

NEW PLANTS IN THE PHILATELIC HERBARIUM

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New Plants

This is a new column introducing new plants that appear on stamps. It will be published on an irregular basis to start, but the hope is that it will appear as regularly as the column on which it is based, “New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary” by Chuck Braun. Please let me know if you find any errors. I am just figuring out how to do this. Comments and suggestions are welcome. This first column starts with Botany New Issues from 2017.



***Campanula comosiformis*. CAMPANULACEAE Tufted Bellflower**

Formerly called *Asyneuma comosiforme*, this plant is endemic to NE Albania. It is found only in the Shija Gorge. The plant is 8–15 cm tall with flexible stems. The inflorescences have small, dense, violet flowers. The corolla is 4–5 mm long. The pedicels are 5–6 mm long. Leaves are 8–15 mm long, ovate to rhombic, serrated.

Albania Sc#2984b. Denomination: 30 leks. Issued 27 July 2016 in strips of 3.



***Solenanthus albanicus*. BORAGINACEAE**

Synonym: *Cynoglossum albanicum*

The plant is found in the mountains in the north of Greece, at either side of the Greek-Albanian border. It inhabits dry mountain rocks. It flowers in July, but this may be incomplete. The exact altitude range is not known, but it is possibly 800–2,250 m. It is the favorite forage for cattle and sheep, which threaten its survival.

Albania Sc#2984c. Denomination: 190 leks. Issued 27 July 2016 in strips of 3.



***Persicaria hydropiper*. POLYGONACEAE Water-pepper**

Synonyms: 19 synonyms for this species

Range covers most of Europe, including European Russia and east through the Himalayas into China. It also occurs in Africa and apparently was introduced to North America. The upright branching stems are hairless with alternate blunt-tipped lanceolate leaves whose margins are fringed with fine hairs. The flowers are typically just 4 mm long with a corolla comprising four or sometimes five petal-like segments joined near their greenish bases. This annual grows to between 20 and 75 cm. It is found growing in or near water. It is used in traditional medicine for a number of remedies.

Algeria Sc#1672. Denomination: 10 dinars. Medicinal plants, issued 10 February 2016 in a set of 2. Printer: *Imprimerie Banque Centrale d'Algérie* in sheets of 25. Perforated 14.



***Eupatorium cannabinum*. ASTERACEAE Hemp-agrimony**

Synonyms: 36 synonyms for this species

Native to Europe, cultivated. Perennial growing to 1.5 m in height by 1 m. Prefers wet, nonacid soil. Flowers are pink or violet. Plant contains flavonoids, a benzofuran, phenols, tannins, resin, and inulin. Used as a remedy for viral infections, also liver and biliary disorders.

Algeria Scott 1673. Denomination 25 dinars. Medicinal plants, issued 10 February 2016 in a set of 2.

***Eragrostis pallens*. POACEAE Motshikiri Grass**

Synonym: *Eragrostis dura*

Subfamily: Chloridoideae; Tribe: Eragrostideae. Range Angola, Congo D.R., Botswana, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe. Perennial 1.5–2 m high.

Botswana Sc#969. Denomination 7.30 pula. National flora, issued 27 November 2014 in a set of 4. Printer: Southern Color Print, Dunedin, New Zealand. Perf 14.

***Agave karatto*. ASPARAGACEAE Dagger's Log**

Synonyms: 10 synonyms for this species

Native to the Windward Islands of the Caribbean West Indies, including Antigua and Barbuda. Leaves form a rosette that is 2.4–3 m around. Leaves are dagger-like, medium green, up to 1 m long, with sharp tips and small teeth along the edges. The flowering spike is up to 5.5 m high, multiply branched near the top. Flowers are yellow.

Cuba Sc#5819. Denomination 75 centavos. National flowers of North and South America, issued 5 May 2016 in a set of 8.

***Caucaea sanguinolenta*. ORCHIDACEAE**

Synonyms: *C. mimetica* and nine others

An epiphytic orchid in Venezuela and Colombia at elevations around 3000 meters. Blooms in winter and spring.

Djibouti Sc#953a. Denomination 280 francs. Orchids, issued 5 May 2016 in a MS of 4.

