

FIGURE 14.—Known distribution of *Sebaea amicorum*.

ferences between the two species occur in the anthers with *S. laxa* having short thecae 1.0–1.2 mm long, the apex much recurved with a large apical gland hanging on a short thread-like stalk. There is also a stigmatic swelling on the style in *S. laxa* which is absent in the new species.

Apart from one unnamed collection, *Esterhuysen 36120a*, from Towerkop [Toverkop] in the Klein Swartberg, which has 5-merous flowers and a large apical and basal gland on the thecae and ovate leaves, no other *Sebaea* species has been recorded from the very long Swartberg Mountain Range from near Ladismith to almost Willowmore. *S. amicorum* is represented by several collections from this Range but in two distinct areas—the Klein Swartberg above Ladismith and the region just east of the Swartberg Pass (Figure 14). Two of the peaks cited by Esterhuysen and Stokoe, Koudeveldberg (Koudeberg) and Krevasberg, cannot be located on any map.

In the *Flora of southern Africa*, Marais & Verdoorn (1963) cite under *S. capitata* var. *sclerosepala* (Schinz) Marais a collection, *Esterhuysen 28035*, from the Cockscomb in the Great Winterhoek Mtns. This was found to be clearly the same as the new species, but is far removed from the other two areas. This feature is not surprising in the genus *Sebaea* in which many species have very wide and disjunct distributions.

The species has been recorded by Esterhuysen from ledges, the base of cliffs and shady gullies mostly on the southern slopes of the Klein Swartberg at altitudes between 5500 and 6500 ft [1 670 and 1 980 m]. Linder

recorded 'shady, mossy S-facing ledges'. The type population was found on a moist stony S-facing slope just below the summit ridge in short grassy/restioid vegetation that had been burnt the previous year. The Cockscomb collection came from 'steep rocky SE slopes, marshy spot in gully'.

This new species is named *amicorum* = of the friends, because we have been closely involved as colleagues in the herbarium for the last 15 years.

#### Paratype material

WESTERN CAPE.—3321 (Ladismith): Klein Swartberg, Towerkop, 5500–6000 ft [1 670–1 830 m], (–AC), 16-12-1956, *Esterhuysen 26748* (BOL); ridge E of Towerkop, 2 000 m, (–AC), 7-02-1992, *Linder 5518* (PRE, photocopy); E. of Towerkop facing Elandsberg, 6000–6500 ft [1 830–1 980 m], (–AC/AD), 29-03-1964, *Esterhuysen 30665* (BOL); ridge from Kouveldberg to Towerkop, ± 6500 ft [1 980 m], (–AC/AD), 31-04-1964, *Esterhuysen 30669* (BOL); between Towerkop and Elandsberg/Koudeveldberg, 6000 ft [1 830 m], (–AC/AD), 28-03-1959, *Esterhuysen 28244* (BOL). 3322 (Oudtshoorn): Swartberg Pass area, Krevasberg, summit, (–?AC), 12-1942, *Stokoe 8996* (BOL).

EASTERN CAPE.—3324 (Steytlerville): Great Winterhoek Mtns, Cockscomb, 5500 ft [1 670 m], (–DB), 30-11-1958, *Esterhuysen 28035* (BOL).

#### REFERENCE

MARAIS, W. & VERDOORN, I.C. 1963. *Sebaea*. *Flora of southern Africa* 26: 171–211.

I.M. OLIVER\* and J.B.P. BEYERS\*

\* Compton Herbarium, National Botanical Institute, Private Bag X7, 7735 Claremont, Cape Town. MS. received: 2001-05-16.

## FABACEAE

### THE IDENTITY OF *MELOLOBIUM LAMPOLOBUM* (PAPILIONOIDEAE)

The genus *Melolobium* is currently being revised and a comprehensive survey of the literature and herbarium specimens has revealed a poorly known species that was recently re-collected. The species was listed by Bentham (1844) as a synonym of *M. collinum* Eckl. & Zeyh. and by Harvey (1862) as a variety of *M. microphyllum* Eckl. & Zeyh., but our studies have shown it to be distinct. The identity of the plant became quite apparent when the original material was discovered in the Paris Herbarium. One of Drège's types clearly shows the diagnostically

different pods of the species. When E. Meyer (Feb. 1836) described the genus *Sphingium*, it had already been described a month earlier as *Melolobium* by Ecklon & Zeyher (Jan. 1836). In subsequent publications some of Meyer's names appear to have been overlooked.

