

## IRIDACEAE

*GLADIOLUS DILUVIALIS* (CROCOIDEAE), A REPLACEMENT NAME FOR THE ILLEGITIMATE HOMONYM *G. HALOPHILUS*

Katherine Challis, International Plant Name List Editor, has kindly alerted us to the fact that our recently described *Gladiolus halophilus* Goldblatt & J.C.Manning (Manning *et al.* 2011) from southern Namibia is an illegitimate homonym of *G. halophilus* Boiss. & Heldr. (1854) from central Anatolia, northeastern Iraq and western Iran.

We provide the replacement name *Gladiolus diluvialis* for the Namibian species, reflecting its narrow escape from flooding by the proposed dam on the Fish River. In an interesting addition to the ecology of the species, Warren McLeland, the Consulting Ecologist who discovered the species, notes that ‘...what seemed to be unique about the seeps where we did find the *Gladiolus* is the hydraulics of the wetlands. These wetlands are very wet during the middle of the dry season and bone dry during the summer. Our theory is that there is very slow subsurface seepage off the escarpment to the east that recharges these wetlands in winter, while the limited summer rainfall is not sufficient to keep the wetlands wet. As a result we have a winter-flowering *Gladiolus* in a summer rainfall area!’ (McLeland pers. comm. 1 June 2011).

***Gladiolus diluvialis* Goldblatt & J.C.Manning**, nom. nov. pro *G. halophilus* [as ‘*halophila*’] Goldblatt & J.C.Manning in South African Journal of Botany 77: 791 (2011), hom. illegit., non *G. halophilus* Boiss. & Heldr. (Boissier 1854).

## REFERENCES

- BOISSIER, P.E. 1854. *Diagnoses plantarum orientalium novarum*, ser. 1, 13. Como, Paris.
- MANNING, J.C., MANNHEIMER, C. & GOLDBLATT, P. 2011. Back from the brink: *Gladiolus halophila* (Iridaceae: Crocoideae), a remarkable new species from southern Namibia escapes imminent extinction. *South African Journal of Botany* 77: 790–794.

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