

# A NOMENCLATRURAL CHANGE IN VIOLA (VIOLACEAE)

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## ABSTRACT

In keeping with the use of varieties for infraspecific taxa in the treatment of *Viola* for the *Flora of North America* (Little & McKinney, in prep.), a nomenclatural change is proposed here to achieve consistency.

## RESUMEN

De acuerdo con el uso de variedades para los taxa infraspecificos en el tratamiento de *Viola* para la *Flora de Norteamerica*, se propone aquí un cambio nomenclatural para conseguir coherencia.

***Viola pinetorum* Greene var. *grisea* (Jepson) R.J. Little, comb. nov.** BASIONYM: *Viola purpurea* Kellogg var. *grisea* Jepson, Fl. Calif. 2:521. 1936. *Viola pinetorum* Greene subsp. *grisea* (Jepson) R.J. Little, Phytologia. 72:77–78. 1992.

*Viola purpurea* Kellogg, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. 1:55. 1855.

*Viola pinetorum* Greene, Pittonia 2:14. 1889. *Viola purpurea* Kellogg var. *pinetorum* Greene, Fl. Francisc. 243. 1891.

Edward L. Greene described *Viola pinetorum* in 1889 and reduced it without comment to a variety of *Viola purpurea* in 1891. Willis L. Jepson collected “dwarf,” caespitose forms of this taxon from mountain ranges in southern California, which he described in 1936 as *Viola purpurea* var. *grisea*. The leaf blades of *Viola pinetorum* are typically much longer than wide, linear to narrowly lanceolate, oblanceolate, or obovate. The author believes *Viola pinetorum* is distinct from *Viola purpurea* and that var. *grisea* is distinct from var. *pinetorum*.

Variety *pinetorum* and the diminutive var. *grisea* have similar leaf shapes with margins irregularly lacerate, dentate, serrate, and sometimes more or less entire. The leaf margins of these taxa are usually strongly and markedly sinuate and undulate. However, evidence that leaves are undulate is obliterated when the leaves are pressed. The leaves of var. *grisea* appear distinctly gray in the field and are usually canescent to gray-tomentose. The leaves of var. *pinetorum* appear greenish in the field and are usually puberulent on both surfaces and purple-tinted abaxially. In June 2011, the author collected var. *grisea* from 3 locations in southern California, at elevations 2225–2500 m: Mt. Pinos and San Gabriel Mountains in the Transverse Ranges, and north of Bald Mountain (Tulare Co.) in the southern Sierra Nevada.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to M.J. Bower for assistance with the Resumen, Richard Rabeler (MICH) and Kanchi Gandhi (GH) for valuable input, and to Barney Lipscomb for facilitating rapid publication.