

# Typification of plant names published by Jacob Henrik af Forselles

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The plant names *Artemisia coarctata* and *Poa remota* published by Jacob Henrik af Forselles (1785–1855) are lectotypified. An earlier designation of a neotype for *P. remota* is corrected to be a lectotype. The type specimens have been collected in the biogeographical province of *Karelia australis*, SE Finland.

Key words: af Forselles, *Artemisia*, nomenclature, *Poa*, taxonomy, typification

## Introduction

The mining superintendent Jacob Henrik af Forselles (27.XII.1785–13.VI.1855) was born at Ruotsinpyhtää (Strömfors), Finland and died in Stockholm, Sweden. He passed his matriculation on 21 Apr. 1801 at Uppsala, Sweden and studied natural sciences at the Uppsala University for some time. He obtained the degree of Court of Appeal in 1806 and a degree in mining in 1812, both at Uppsala. He was honoured with the title *jurisprudens* in 1813. In 1814 he was appointed to an amanuensis of the Mineralogy Cabinet, and was honoured by the mines master title in 1815. In 1817 he was appointed mining superintendent of the Sala silver mines in Uppland, Sweden. He led the Swedish geological investigations in 1838–1855, and at the same time he owned the Strömfors factories at Ruotsinpyhtää, Finland. He was a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences since 1817 (Student register 2006).

During his youth J. H. af Forselles collected plants, but only a few specimens are still known

to exist (Ulvinen 1985). These are deposited in Helsinki (H) and Uppsala (UPS). Also the herbaria in Lund (LD) and Stockholm (S) were consulted for additional material. The acronyms are according to Holmgren *et al.* (1990). The period of his botanical interest was short, however. He was a member of the Linnaean Institute (Linnéiska Institutet). It was founded in 1800, but its activity ceased in about 10 years (Ulvinen 1985). In that institute on 6 May 1804 he held a presentation entitled “Description of *Poa remota*” (Ulvinen 1985). That presentation was later published jointly with the description of *Artemisia coarctata* (af Forselles 1807). There are no records regarding botanical activity of af Forselles thereafter. In 1806 he acted as a respondent when Johan Jakob Julin defended his thesis (later a factory owner at Fiskars, SW Finland). Julin’s father was a well-known naturalist Johan Julin at Oulu (Väre & Ulvinen 2005). Later af Forselles published articles on geology and mechanics (e.g., af Forselles 1818, 1838–1855, af Forselles *et al.* 1818, 1822).



Fig. 1. Lectotype of *Artemisia coarctata*.

## New plant taxa published by Jacob Henrik af Forselles

### *Artemisia coarctata* Forselles

Linn. Inst. Skr. 1: 12, fig. 1. 1807. — LECTOTYPE (designated here): “e Finlandia” [Karelia Australis?], [before 1807] *J. H. af Forselles* (UPS V-39209!). — SYNTYPE: [Sweden], Oelandiae [Öland], *C. Stenhammar* (not seen).

SYNONYMS: *Artemisia vulgaris* L. var. *coarctata* (Forselles) Hartm., Handb. Skand. Fl. Ed. 2: 221. 1832. — *A. vulgaris* f. *coarctata* (Forselles) Lindm., Sv. Fanerogamfl.: 541. 1918. — *A. vulgaris* subsp. *coarctata* (Forselles) Ameljcz., Sist. Zаметki Mater. Gerb. Krylova Tomsk. Gosud. Univ. Kuybysheva 86: 8. 1979. — *A. vulgaris* subsp. *coarctata* (Forselles) Lemke & Rothm., Exkursionsfl.: 547. 1976, *nom. illeg.*

There is one sheet of *A. coarctata* collected by af Forselles at UPS (Fig. 1), from the type locality [*viz.* Finland]. It is perhaps derived from the NE coast of the Gulf of Finland, near the area where af Forselles lived. It is not the same specimen which appears in the drawing of the protologue. The plant is immature, but has a developed inflorescence, and fits the description: stem leaves upright, margins revolute, bipinnately dissected, pinnae linear, capitulum spike-like, female flowers in abundance (“*foliis caulinis erectis margine revolutis bipinnatis: laciniis linearibus; racemis coarctatis compositis; flosculis femineis pluribus*”). In Fennoscandinavia and Russia the recently used name is *A. vulgaris* L. subsp. *vulgaris* var. *coarctata* (af Forselles) Hartm. (e.g., Karlsson 1997: p. 391, Leonova 2002: p. 221). In Russia, it has recently been treated also as a species (e.g., Tzvelev 2000). The rank of variety seems appropriate due to an apparently common occurrence of intermediates. Var. *coarctata* is indigenous to coastal Finland; it is a seashore plant, while var. *vulgaris* is an archeophyte in Finland. However, no thorough study has been devoted to this taxon and its distribution is poorly known.

### *Poa remota* Forselles

Linn. Inst. Skr. 1: 6, fig. 1. 1807. — LECTOTYPE (designated by Ulvinen 1985 as a neotype, here corrected): “Finlandiae”, [Karelia australis], 1804 [*J. H. af Forselles* (UPS V-176004!)]. — SYNTYPE: [Finland, Karelia australis, Ruotsinpyhtää], Kymmenegård [Kyminkartano], 1805 [*J. H. af Forselles* (H 1214418!)].