There are two Drège's specimens in the Paris Herbarium. *Drège 6463* (Figure 15A) is a flowering specimen with no locality label, *Drège s.n.* (Figure 15B) is a fruiting specimen with the locality label 'Kendo', in

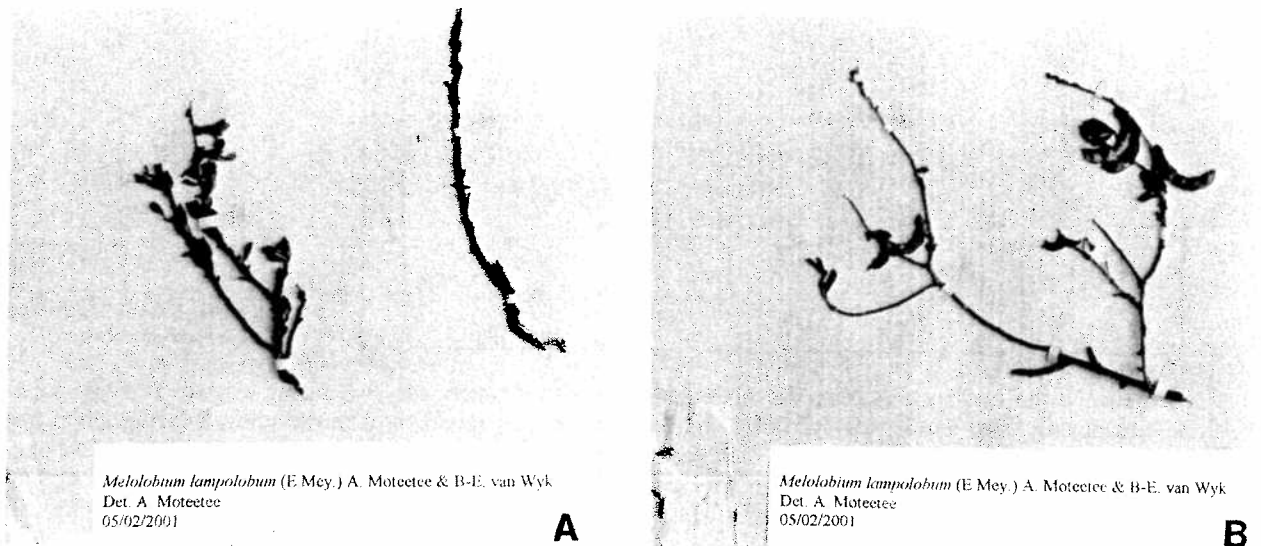


FIGURE 15.—Type specimens of *Melolobium lampolobum* in the Paris Herbarium. A, flowering specimen, Drège 6463 (syntype); B, fruiting specimen Drège s.n. (lectotype).

Drège's handwriting. Because of the diagnostic importance of the fruit and the unambiguous type locality details, the latter is here chosen as lectotype.

***Melolobium lampolobum* (E. Mey.) A. Moteetea & B-E. van Wyk, comb. nov.** Type: Western Cape, 3322 (Oudtshoorn): 'Kendo', (–BD), Drège s.n. (P!, specimen with pods, lectotype, here designated); Drège 6463 (P!, specimen with flowers, syntype).

*Sphingium lampolobum* E. Mey.: 67 (Feb. 1836). *M. microphyllum* L. var. *lampolobum* (E. Mey.) Harv.: 79 (1862).

Woody, strongly spinescent shrublet up to 0.6 m high. Leaves stipulate; leaflets oblong to broadly obovate, (3–)5–9 × 2–4 mm, glabrous, apex somewhat mucronate to emarginate; petiole 2–5 mm long; stipules semi-cordate to auriculate, 1–4 × 1–2 mm. Inflorescence slender, terminal, 40–60 mm long, many-flowered raceme (10–16 flowers); flowers 7–10 mm long; bracts ovate-lanceolate, 2–3 × 0.5–1.0 mm; bracteoles narrowly ovate to lanceolate, 2–3 × 0.5–0.7 mm. Calyx shortly bilabiate, glandular with sessile glands, very sparsely hairy; upper lobes acute, 5–6 mm long, apices obtuse, upper sinus 2–3 mm deep; lower lobes acute, 6–7 mm long, apices obtuse, lower sinuses 0.2–1.0 mm deep. Corolla yellow; standard suborbicular, 6–8 × 4–5 mm, with well-developed, channelled claw, 2–3 mm long; wing petals oblong, sculptured, 7–8 × 2–3 mm, with linear claw 3–4 mm long; keel petals shortly half-oblong, apically rounded, 3–4 × 2–3 mm, with linear claw 3–4 mm long. Androecium monadelphous, split on its upper side, consisting of four long, basifixed anthers and six short, dorsifixed anthers (alternating with the carinal, intermediate one). Gynoecium narrowly oblong, 3.0–3.5 mm long, hairy, with 4 or 5 ovules; style curved, 3–4 mm long. Fruit broadly falcate, strongly compressed, 12–18 × 2–4 mm, without glands, almost glabrous, surface distinctly shiny, 2–4-seeded; seeds discoid, light brown, 2.3–2.5 mm diam. (side view). Figure 16.

