

## Xerxes, a new name to replace *Alcantara* (Asteraceae: Vernoniae)

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*Xerxes* is proposed as a new name to replace *Alcantara* Glaziou ex G. M. Barroso (Asteraceae) (1969), not *Alcantarea* (Morren ex Mez) Harms (Bromeliaceae) (1929). The genus is monotypic, represented by *Xerxes ekmanianum*, comb. nov.

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### Introduction

Recent studies on the genus *Alcantarea* (Bromeliaceae) (Grant in press) brought attention to the later homonym *Alcantara* (Asteraceae). Since both are Brazilian in distribution, and each was named in honor of Dom Pedro II (Dom Pedro de Alcantara João Carlos Leopoldo Salvador Bibiano Francisco Xavier de Paulo Leocadio Miguel Gabriel Raphael Gonzaga) (1825–1891), second Emperor of Brazil (1840–1889), a new name is proposed for the asteraceous genus to reduce confusion as per the recommendations of the Committee for Spermatophyta (Brummitt 1994).

Glaziou (1909) proposed the genus *Alcantara*, but failed to provide a generic description, or descriptions for the two species he placed in it, *A. petroana* and *A. isabellae*. Barroso (1969) validated the Glaziou name by providing a complete description of it as a monotypic genus for *A. petroana* Glaziou ex G. M. Barroso. Robinson (1981) reported the earlier name *Proteopsis ekmaniana* Philipson (1938) for that species, and made the new combination *A. ekmaniana* (Philipson) H. E. Robinson. Here, the earliest validly published name, *Proteopsis ekmaniana* Philipson, is transferred to the newly named genus *Xerxes* J. R. Grant. (*Xerxes*, a King of Persia (486 B.C. – 465 B.C.)).

### *Xerxes* J. R. Grant, nom. nov.

*Alcantara* Glaziou, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 56: Mémoires 3<sup>d</sup>: 367. 1909, nom. nud. Based on both: *Alcantara isabellae* Glaziou,

Bull. Soc. Bot. France 56: Mémoires 3<sup>d</sup>: 367. 1909, nom. nud.; and *Alcantara petroana* Glaziou, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 56: Mémoires 3<sup>d</sup>: 367. 1909, nom. nud.

*Alcantara* Glaziou ex G. M. Barroso, Lofegrenia 36: 1. 1969, non *Alcantarea* (Morren ex Mez) Harms, Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin 10: 802. 1929 (Bromeliaceae). – Type species: *Alcantara petroana* Glaziou ex G. M. Barroso, Lofegrenia 36: 1. 1969. – Type: Brazil. Goiás: Chapadão dos Veadeiros, entre les rochers, Glaziou 21667 (P, B, K, G).

### *Xerxes ekmanianum*, (Philipson) J. R. Grant, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Proteopsis ekmaniana* Philipson, Kew, Bull. Misc. Inform. 7: 300. 1938. – Type: Brazil. Goiás: Serra da Baliza, entre les rochers à Vargem Grande, Glaziou 21668 (holotype K; isotypes P, B, G, BR).

*Alcantara petroana* Glaziou, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 56: Mémoires 3<sup>d</sup>: 367. 1909, nom. nud. – Type: Brazil. Goiás: Chapadão dos Veadeiros, entre les rochers, Glaziou 21667 (P, B, K, G).

*Alcantara isabellae* Glaziou, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 56: Mémoires 3<sup>d</sup>: 367. 1909, nom. nud. – Type: Brazil. Goiás: Serra da Baliza, entre les rochers à Vargem Grande, Glaziou 21668 (P, B, K, G, BR).

*Alcantara petroana* Glaziou ex G. M. Barroso, Lofegrenia 36: 1. 1969. – Type: Brazil. Goiás: Chapadão dos Veadeiros, entre les rochers, Glaziou 21667 (holotype K; isotypes P, B, G).

*Alcantara ekmaniana* (Philipson) H. E. Robinson, Phytologia 48 (3): 213. 1981.

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