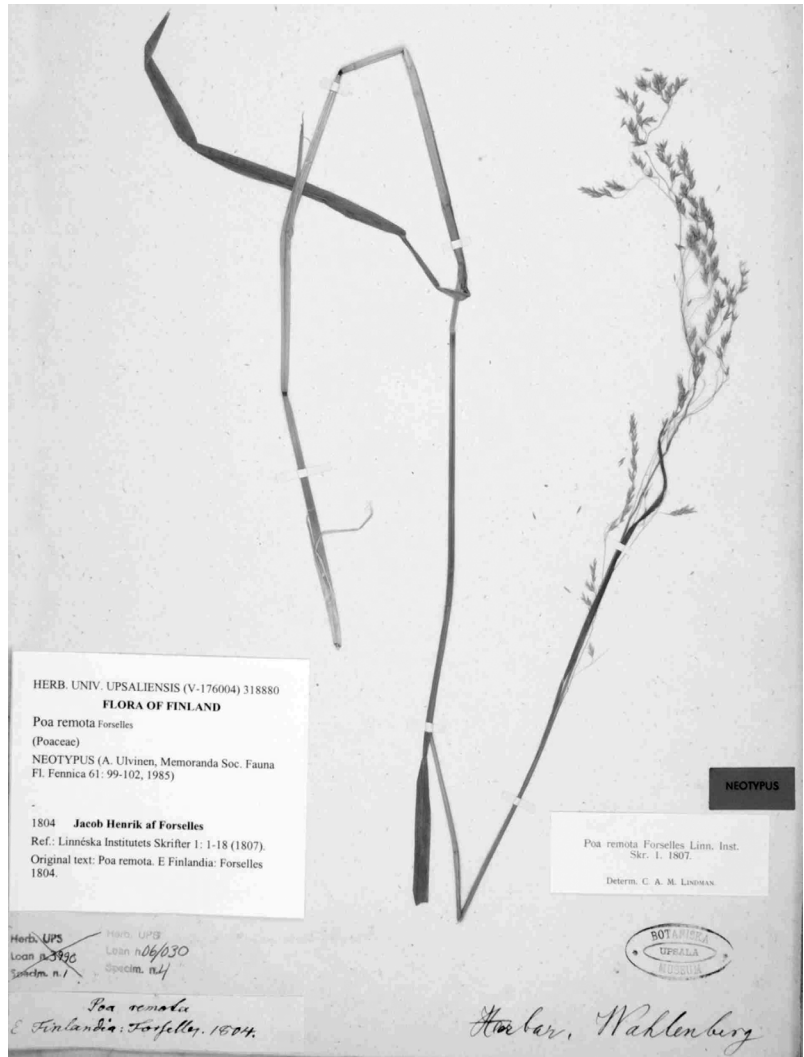


Fig. 2. Lectotype of *Poa remota*.

SYNONYMS: *Poa sudetica* Haenke var. *remota* (Forselles) Fr., Novit. Fl. Suec. Alt.: 11. 1828. — *Glyceria remota* (Forselles) Fr., Novit. Fl. Suec. Mant. Alt.: 5. 1839 (*nomen non planta*). — *P. sudetica* subsp. *remota* (Forselles) Cajander, Suomen Kasvio: 86. 1906, as "(Fr.)".

There is one sheet of *P. remota* collected by af Forselles at UPS (Fig. 2), from the type locality [*viz.* "Finlandiae"]. It does not appear to be the same specimen that was used for the drawing in the protologue, but it fits with the description: panicle flaccid, glumes of unequal length, shorter than spikelet, stems upright ("*panicula secunda laxa, glumis calycinis inaequalibus spicula brevioribus, flosculis distantibus acutis, culmis adscendentibus*"). That sheet

once was in Prof. G. Wahlenberg's herbarium. The specimen was designated as "neotype" by Ulvinen (1985: p. 99), which was illegitimate, because an illustration exists. However, there is no obstacle to designate it as a lectotype, as it has been collected before (1804) the description was published (1807). The typification has to be corrected to be a lectotype (McNeill *et al.* 2000: art. 9.8.). The syntype once belonged to Prof. Carl Reinhold Sahlberg's herbarium.

The lectotype of *P. remota* was possibly collected by af Forselles jointly with *Glyceria lithuanica* at Vargarträsk, Ruotsinpyhtää (Strömfors), where both species were discovered also recently (Ulvinen 1985). That was probably the

reason for the confusion in the application of the name *Poa remota* that Elias Fries created. At first Fries (1828) considered that *P. remota* is very close to *P. sudetica*, and treated it as a variety of that species. Later Fries (1839), probably after studying a sheet of *G. lithuanica* collected by af Forselles, transferred *P. sudetica* to *Glyceria* (Andersson 1852: p. 58). Since then the epithet *remota* has been used by some authors (e.g., Cajander 1906) for two taxa although based on the same description. The situation was first clarified by Lindman (1909) and later by Ulvinen (1985).

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