

## NOTEWORTHY PLANT RECORDS FROM LOUISIANA

Christopher S. Reid<sup>1</sup>

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
2000 Quail Drive  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808, U.S.A.  
creid@wlf.la.gov

Lowell Urbatsch

Louisiana State University Herbarium  
Department of Biological Sciences  
Room 202 Life Sciences Building  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803, U.S.A.  
leu@lsu.edu

### ABSTRACT

Thirteen significant vascular plant records are reported herein. *Cyperus fuscus*, *Panicum bergii*, *Polygala brevifolia*, *Rhynchospora inundata*, *Veronica beccabunga*, and *Xyris smalliana* are confirmed as new state records. Four records are reported of *Lipocarpha micrantha*, which was previously regarded as historical in Louisiana. The second extant population of the federally-listed *Schwalbea americana* from Louisiana is documented. Recent specimens of *Eleocharis engelmannii*, *Eragrostis barrelieri*, *Fimbristylis schoenoides*, *Panicum hallii* var. *filipes*, and *Schoenoplectus etuberculatus* are regarded as noteworthy since there are few records of these taxa from Louisiana.

### RESUMEN

Se aportan aquí trece citas significativas de plantas. *Cyperus fuscus*, *Panicum bergii*, *Polygala brevifolia*, *Rhynchospora inundata*, *Veronica beccabunga*, y *Xyris smalliana* se confirman como nuevas citas para el estado. Se hacen cuatro citas de *Lipocarpha micrantha*, que se tenía previamente como histórica en Louisiana. Se documenta la segunda población existente de *Schwalbea americana* en Louisiana presente en el listado federal. Recientes especímenes de *Eleocharis engelmannii*, *Eragrostis barrelieri*, *Fimbristylis schoenoides*, *Panicum hallii* var. *filipes*, y *Schoenoplectus etuberculatus* se consideran notables ya que hay pocas citas de estos taxa en Louisiana.

### INTRODUCTION

Recent floristic work in Louisiana has resulted in the discovery of new plant records and other significant collections (Reid & Faulkner 2006; MacRoberts et al. 2007; Reid et al. 2007; Reid et al. 2008; Reid and Faulkner 2010). In this paper we report six species new to Louisiana and noteworthy collections of seven additional taxa. Accounts of these records are presented alphabetically by family and scientific name.

## CYPERACEAE

### *Cyperus fuscus* L.

Tucker et al. (2002) report the distribution of this exotic sedge to include California, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Virginia in the United States, and Ontario and Quebec in Canada. It has since been discovered in Arkansas and Mississippi (Bryson & Carter 2010). The specimens cited below represent the first records of *C. fuscus* in Louisiana. Both are from the Mississippi River bank between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. McKenzie et al. (1998) and Bryson and Carter (2010) provide detailed information on its occurrence in North America and present ecological data and illustrations.

Voucher specimens: **Iberville Parish:** Mississippi River bank at LSU Sugar Cane Experiment Station, W of LA 75 ca. 1 km S of Sunshine; lat: 30.265441, long: -91.112060, uncommon on moist, sandy river bank with *Fimbristylis vahlii*, *Panicum capillare*, *Cyperus squarrosus*, *Eragrostis hypnoides*, *Panicum dichotomiflorum*, *Heliotropium procumbens*, etc., 17 Nov 2010, Reid 7783 w/Urbatsch (LSU, VSC). **St. Charles Parish:** Mississippi River bank below Bonne Carre Spillway control structure, ca. 2.4 air km W of Norco, lat: 29.999630, long: -90.442887, rare, ca. 12 plants observed, on open moist sandy substrate, with *Salix nigra* seedlings, *Leptochloa scabra*, *Mollugo verticillata*, *Panicum capillare*, *Fimbristylis vahlii*, *Leucospora multifida*, *Heliotropium procumbens*, and *Cyperus surinamensis*, 1 Dec 2010, Reid 7788 (LSU, SWSL).

### *Eleocharis engelmannii* Steud.

This widespread spike sedge was reported new to Louisiana by Sorrie and Leblond (2008) based on a specimen

<sup>1</sup>Current address; Louisiana State University Herbarium, Department of Biological Sciences, Room 202 Life Sciences Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803, U.S.A. Email: creid4@tigers.lsu.edu

collected in 1967 from Jefferson Davis Parish (*Thieret* 27938, DUKE). The De Soto Parish specimen cited below is apparently the second record of this species from Louisiana.