*Diagnostic characters:* the shiny pod of the aptly named *M. lampolobum* is a very useful diagnostic feature.

Unlike many other related species, the pods are devoid of both sessile and stalked glands. The glabrous, obovate leaflets and general morphology indicate an affinity to *M. exudans* Harv., the only other species in the entire genus with glabrous leaves. *M. lampolobum* differs from the latter in the strongly spiny, curved branches (slightly spiny in *M. exudans*), pubescent stems (glabrous in *M. exudans*) and glabrescent pods (glandular and hairy in *M. exudans*). Because of its branching pattern and the rigid spines, this species can be confused with *M. candicans* (E. Mey.) Eckl. & Zeyh., from which it differs in the dark brown and pubescent branches (distinctly white-tomentose in most forms of the latter), larger leaves, falcate, shiny pods (straight and densely hairy in *M. candicans*) and longer inflorescences with more flowers.

*Distribution and habitat:* the known distribution of *M. lampolobum* is shown in Figure 17. It occurs at lower altitudes near Robertson and further northeast in the mountains of the Little Karoo in the southern part of Western Cape, extending from the western end of Anysberg along the Klein and Groot Swartberg Mountains as far east as Oudtshoorn. The plants grow in mountain karoo scrub and on rocky slopes, at altitudes of 900 to over 1 500 m.

#### *Additional specimens examined*

WESTERN CAPE.—3319 (Worcester): Vrolijkheid, Robertson, (–DD), Van der Merwe 3001 (PRE). 3320 (Montagu): Karoo Garden, Whitehill, (–BA), Compton 11213 (NBG); western end of Anysberg at Booplaas Farm, (–BC), C.M. van Wyk 1080 (PRE); 16.6 km SSE of Laingsburg, (–BD), B-E. van Wyk 2143, 2145 (JRAU). 3321 (Ladismith): Ladismith, (–AD), Bayliss 2817 (NBG); Groot Swartberg, (–BD), Marshall 234 (JRAU, PRE); Swartberg Mountains next to Gamkaskloof, (–BD), Vlok 1489 (PRE); range N of Sandberg, (–DA), Wurts 1393 (NBG).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the curators of the cited herbaria for loans of specimens. The Government of Lesotho and the National Research Foundation are thanked for financial support.

