

# VALIDATION OF *PEDIOMELUM PALMERI* (FABACEAE)

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**Abstract:** *Pediomelum palmeri* Grimes is validated, and *P. ockendonii* is rejected as a superfluous and illegitimate name.

**Keywords:** *Pediomelum ockendonii*, *P. palmeri*, *P. pentaphyllum*, *Psoralea palmeri*, *P. pentaphylla*, Fabaceae

Rydberg (1919: 23) proposed the new combination *Pediomelum pentaphyllum*, based it on *Psoralea pentaphylla* L., and provided a description in English.

Ockendon (1965: 122, adnot.) treated "*Pediomelum pentaphyllum* sensu Rydberg" and *Psoralea pentaphylla* as two distinct species. For "*P. pentaphyllum* sensu Rydberg," he proposed "*Psoralea palmeri* Ockendon" as the name of a new species, provided a description in English, citing a holotype (i.e., *Edw. Palmer* 29, NY). He did not provide a Latin description or diagnosis. Instead, he mentioned that his "reference to this previously validly published description (by Rydberg, 1919: 23) obviates the Latin diagnosis here, according to the present code of nomenclature."

Since Rydberg did not provide a Latin description or diagnosis and since Ockendon excluded the name *Psoralea pentaphylla* (which did have a Latin diagnosis) from his "*Psoralea palmeri*," his reference to Rydberg does not provide a Latin description or diagnosis, which is a requirement for names of new extant taxa published during 1935–2011 (McNeill & al., 2012; Art. 39.1).

Although Ockendon (1965) flagged his "*Psoralea palmeri*" as a "*sp. nov.*," the non-provision of Latin implies that he might have considered his species name as a new name for "*Pediomelum pentaphyllum* sensu Rydberg" and assumed that his reference to Rydberg's (1919) description alone was sufficient for a valid publication of "*Psoralea palmeri*." Unfortunately, the preceding name was not validly published.

Perhaps with the assumption of the valid publication of "*Psoralea palmeri* Ockendon", Grimes (1990) transferred

it to the genus *Pediomelum*, and proposed "*Pediomelum palmeri*" as a new combination.

Since Grimes (1990) did not cite a valid basionym and did not provide or refer to a Latin description, his new combination was also not validly published; furthermore, Grimes' reference to the 1965 publication is not a correctable error (McNeill & al., 2012: Arts. 41.3, 41.4, 41.8).

For "*Pediomelum palmeri* Grimes," Kartesz and Gandhi (1992) proposed *Pediomelum ockendonii* as the name of a new species, provided a Latin description, and cited a holotype (*Edw. Palmer* 295 (NY)).

However, Grimes (1990) as well as Kartesz and Gandhi (1992) overlooked the fact that subsequent to his 1965 invalid publication, Ockendon (1966) validated the name *Psoralea palmeri* with a Latin description and a holotype citation (*Edw. Palmer* 295 (NY)).

Since *Psoralea palmeri* and *Pediomelum ockendonii* were based on the same holotype, the latter name was superfluous and illegitimate when published. Therefore, "*Pediomelum palmeri* Grimes" is validated here.

***Pediomelum palmeri*** (Ockendon) J.W. Grimes ex Gandhi, *comb. nov.*

Basionym and Homotypic Synonyms: *Psoralea palmeri* Ockendon, *Southw. Naturalist* 11: 412. 1966. *Pediomelum ockendonii* Gandhi & Kartesz, *Sida* 15: 138. 1992, nom. superfl. & illegit. *Psoralea palmeri* Ockendon, *Southw. Naturalist* 10: 122. 1965, invalid. *Pediomelum palmeri* J.W. Grimes, *Mem. New York Bot. Gard.* 61: 88. 1990, invalid. TYPE: MEXICO, Durango: Tepehuanes, 4–25 Jun 1906, *Edw. Palmer* 295 (holotype: NY).

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