglobosa vel late campanulata, c. 3 mm diametro; involucri squamae late ovatae, late scarioso-marginatae, pilosae, postea glabratae. *Flores* flavidi, exteriores 5-10 feminei, interiores 10-15 hermaphroditi; corolla pilosa. *Achaenia* ellipsoidea, subcompressa, c. 1 mm longa.

Planta hexaploidea: numerus somaticus chromosomatum 54 aequans. Floret mensibus Augusto et Septembri. Habitat in Vojvodina Serbiae (olim Banatus), regionibus Burgenland et Austria inferior Austriae et Moravia australi Rei Publicae Bohemicae.

Ab *Artemisia latifolia* differt foliis utrinque pilosis et laciniis terminalibus basi angustioribus; ab *A. armeniaca* pinnulis plerumque sub angulo quam 45 graduum majore abeuntibus, lamina foliorum minus divisa et numero chromosomatum; ab *A. oelandica* foliis supra densius pilosis, lamina foliorum magis divisa et laciniis terminalibus basi plerumque ultra 1.5 mm latis; ab *A. laciniata* foliis densius et adpressius pilosis, lamina foliorum minus divisa, pinnulis sub angulo acutiore abeuntibus et numero chromosomatum.

Nomen cl. botanicum Josif Pančić (1814-1888), in exploratione florae Serbiae egregie meritum, commemorat.

*Icones.* – Wagner 1911: t. I (ut *A. latifolia*); Jávorka & Csapody 1979: t. 525, fig. 3764 (ut *A. latifolia*); Holub & Grulich 1999: 43.

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