

Brachystelma blepharantha Huber — rediscovered after 70 years

In 1913 Schlechter published a description in *Botanische Jahrbücher* 51:146, of a plant he named *Blepharantha dinteri*. This description was based on plants collected near Okahandja by Professor K. Dinter on two occasions, one in 1909 and one in 1910. Since these dates the species has never been collected again, and the plant has been known only from the original description.

A year ago a small *Brachystelma* was brought into the Herbarium for identification. As a result of the drought of the past years it was in poor condition, and had only a single flower. This year, after the first good rains, Mr. E. Jansen van Vuuren, who had collected the plant the previous year, returned to the locality in the Khomas Hochland and collected some more material. This time the plants were healthy and identification was possible. It was found to be the plant known only from Dinter's collection, now classified as *Brachystelma blepharantha*.

These plants closely resemble those described by Schlechter, showing only a few variations. The leaf margins are normally smooth (occasionally slightly wavy). The calyx is whitish and the corolla green. The tubers are generally elongated, although cases do occur where the tuber is somewhat flattened. The plants are locally common and are found on stony, limey soil.

M.A.N. Müller

Zur weiteren Erläuterung von *Brachystelma blepharantha* bringen wir die Originalzeichnung Schlechters aus dem *Botanischen Jahrbuch* 51: 146 (1913) von *Blepharantha dinteri* Schlechter.

Sie wurde 1961 durch H. Huber (Würzburg) in den *Mitteilungen der Botanischen Staatssammlung München* 4: 33 zu *Brachystelma* gestellt und erhielt den Namen *Brachystelma blepharantha* H. Huber nom. nov.

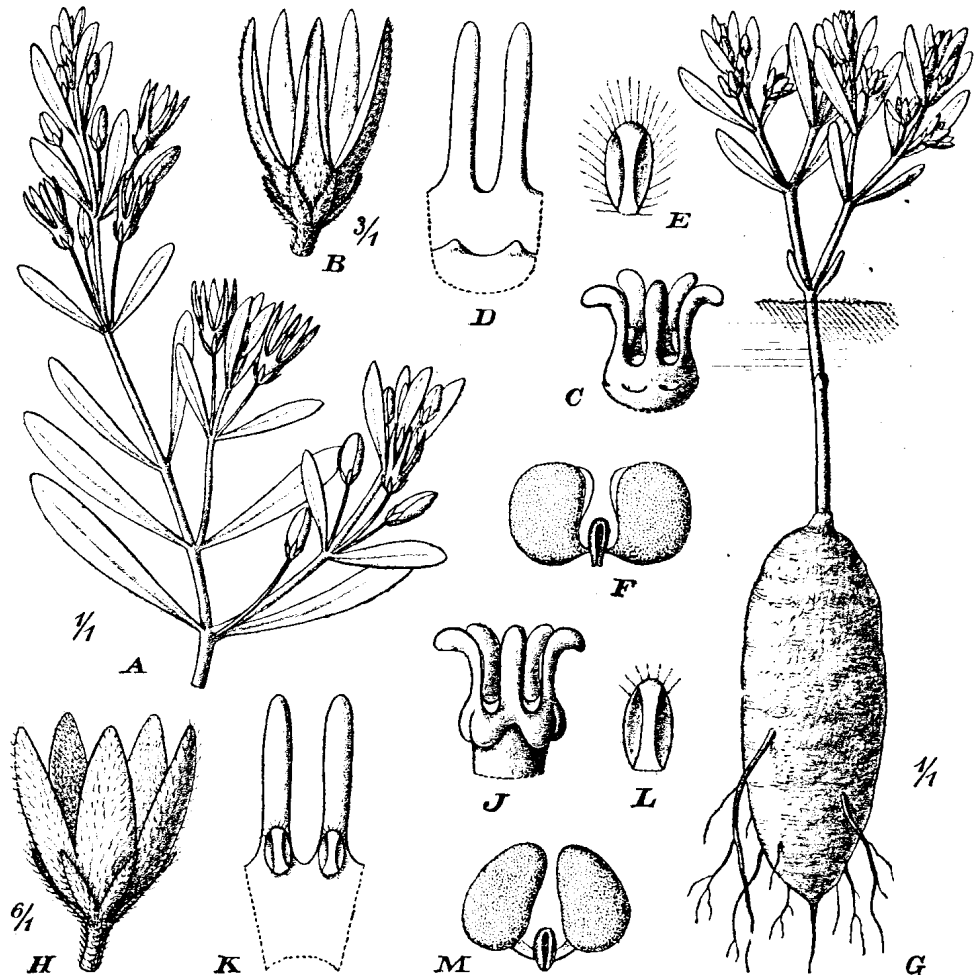
Die Synonymie ist folgende:

Blepharantha dinteri Schlechter in Bot. Jahrb. 51: 146 (1913).

Blepharantha edulis Schlechter l.c. 51: 147 (1913).

Brachystelma dinteri (Schlechter) Phill. in Bothalia 4: 38 (1941) nom. illeg. non
Brachystelma dinteri Schlechter 1913, neque *Brachystelma edule* Collett &
Hemsl. 1890.

(WG.)



A—F *Blepharantha dinteri* Schltr. A Zweigstück, B Blüte, C Gynostegium mit Korona, D Koronasegment, E Anthere, F Pollinarium. — G—M *B. edulis* Schltr. G Habitusbild, H Blüte, J Gynostegium mit Korona, K Koronasegment, L Anthere, M Pollinarium.