

On the names of three Jamaican species of *Polypodium**

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The first portion of the following notes is in advance of a more extended illustrated paper, the publication of which is unavoidably delayed, dealing with the species commonly associated with *Xiphopteris serrulata* (Sw.) Kaulf. under either *Polypodium* or *Xiphopteris*.

In 1804 † Schkuhr figured under the name *Grammitis myosuroides* a plant from Jamaica said to represent the Jamaican *Polypodium myosuroides* of Swartz (1788). Swartz himself in both the *Synopsis Filicum* and *Flora Indiae occidentalis* had so amended the original *Prodromus* (1788) description as to include the characters offered by Schkuhr's plant as represented in the plate; in fact, Schkuhr's plant was cited in the *Synopsis Filicum*. It is probable that the material possessed by both authors was very scant, and it is hardly to be wondered that two distinct species of this closely related group should, as we believe, have been thus confused. The strange feature is that with the more ample material since available for study, Schkuhr's plate should have been so universally misidentified and that the confusion of the several other species should have been so great.

For example: Hooker in 1861 described a *Xiphopteris Jamesoni* from Ecuador which is in reality identical with the true Jamaican *myosuroides* of Swartz (1788). The next year he incorrectly listed *myosuroides* Sw. as a synonym of *serrulatum* and cited Schkuhr's plate erroneously under *Polypodium setosum* (Kaulf.) Mett., an absolutely distinct species.

Jenman is the only writer who has clearly distinguished the several Jamaican species. He erred, however, in his use of specific

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† [Mr. Maxon wrote 1809, the title-page date, supposing that the plate was *unpublished* when cited by Swartz in 1806. Schkuhr's work, however, was issued in parts; and the first part, containing the page (9) and plate (7) cited, appeared in 1804. A copy of this part, with its original cover, is in the editor's library. — J. H. B., ED.]

names. As a matter of fact, Schkuhr's plate represents a plant specifically distinct from the *myosuroides* of Swartz' *Prodromus*; but Jenman, regarding the plate as truly illustrative of the Swartzian species — apparently on the strength of its citation by Swartz — faithfully describes the Jamaican plants agreeing with the plate under the name *myosuroides*. The true *myosuroides* he describes under the Hookerian name *Jamesoni*.

We propose to restore the name *myosuroides* to the plants characterized by Swartz in the *Prodromus*. Schkuhr's plant has to this day never received a valid name.

The facts in the case, which are self-evident, were brought to our attention by the manifest inappropriateness of Jenman's application of the peculiarly descriptive term *myosuroides* — “mouse-tail-like,” with obvious allusion to the “mouse-tail” apex or *cauda* — to plants not possessed of any such characteristic prolongation, *i. e.*, the plant figured by Schkuhr.

The synonymy will stand as follows :

POLYPODIUM MYOSUROIDES Sw. Prodr. 131. 1788.

Grammitis myosuroides Sw. Schrad. Jour. Bot. 1800²: 18. 1801.

Polypodium myosuroides Sw. Fl. Ind. Occ. 3: 1644. 1806, in greater part.

Grammitis myosuroides Sw. Syn. Fil. 22. 1806, in part, excluding reference to Schkuhr's plate.

Xiphopteris myosuroides Kaulf. Enum. Fil. 85, 300. 1824.

Xiphopteris Jamesoni Hook. Second Cent. Ferns pl. 14. 1861.

Polypodium serrulatum β *strictissimum* Hook. Sp. Fil. 4: 175. 1862.

Polypodium Jamesoni Jenman, Bull. Bot. Dept. Jamaica II. 4: 112. 1897.

JAMAICA; BRITISH GUIANA; VENEZUELA; ECUADOR.

Jenman's description of this species under the name *Polypodium Jamesoni* is in all respects a true one, based upon the common and typical Jamaican plants.

Polypodium delitescens nom. nov.

Grammitis myosuroides Schkuhr, Krypt. Gewächse, 1: 9. pl. 7. 1804; not Sw. 1801.

Polypodium myosuroides Jenman, Bull. Bot. Dept. Jamaica II. 4: 112. 1897; not Sw. 1788.

Apparently confined to Jamaica.

The species is well characterized by Jenman under the name *Polypodium myosuroides*. It is to be distinguished from the true *myosuroides*: (1) commonly by its pinnatifid condition throughout, though less deeply lobed in the upper (fertile) portion than below; (2) by its distinct sori, these never entirely confluent with age, a character consequent upon its pinnatifid condition; (3) by its *approximate* nearly deltoid lobes, these never remote or subspatulate as in *myosuroides*; and by numerous less obvious characters as determined from a large series of specimens obtained in Jamaica by Mr. Jenman, Professor Underwood and the writer.

Schkuhr's original plant, if existent, will stand as the type; otherwise the type will be sheet *no.* 427770, in the U. S. National Herbarium, collected at the Summit of Blue Mountain Peak, altitude about 2220 meters, *Maxon 1513*, April 20, 21, 1903. *Underwood 2579*, in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, has identical data.

The following note, which is without reference to the foregoing, has to do merely with the untenable name *saxicolum* given by Baker to a Jamaican high-mountain ally of *Polypodium moniliforme*. The plant occurs entangled with great mats of liverworts and mosses which closely envelope not only rocks but tree-trunks in the higher forested slopes of the Blue Mountains. Its characteristic growth has suggested the following name:

***Polypodium induens* nom. nov.**

Polypodium saxicolum Baker, Jour. Bot. Brit. & For. 15: 264. 1877. Not *Polypodium saxicola* Sw. Vet. Akad. Handl. Stock. 1817: 59. 1817.

The specimens in the U. S. National Herbarium are:

JAMAICA. — A sheet without definite locality (ex herb. Botanical Dept. Jamaica). Near Morce's Gap, altitude 1500 meters; *Maxon 1214* and *2770*. Highest slopes of John Crow Peak, altitude 1650–1800 meters; *Maxon 1324* and *1332*.