Voucher specimens: **De Soto Parish:** wet swale in relatively new pipeline ROW 0.4 km W of LA 175, ca. 1.6 km N of jct. with I-49 and ca. 2.8 km S of Frierson; lat/long: 32°13'54.1"N, 93°42'23" W, abundant in wet swale growing in several cm of water, with *Cyperus pseudovegetus*, *Glyceria declinata*, *Eleocharis obtusa*, *E. montana*, *Juncus* spp., 19 May 2009, *Reid* 7028 w/*Faulkner* (LSU, LSUS, TEX-LL, VSC, WIS).

### ***Fimbristylis schoenoides* (Retz.) Vahl**

Thomas and Allen (1993) report this species for Louisiana based on a specimen collected from a roadside ditch in the vicinity of the community of Goodbee in St. Tammany Parish in 1960 (*Hebert* 385, LSU). The specimen cited below was collected ca. 3.5 km northeast of Goodbee and documents the continued existence of this exotic sedge in that area ca. 50 years after its original discovery.

Voucher specimens: **St. Tammany Parish:** Lake Ramsay Savannah WMA, S of Lake Ramsay Subdivision and Riverlake Road, E of oxidation ponds, ca. 5.5 air mi NW of Covington; lat/long: 30°31'25"N, 90°10'41"W, common along ATV trail leading S in wet swales, with weedy elements such as *Fimbristylis miliacea*, *F. tomentosa*, *Paspalum urvillei*, and *Steinchisma hians*, 8 Sep 2009, *Reid* 7183 w/*Jones* (ANHC, LSU, LSUS, TEX-LL, VDB, VSC), same locality, 13 Oct 2009, *Reid* 7289 (ANHC, EIU, LSU, MO).

### ***Lipocarpa micrantha* (Vahl) G. Tucker**

MacRoberts and MacRoberts (2006) report *Lipocarpa micrantha* from Caddo Parish in the extreme northwestern corner of the state based on a specimen collected in 1959 (*Shireman* 56, LSU) from the shoreline of Cross Lake. Lloyd and Tracy (1901) report *L. micrantha* from the bank of South Pass, which is part of the Mississippi River Delta in Plaquemines Parish. R.S. Cocks collected *L. micrantha* from "banks of the Mississippi River, New Orleans" near the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (*Cocks s.n.*, NO). These records of *Lipocarpa micrantha* were the only ones known from Louisiana prior to 2010. Since the most recent of which is ca. 50 years old, the species was ranked as historical for Louisiana (NatureServe 2010). Specimens cited below from Iberville, Plaquemines, and St. Charles Parishes represent new occurrences discovered in 2010. The St. Mary Parish specimen, which came to light in early 2011, consists of several plants of *L. micrantha* incidentally collected and mixed with a sheet of *Cyperus surinamensis* Rottb. It appears this small annual sedge may be overlooked in Louisiana, rather than truly rare.

Voucher specimens: **Iberville Parish:** Sandy bank of the Mississippi River within 30 m of the main channel, ca. 2.25 km SE of the jct. of Bayou Paul Lane and LA 75 S of Sunshine, uncommon and growing in association with *Cyperus squarrosus*, *C. erythrorhizos*, *Eragrostis barleri*, *E. hypnoides*, *Fimbristylis vahlii*, *Leptochloa* spp., *Panicum capillare*, *P. dichotomiflorum*, and *Mollugo verticillata*, lat/long: 30.261975°N, 91.108812°W, elev. ca. 4 m, 9 Nov 2010, *Urbatsch* 10019 w/*Reid* (LSU). **Plaquemines Parish:** Delta National Wildlife Refuge, N of Pass a Loutre ca. 4 km E of Head of Passes, ca. 5.6 air km SE of Pilottown, lat/long: 29°09'10"N, 89°12'39"W, uncommon on sandy dredged material deposited 6–7 months prior, characteristic species included *Fimbristylis vahlii*, *Cyperus squarrosus*, *Panicum dichotomiflorum*, *Leptochloa* spp., *Eragrostis hypnoides*, *Panicum capillare*, and *Mollugo verticillata*, 30 Jul 2010, *Reid* 7549 w/*Victoriano* (LSU, NCU). **St. Charles Parish:** Mississippi River bank below Bonne Carre Spillway control structure, ca. 2.4 air km W of Norco, lat/long: 29°59'57"N, 90°26'13"W, common on recently deposited moist sand, with *Fimbristylis vahlii*, *Cyperus squarrosus*, *Salix nigra* seedlings, *Cyperus erythrorhizos*, *Lindernia dubia*, *Eragrostis hypnoides*, and *Leptochloa panicoides*, 19 Aug 2010, *Reid* 7577 (LSU, NCU, SWSL, VSC). **St. Mary Parish:** North Beach on E side of Atchafalaya River, ca. 4.8 km downstream from jct. with Intracoastal Canal (as it heads W), ca. 8.8 km SSW of Berwick, lat/long: 29°37'28"N, 91°15'21"W, sandy, relatively high river bank, 5 Nov 2008, *Reid* 6897 w/*Lejeune* (LSU).