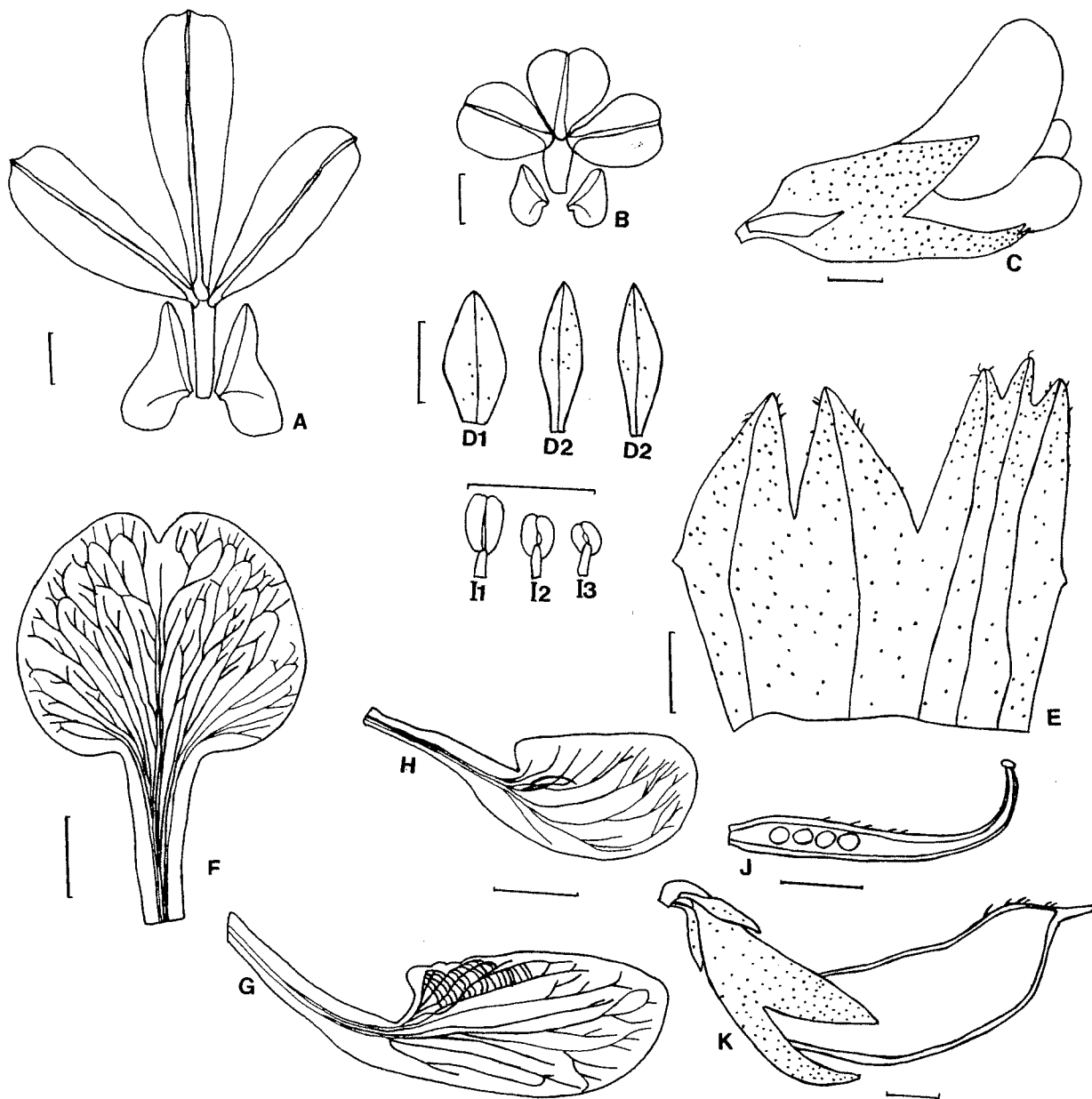


FIGURE 16.—*Melolobium lampolobum*. A, abaxial view of leaf with stipules; B, adaxial view of young leaf with stipules; C, lateral view of flower; D1, abaxial view of bract; D2 abaxial view of bracteoles; E, calyx opened out with upper lobes to left; F, standard petal; G, wing petal; H, keel petal; I1, long, basifixed anther; I2, carinal (intermediate) anther; I3, short, dorsifixed anther; J, pistil; K, lateral view of pod. Scale bars: A-K, 1 mm.

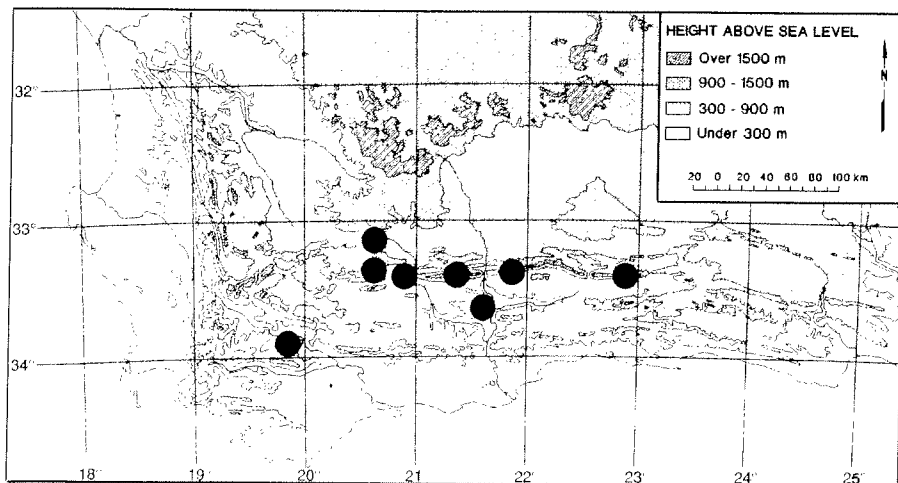


FIGURE 17.—The known distribution of *Melolobium lampolobum*.

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A. MOTEETEE\* and B-E. VAN WYK\*

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\* Department of Botany, Rand Afrikaans University, P.O. Box 524, 2006 Auckland Park, Johannesburg.  
MS. received: 2001-03-19.