

Corrected new combination for *Dichantherium inflatum*

JUSTIN R. THOMAS¹

[EDITOR'S NOTE — Through an erroneous assumption on my part, the previous issue of *Missouriensis* (Volume 34) did not have an assigned ISSN number at the time of publication, although the application was pending. This invalidated the new combination published in that issue. Justin Thomas has generously agreed to validate the name by republishing the combination here. Thanks to Gerrit Davidse for bringing this issue to my attention.]

The following new combination (Thomas 2017) was published before *Missouriensis* had acquired an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN). According to Art. 29.1 (Melbourne Code), publication in solely electronic journals that lack an ISSN does not constitute effective publication. Now that the journal has an ISSN, I am resubmitting the name as a new combination. I am also including the original notes regarding the taxon below, as published in Thomas (2017).

***Dichantherium inflatum* (Scribn. & J.G. Sm.) J.R. Thomas comb. nov.**

Panicum inflatum Scribn. & J.G. Sm. Circular, Division of Agrostology, United States Department of Agriculture 16: 5. 1899. (1 Jul 1899). *Panicum sphaerocarpon* subsp. *inflatum* (Scribn. & J.G. Sm.) Hitchc. Contributions from the United States National Herbarium 15: 253, f. 275. 1910. *Panicum sphaerocarpon* var. *inflatum* (Scribn. & J.G. Sm.) Hitchc. Manual of the Grasses of the United States 643, 913. 1935. USA. Mississippi. Harrison Co.: Biloxi, 18 Oct 1898, S.M. Tracy #4622 (US!; isotype: MO!).

“This new combination is necessary to accommodate plants that diverge significantly from the morphology of *D. sphaerocarpon*. Hitchcock and Chase (1951) and Fernald (1950) recognized *inflatum* infraspecifically (subsp. by the former and var. by the latter) as differing from typical *Panicum sphaerocarpon* by being taller, with linear-lanceolate blades that are ≤ 1 cm wide, with nearly parallel margins. They also noted that *inflatum* differs in having a noticeable ligule to 1 mm long and spikelets 1.3-1.5 mm long (compared to the obsolete ligule and spikelets 1.5-1.8 mm long in *D. sphaerocarpon*). This morphology has a strong geographical component, as specimens are restricted to the southern coastal plain from Maryland to Texas. In preparation for an upcoming treatment for *Dichantherium* in Arkansas, I conducted a thorough review of numerous specimens from Arkansas and throughout the southeast and was surprised at the consistency of these characters. Additionally, most specimens of *D. inflatum* consistently have few (≤ 15) ciliate hairs per side at the base of vernal blades, compared to *D. sphaerocarpon* (> 15). Given how consistently

¹ JUSTIN R. THOMAS — NatureCITE: Center for Integrative Taxonomy and Ecology, 1530 E. Farm Rd. 96, Springfield, MO 65803. email: jthomas@botanytraining.com

Missouriensis, **35**: 1-2. 2018.

*pdf effectively published online 29 January 2018 via <https://monativeplants.org/missouriensis>

these characters differentiate the two taxa and given their geographical affinity, the elevation to species seems justifiable and warranted.”

LITERATURE CITED

Fernald, M.L. 1950. Gray's Manual of Botany, 8th ed. American Book Co., New York.

Hitchcock, A.S. and M.A. Chase. 1951. Manual of the Grasses of the United States, revised 2nd ed. United States Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Thomas, J.R. 2017. New additions, vouchers of old additions, and a new combination (*Dichantherium inflatum*) for the Missouri flora. *Missouriensis*, 34: 4-19. 2017.