### ***Rhynchospora inundata* (Oakes) Fernald**

*Rhynchospora inundata* is not reported as occurring in Louisiana by Thomas and Allen (1993). Louisiana is included in the range of *R. inundata* by Moore (1997) and Kral (2000), possibly on the basis of a specimen collected from St. Tammany Parish in 1978 (*Loyacana and Pravata s.n.*, VDB). This specimen is annotated by Moore as *R. inundata* while its duplicate at GA is annotated by Kral as *Rhynchospora careyana* Fernald. We viewed scanned images of these specimens. Well-developed rhizomes are present on both specimens. The spikelets are immature. Spikelets are dense relative to the characteristic open, sparsely populated inflorescence described for *R. inundata* by McMillan (2007). The specific locality is the community of Florenville, which is typified by wet flatwoods with conspicuous *Taxodium ascendens* Brongn. We suspect the specimens at GA and VDB are in fact *R. careyana*, which is very abundant in the vicinity of Florenville. However, we did not actually

examine them. The specimens cited below unambiguously vouch for the presence of *R. inundata* in the Louisiana flora.

Voucher specimens: **Sabine Parish:** Devil's Lake, W side of gas line ROW, below big cutover sandhill 5.9 km N of LA 473 via gated private roads, ca. 5.5 km W of jct. w/LA 392, ca. 5.4 air km W of Hornbeck, lat/long: 31°19'52"N, 93°27'24"W, apparently natural lake of unknown origin fed by seepage from upper end, beavers present, plants growing in wet sandy substrate on lake shore and in floating vegetation mats in lake, 28 Jul 2009, Reid 7130 (ANHC, LSU, TEX-LL, VDB); 13 Aug 2009, Reid 7159 w/*Allain and Moore* (LSU, VSC); 21 Sep 2009, Reid 7226 w/*Jones and Singhurst* (EIU, LSU).

### **Schoenoplectus etuberculatus** (Steud) Soják

The record cited below is only the second extant population of *Schoenoplectus etuberculatus* known from Louisiana. Diggs et al. (2006) regard this species to be of conservation concern in Texas. The rarity rank assigned to *S. etuberculatus* by NatureServe (2010) is G3G4, indicating its potentially global rarity.

Voucher specimens: **Sabine Parish:** Devil's Lake, W side of gas line ROW, below big cutover sandhill 5.9 km N of LA 473 via gated private roads, ca. 5.5 km W of jct. w/LA 392, ca. 5.4 air km W of Hornbeck, lat/long: 31°19'52"N, 93°27'24"W, apparently natural lake of unknown origin fed by seepage from upper end, beavers present, emergent in 6–8 in of water in upper end of lake, with *Juncus repens* and *Nymphoides aquatica*, ca. 100–200 eventually fertile culms, 28 Jul 2009, Reid 7133 (LSU); 21 Sep 2009, Reid 7219 w/*Jones and Singhurst* (LSU).

## OROBANCHACEAE

### **Schwalbea americana** L.

This specimen represents the second extant occurrence of this federally-listed, endangered plant in Louisiana (NatureServe 2010). This population is ca. 11 km northwest of the previously known population in Allen Parish.

Voucher specimen: **Beauregard Parish:** Cow Creek Savannah, W of Texas Eastern Road ca. 1.6 km S of US 190, 2.4 km W of Allen Parish line and ca. 8 km E of Ragley, ca. 35 plants seen (ca. 20 fertile) on lower edge of ridge above flatwoods pond, with *Rhexia alifanus*, *Eupatorium leucolepis*, *E. rotundifolium*, *Aletris aurea*, *Schizachyrium scoparium*, *Tragia smallii*, *Liatris spicata*, 1 Jun 2010, Reid 7444 w/*Bass and Daigle* (LSU).

