Typification and current taxonomic position of *Senecio arnautorum* Velen.

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Received 23 Nov. 2009, revised version received 29 Nov. 2009, accepted 30 Nov. 2009


The name *Senecio arnautorum* Velen. is lectotypified with a herbarium specimen kept at PR. In most taxonomic works the taxon was considered synonymous with *Senecio pancicii* Degen or treated at infraspecific rank under the latter species. Careful examination of Velenovský’s material revealed that *S. arnautorum* differs from *S. pancicii* and is identical to *Jacobaea subalpina* (W.D.J. Koch) Pelser & Veldk. (*Senecio subalpinus* W.D.J. Koch).

Key words: Asteraceae, *Jacobaea*, lectotypification, nomenclature

The aim of this paper is to designate the nomenclatural type of the name *Senecio arnautorum* Velen. and discuss the present taxonomic position of the species.

*Senecio arnautorum* Velen. (Fig. 1)


The labels of the two herbarium sheets kept in PR and PRC are in Velenovský’s handwriting and differ slightly in their habitat descriptions. The lectotype at PR states ‘*in pratis alpinis …*’ and the islectotype at PRC, ‘*in pratis humidis …*’. In the original description, it was published as ‘*In pratis humidis alpinis …*’. The specimen at PRC is in vegetative state, with only leaves and therefore not my first choice for designation as lectotype. Velenovský also collected other specimens during his August 1887 trip, which were not cited in the original description. The label of one specimen deposited at WU reads: ‘*Senecio arnautorum* Velen., *in rivularibus sub cacumine m. Rujen* (Osog. Plan.), VIII.1887, J. Velenovský’. The only difference is the habitat citation and this indicates the specimen was not part of the type gathering, but should be regarded as a syntype. In *Flora Bulgarica* (Velenovský 1891) all three habitats were mentioned. According to the protologue *S. arnautorum* is most similar to *S. subalpinus* W.D.J. Koch and also resembles *S. erubescens* Pančić in capitula...
size and ligule colour.

In the first edition of *Flora of Bulgaria* Stojanov and Stefanov (1925: 1145) treated the taxon as a variety of *S. erubescens*. Due to the fact that *S. erubescens* Pančić was a later homonym of *S. erubescens* Ait., and thus illegitimate (Art. 53.1., McNeill et al. 2006), the correct name for this taxon is *S. pancicii* Degen. Therefore, in the later editions of *Flora of Bulgaria* (Stojanov & Stefanov 1933: 1017, 1948: 1170, Stojanov et al. 1967: 1109) *S. arnautorum* was treated as a variety of *S. pancicii*.

Hayek (1931: 680) distinguished *S. arnautorum* from *S. pancicii* and accepted it as a subspecies of *S. alpinus* (L.) Scop. which was represented by two subspecies: *S. alpinus* subsp. *subalpinus* (W.D.J. Koch) Hayek and *S. alpinus* subsp. *arnautorum* (Velen.) Hayek. In *Flora Europaea* (Chater & Walters 1976: 201) the combination *S. alpinus* subsp. *arnautorum*
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(Velen.) Hayek was listed as a synonym of S. pancicii.

Recently, Pelser et al. (2006: 5) proposed the combination Jacobaea arnautorum (Velen.) Pelser. It was based on the fact that Senecio arnautorum Velen. was the earliest legitimate name at specific rank for S. pancicii as traditionally accepted in the Bulgarian botanical literature. However, careful examination of Velenovský’s original material at PR, PRC and WU revealed that S. arnautorum differs from S. pancicii in the shape of basal and lower cauline leaves which are about as long as wide, ovate to triangular-ovate, cordate at base (ovate to oblong-elliptical, dentate to almost laciniate at base in S. pancicii) and by the green involucre (purplish in S. pancicii) and is clearly identical with S. subalpinus W.D.J. Koch. Therefore, S. arnautorum should be regarded as a synonym of S. subalpinus or Jacobaea subalpina (W.D.J. Koch) Pelser & Veldk. if treated in Jacobaea. Senecio pancicii Degen is the earliest legitimate name for the species known as S. arnautorum auct.

Dimitrov (1998) reported S. subalpinus as a new species for the Bulgarian flora based on material (SO 99057) collected in Osogovo Mts. in 1987. The taxon had in fact already been collected in the same area by Velenovský a century earlier.

Acknowledgements

Financial support of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Sciences (proj. B 1503/2005) for a visit to WU is gratefully acknowledged. The author is indebted to Dr. František Krahulec (Průhonice, Czech Republic) for help with obtaining the photo of the herbarium specimen, to the staff of the herbaria PR, PRC and WU as well as to Dr. Kit Tan (Copenhagen) for correcting the English.

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