

***Ranunculus leslieanus* (Ranunculaceae) – a new name for a recently described species**

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Abstract

Within the *Ranunculus auricomus* complex, the name *R. multidentis* A.C. Leslie is illegitimate. This taxon is renamed *R. leslieanus* in honour of its finder.

Introduction

In Central Europe, the *Ranunculus auricomus* complex (Goldilocks Buttercups) has gained increasing interest in recent years (Dunkel 2012, 2014, 2019; Hörandl & Gutermann 1998; Hörandl *et al.* 2009; Karbstein *et al.* 2020). To date, the pioneering work of Alan Leslie represents the only detailed study of this apomictic or at least facultatively apomictic complex in Great Britain. 58 new and endemic species were initially described and named in his thesis (Leslie, 1978) and subsequently published validly in 2018 (Leslie, 2018).

For *R. multidentis* A.C. Leslie there is an older homonym (Dunkel 2011). Therefore, according to the International Code of Nomenclature (Shenzhen Code) art. 53.1 this name is illegitimate, and a new name is proposed in honour of the finder of the taxon.

***Ranunculus leslieanus* Dunkel nom. nov.**

≡ *Ranunculus multidentis* A.C. Leslie, Fl. Gr. Brit. Ireland 1: 673 (2018), nom. illeg. non *Ranunculus multidentis* Dunkel, Webbia 66(2): 188 (–191; figs.) (2011).

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