***Phyllostylon rhamnoides*. ULMACEAE**

Synonyms: *P. brasiliensi*; *P. orthopterum*; *Samaroceltis rhamnoides*

Ranging from Argentina to Mexico, it is a tree with a long, narrow crown. It can grow from 5–24 m with a bole that is buttressed. It is used as a food (seeds) and source of wood. Found in scrub forest and thorn scrub forest, often on calcareous soils and on brushy rocky soils in Central America. The heartwood is lemon-yellow, sometimes with a tinge of brown, occasionally with dark streaks.

Dominican Republic Sc#1600b. Denomination 10 pesos. National Botanical

Garden issue of 27 October 2016, sheet of 12.

***Krugiodendron ferreum*. RHAMNACEAE Black Ironwood, Leadwood**

Synonyms: 10 synonyms for this species

Range: Honduras, Belize, Guatemala, Mexico, Caribbean-Antilles, and the Bahamas to southeast North America, Florida. Evergreen tree that can grow up to ten meters tall, bole 20–50 cm. Oppositely arranged, emarginate leaves, and small greenish flowers. Heartwood is rich, orange-brown. Wood is one of the densest in the world and the heaviest native wood in North America. Fruit is edible.

Dominican Republic Sc#1600j. Denomination 10 pesos. National Botanical

Gardens issue of 27 October 2016, sheet of 12.



***Juniperus gracilior*. CUPRESSACEAE**

Endemic to the island of Hispaniola. Grows in humid forest habitat alongside palms and ferns in humid montane forest zone from 1,000 m to 2,550 m elevation. Wood is used for furniture and carving, and for firewood.

Dominican Republic Sc#1600I. Denomination 10 pesos. National Botanical Gardens issue of 27 October 2016, sheet of 12.



***Cyrtocaucaea* 'U. Católica de Cuenca'. ORCHIDACEAE**

Cyrtocaucaea is an intergeneric hybrid *Caucaea olivacea* × *Cyrtochilum geniculatum* developed by the *Universidad Católica de Cuenca*, Ecuador.

Ecuador Sc#2186a Denomination \$1. Indigenous Flora of Azuay issued 12 November 2016 in a set of 5. Printer: *Instituto Geográfico Militar*, in Quito, in sheets of 100. Perforated 14.



***Gentianella hirculus*. GENTIANACEAE**

Synonym: *Gentiana hirculus*

Endemic to southern Ecuador. Hummock-forming perennial 5–20 cm tall from a stout woody rootstock. Leaves are opposite, up to 1.5 cm long, linear, and clustered. Flowers are up to 20 mm long, with a globose shape, the petals overlapping and barely open, bright orange-yellow with the exposed margin red, in autumn to late winter. Found in subtropical or tropical high-altitude shrub land and subtropical or tropical high-altitude grassland from 3,500 to 4,000 m elevation.

Ecuador Sc#2186d Denomination \$1. Indigenous Flora of Azuay issued 12 November 2016 in a set of 5.



***Narthecium ossifragum*. NARTHECIACEAE Bog Asphodel**

Synonyms: 7 synonyms

Native to Western Europe. It is found on wet, boggy moorlands up to about 1000 m elevation. Rhizomatous perennial with rigid sword-shaped leaves and yellow star-like flowers on leafless stems in summer. Used as dye.

Faroe Islands Sc#677e. Natural dyes issue, 27 February 2017, in MS of 6. Designer/Artist: Edward Fuglø. Printer: LM-Group, Canada. Process: Offset



***Filipendula ulmaria*. ROSACEAE Meadowsweet**

Synonyms: 57 synonyms, including *Spiraea ulmaria* and *Ulmaria vulgaris*

Native to Europe and Asia, Large, clump-forming, upright perennial that typically grows 12 m tall. Panicles (15 cm) of fragrant, creamy white flowers in early to mid-summer. Compound, pinnate, dark green leaves (7–9 leaflets each) are hairy and whitish beneath. Used to flavor wine, beer, vinegar, and as herbal remedy. Also as a strewing herb and as dye.

Faroe Islands Sc#677f. Natural dyes issue, 27 February 2017, in MS of 6.