

**Validation of *Nostoc flagelliforme* (Nostocaceae, Cyanobacteria)**

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In the third part of his monumental monograph of the *Nostocaceae*, Komárek (2013: 975) included *Nostoc flagelliforme*, a widely distributed soil species consumed in some part of the world, crediting the name to "Berkeley et Curtis ex Bornet et Flahault 1888". However, the name was not introduced at the species level by Bornet & Flahault (1886; the date for this publication is set by Art. 13.1e as 1886; McNeill *et al.* 2012). Instead, the name validated by Bornet & Flahault is *Nostoc commune* var. *flagelliforme* with several references to pre-starting point names (see ICN Art. 13.1e for the nomenclatural starting points for this group) including *Nostoc flagelliforme* Berkeley & M.A.Curtis in Wright, *Plantae texanae*, no. 3809, an exsiccata in which the name (and material) was distributed without a description. *Nostoc flagelliforme* was validated by Harvey (1858: 115) on the basis of material collected by Charles Wright (1811-1885, American botanist and collector) on "naked aluminous soil, at San Pedro Texas, Mr. Charles Wright (v.s.)" and cited *Plantae texanae* no. 3809. Harvey's pre-starting-point name is currently devalidated by Art. 13.1e. As Komárek (2013: 975, fig. 1264) clearly recognised *Nostoc flagelliforme* as a species, and cited the Berkeley & Curtis name, but erroneously crediting the name at species level to Bornet & Flahault, we propose the following validation of Harvey's name in order to meet both nomenclatural and taxonomic requirements. We choose Harvey's name as, in the event of the pre-starting-point date for this group being changed (see for example Silva's 2010 proposal for removal, which was rejected) this would remain the valid name for the entity thus avoiding potentially disadvantageous names changes. The validated name *Nostoc commune* var. *flagelliforme*, although based on the same type, only has priority in its own rank (Art. 11.2).

***Nostoc flagelliforme* Harvey ex Molinari-Novoa, Calvo-Pérez & Guiry *nom. nov.***

Devalidated name: *Nostoc flagelliforme* Berkeley & M.A.Curtis ex Harvey, 1858: p. 115

Description: "terrestrial; frond cartilaginous, linear, very narrow, compressed and often channeled [sic], much branched, irregularly dichotomous; branches solid, densely filled with moniliform curved threads." (Harvey 1858: 115). An expanded description and a figure is provided by Komárek (2015: 975, fig. 1264, as '*Nostoc flagelliforme* Berkeley et Curtis ex Bornet & Flahault, 1888').

Lectotype: *Plantae texanae* no. 3809, presumably in TCD [effectively lectotypified by Harvey's "v.s."].

**Synonyms**

*Nostoc commune* var. *flagelliforme* Bornet & Flahault, 1886: 206 (as 'var.  $\beta$  *flagelliforme*', and the name is not credited directly to Berkeley & M.A.Curtis). Bornet & Flahault (1886: 206) cite *Plantae Texanae* No. 3809 and Harvey's name. They also cite the pre-starting-point name *Nematonostoc rhizomorphoides* Nylander ex Elenkin (Nylander 1873: 263); validated by Elenkin 1934: 98). This entity requires further investigation; it is not mentioned by Komárek (2013). *Nematonostoc flagelliforme* (Bornet & Flahault) Nylander ex Elenkin 1934: 106.

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