


Validation of *Massonia* sect. *Whiteheadia* (Hyacinthaceae: Scilloideae)

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Abstract: The invalidly published name *Massonia* sect. *Whiteheadia* (Harv.) J.C.Manning is validated.

Keywords: Africa; invalid name; nomenclature; taxonomy.

Introduction

The genus *Massonia* Thunb. ex Houtt. (Hyacinthaceae: Scilloideae) comprises ± 30 species of southern African geophytes, concentrated in the winter-rainfall parts of the region. In the recent account of the species for the Cape Floristic Region, Manning (2019) divided the genus into three sections. Due to a page-setting error one of these sectional names was not validly published and is validated here.

Nomenclature

The combination *Massonia* sect. *Whiteheadia* was published by Manning (2019) for the single species *Massonia bifolia* (Jacq.) J.C.Manning & Goldblatt. Unfortunately the basionym citation was partially omitted, rendering the name invalidly published according to Art. 41.5 of the *International Code of Nomenclature for fungi, algae and plants* (Turland et al. 2018), which states that 'On or after 1 January 2007, a new combination, name at new rank, or replacement name is not validly published unless its basionym or replaced synonym is cited.' The full, validating citation is provided here.

***Massonia* sect. *Whiteheadia* (Harv.) J.C.Manning, stat. et comb. nov. *Whiteheadia* Harv., *The Genera of South African Plants*, edn. 2: 396 (1868).**

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