IPOMOEA EDWARDSSENSIS (CONVOLVULACEAE) AT SPECIFIC RANK

Robert J. O’Kennon
Botanical Research Institute of Texas
1700 University Drive
Fort Worth, Texas 76107-3400, U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

*Ipomoea costellata* var. *edwardsensis* is distinct in morphology, phenology, and geography from typical *I. costellata* and is treated here at specific rank, as *Ipomoea edwardsensis* (O’Kennon & Nesom) O’Kennon, comb. et stat. nov.

RESUMEN

*Ipomoea costellata* var. *edwardsensis* es distinta en morfología, fenología, y geografía de la típica *I. costellata* y se trata aquí a nivel específico como *Ipomoea edwardsensis* (O’Kennon & Nesom) O’Kennon, comb. et stat. nov.

Plants of a small-flowered, pedatisect-leaved morning glory from the Edwards Plateau region of Texas were earlier described at varietal rank within *Ipomoea costellata* Torrey (O’Kennon & Nesom 2002). Further observations support a hypothesis of their genetic discontinuity from typical *I. costellata* and the Edwards Plateau plants are here recognized as a distinct species.


*Ipomoea edwardsensis* is known from six counties of the Edwards Plateau region of Texas (Fig. 1), where it grows on limestone ledges and crevices and thin soil of weather pits in bedrock of limestone and granite (Taylor & O’Kennon 2016: 286). It is distinct from *I. costellata* elsewhere in its range by its combination of shorter peduncles and bright white, nearly rotate flowers with fewer and deeper lobes (Fig. 2). *Ipomoea edwardsensis* is consistent in morphology and there is no evidence of intergradation with any other species.

1. Peduncles 3–22(–30) mm long, peduncle plus pedicel mostly shorter than or equal to subtending leaf, ca. equal the petiole length; corollas bright white, with five, oblong-ovate lobes; flowering Jun–Nov. ___________________ *Ipomoea edwardsensis*

1. Peduncles (15–)27–70 mm long, peduncle plus pedicel mostly 1.5–3 times longer than subtending leaf; corollas pink, purple, bluish, white, or yellow, with ten, shallowly rounded lobes; flowering (Jun–)Jul–Oct. ___________________ *Ipomoea costellata*


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Fig. 1. Known distribution of *Ipomoea edwardsensis* and *Ipomoea costellata* in Texas. The range of *I. costellata* continues westward to Arizona and southward to Guatemala. Records are from ASU, BRIT-SMU, F, HPC, LSU, MO, NY, SRSC, TENN, TLU, TTC, UNM, UTEP.

Fig. 2. Photographs of *Ipomoea edwardsensis* flower (left from Nesom FW99 and O’Kennon).
REFERENCES