## POACEAE

### **Eragrostis barrelieri** Daveau

This Old World native is found in disturbed areas and, in the United States, is most frequent in the southwest, with scattered southeastern occurrences (Peterson 2003). Allen et al. (2004) report *E. barrelieri* to occur in five Louisiana parishes: Calcasieu, Cameron, Lafayette, Lincoln, and Webster. The specimens cited below represent new parish records. Both specimens were collected along the Mississippi River below Baton Rouge.

Voucher specimens: **Iberville Parish:** Sandy bank of the Mississippi River within 30 m of the main channel, about 1.4 mi SE of the jct. of Bayou Paul Lane and LA 75 S of Sunshine, rare and growing in association with *Cyperus squarrosus*, *C. erythrorhizos*, *Eragrostis hypnoides*, *Fimbristylis vahlii*, *Leptochloa* spp., *Panicum capillare*, *P. dichotomiflorum*, and *Mollugo verticillata*, lat/long: 30.261975°N, 91.108812°W, elev. ca. 4 m, 9 Nov 2010, Urbatsch 10014 (LSU). **St. Charles Parish:** Mississippi River bank below Bonne Carre Spillway control structure, ca. 2.4 air km W of Norco, lat/long: 29°59'57"N, 90°26'13"W, common on sparsely vegetated dry sand deposit, 19 Aug 2010, Reid 7586 (ANHC, LSU, VSC).

### **Panicum bergii** Arechav.

The specimen of *Panicum bergii* cited below is apparently the first from Louisiana as it is not reported for the state by Thomas and Allen (1993), Freckmann and Lelong (2003), Allen et al. (2004), or USDA, NRCS (2010). It is regarded as an exotic in the U.S. and native to South America by Gould (1975), Freckmann and Lelong (2003), Diggs et al. (2006), and USDA, NRCS (2010). Correll and Johnston (1970) suggest some of the material in Texas is native and that the distribution of the species is bicentric. Rosen (2007) treats *P. bergii* as a native amphitropical disjunct in his floristic inventory of a Texas coastal prairie remnant.

Voucher specimen: **Cameron Parish:** Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, Marceaux Island, ca. 1.6 air km E of Sabine Lake, 2.8 km N of Willow Bayou Canal and 0.8 km E of Gray's Ditch, along small access canal, lat/long: 29°54'10"N, 93°45'06"W, coastal prairie, 10 May 2005, Reid 5532 w/*Allain and Faulkner* (LSU, UWSP).

***Panicum hallii* Vasey var. *filipes* (Scribn.) Waller**

Hitchcock (1950) reports this taxon to occur at Shreveport, Louisiana. This report accounts for the inclusion of *P. hallii* var. *filipes* in Caddo Parish by Allen et al. (2004). Allen et al. (2004) also cite a specimen from Webster Parish (*Jeansonne s.n.*, LTU), collected from a nursery in Sibley, Louisiana. The *P. hallii* var. *filipes* record presented below is apparently only the third from Louisiana and is the first for which the associated natural community is known.

Voucher specimen: **De Soto Parish:** Dickson Prairie, N of LA 3276 via Missile Base and Brown Roads 2.4 km E of jct. w/US 171 in Stonewall, ca. 3.2 air km NE of Stonewall, lat/long: 32°18'28"N, 93°48'23"W, locally abundant in high quality saline prairie with *Aristida longespica*, *A. oligantha*, *Sporobolus vaginiflorus*, *Pheimeranthus parviflorus*, and *Opuntia* sp., 10 Oct 2009, Reid s.n. w/Dickson (LSU, UWSP).

**POLYGALACEAE*****Polygala brevifolia* Nutt.**

*Polygala brevifolia* is not included in the Louisiana Flora by Thomas and Allen (1998) or Allen (1997); thus, it is reported as new to Louisiana on the basis of the specimen cited below. This record extends the known range of the species slightly to the west as it is known from adjacent Hancock County, Mississippi (USDA, NRCS 2010).

Voucher specimen: **St. Tammany Parish:** Abita Flatwoods Preserve, W of Jack Lloyd Road near its terminus, N of jct. w/LA 435, 9.3 km E of jct. w/LA 59 in Abita Springs, lat/long: 30°31'25"N, 89°57'38"W, common on small hammocks (e.g., tree bases) at interface of bayhead swamp and flat lower seepage slope bog, with *Pinus elliotii*, *Nyssa biflora*, *Sarracenia alata*, *Leucothoe axillaris*, *Persea palustris*, *Andropogon mohrii*, 8 Sep 2009, Reid 7192 w/Jones (LSU).

