

Title: Systematics of African Vernonieae (Asteraceae)

Description: The African members of this tribe had until recently all been included in the genus *Vernonia*. However, phylogenetic data indicates that *Vernonia* does not occur in Africa and as a result the southern African species were placed into 16 newly segregate genera: *Baccharoides*, *Bothriocline*, *Cyanthillium*, *Distephanus*, *Erlangea*, *Ethulia*, *Gymnanthemum*, *Hilliardiella*, *Oocephala*, *Orbivestus*, *Parapolydora*, *Polydora*, *Vernonella*, *Vernoniastrum*, *Namibithamnus* and *Pseudopegolettia*. However the monophyly of these genera remains uncertain. This project aims to explore the phylogenetics of the African Vernonieae to assess generic circumscriptions and relationships, survey morphological and anatomical characters across the genera and revise the taxonomy as necessary.

Field: Taxonomy

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