**SCROPHULARIACEAE*****Veronica beccabunga* L.**

*Veronica beccabunga* L. is reported for the first time to occur in Louisiana. Introductions of this European native have been reported from locations scattered from Illinois eastward to Maryland, West Virginia, and possibly Virginia northward into Canada, and also for a few of counties in California and Nevada (USDA, NRCS 2010; Weakley 2010). It has been reported from ca. one-half the counties in Michigan. Its documentation in Louisiana represents range extensions of well over 1100 km from Ohio and West Virginia and over 2700 km from California and Nevada (USDA, PLANTS 2010). The Louisiana location is from the Wax Lake Delta and is accessible only by boat. It was collected as part of the Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) project of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

Voucher specimen: **St. Mary Parish:** Wax Lake Delta area, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources monitoring station CRMS 0484, ca. 34 air km SW of Morgan City, with *Alternanthera philoxeroides*, *Eichhornia crassipes*, *Ludwigia palustris*, *Potamogeton nodosus*, *Sagittaria platyphylla*, lat/long: 29.49099°N, 91.4475175°W, elev. = sea level, 22 Jul 2009, Dufrene and Viola s.n. (LSU).

**XYRIDACEAE*****Xyris smalliana* Nash**

*Xyris smalliana* was included in the Louisiana Flora by MacRoberts (1984), then excluded by Thomas and Allen (1993). Voucher specimens supporting the inclusion of Louisiana in the range of *Xyris smalliana* by Kral (2000) are unknown to us. Therefore the specimens cited below confirm the presence of *X. smalliana* in Louisiana.

Voucher specimens: **Beauregard Parish:** ATV trail leading S from Pettifield Road near its jct. w/Camp Edgewood Road, ca. 5.1 km E of jct. w/LA 12 on E edge of DeQuincey, lat/long: 30°26'03"N, 93°21'31"W, locally common in wallowed out part of ATV trail, with *Gratiola brevifolia*, *Eleocharis microcarpa*, *Xyris laxifolia* var. *iridifolia*, *X. stricta* var. *obscura*, *Nyssa biflora*, and *Dichantherium scabriusculum*, 15 Sep 2010, Reid 7652 w/Bass (LSU, NCU, VDB); E of Dickerson Road 1.6 km S of jct. w/Camp Edgewood Road, 3.8 km E of jct. w/LA 12 on E edge of DeQuincey, lat: 30.436970, long: -93.369236, abundant in impounded marsh dominated by *Eleocharis equisetoides*, organic substrate, 18 Oct 2010, Reid 7729 (LSU, NCU, VDB).

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George and Gordon Dickson allowed field surveys of Dickson Prairie in northwest Louisiana where we discovered *Panicum hallii* var. *filipes*. Charles Bryson (SWSL) made us aware of the possibility of *Cyperus fuscus* occurring in Louisiana and kindly provided specimens of this taxon from Mississippi. We appreciate Jason Sing-

hurst of Texas Parks and Wildlife for showing Reid several populations of *Xyris smilliana* in southeast Texas, which greatly helped in developing a search image for the species and increased the efficiency of finding it in Louisiana. Robert Freckmann (UWSP) kindly provided determinations of *Dichantheium* and *Panicum*. Robert Kral (VDB) kindly provided verifications of *Xyris smilliana* and *Rhynchospora inundata*. We appreciate staff at GA and VDB for providing images of *Rhynchospora* specimens. Christopher Brantley of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers facilitated access to Bonne Carre Spillway where we discovered populations of *Cyperus fuscus*, *Eragrostis barrelieri*, and *Lipocarpa micrantha*. We thank Nelwyn McInnis and Latimore Smith of The Nature Conservancy for allowing access to Abita Flatwoods Preserve where we collected *Polygala brevifolia*. We are indebted to Barry Cook and Terry Dowden of Hancock Forest Management for allowing our surveys of Devil's Lake where we discovered *Rhynchospora inundata* and *Schoenoplectus etuberculatus*. We thank D.C. Albach, Institute of Botany, University of Vienna, for identifying *Veronica*. We express our gratitude to David Daigle for allowing our access to several properties he manages, including Cow Creek Savannah, where we discovered *Schwalbea americana*. We commend his excellent management of this and other ecologically important sites. Reid would like to express his appreciation for his employer, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, for providing the support necessary to conduct effective fieldwork and for paying the cost of this and other publications. Department of Biological Sciences, Louisiana State University also supported various aspects of this work. We appreciate the constructive reviews of Richard Carter and an anonymous reviewer.

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