

***PACKERA CLIFFORDII* (ASTERACEAE),
A NEW COMBINATION AND DIFFERENTIATION FROM *P. SPELLENBERGII***

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ABSTRACT

Senecio cliffordii is recognized as a species distinct from *Packera spellenbergii* and treated here as ***Packera cliffordii*** (N.D. Atwood & S.L. Welsh) O'Kane, **comb. nov.**

In her treatment of *Packera* (Asteraceae) in the Flora of North America, Trock (2006) placed *Senecio cliffordii* N.D. Atwood & S.L. Welsh in synonymy of *Packera spellenbergii* (T.M. Barkley) C. Jeffrey. In her treatment for the upcoming *Vascular Flora of New Mexico* (Heil & O'Kane, accepted), however, both taxa are recognized as separate species, both in the genus *Packera*. Differences between these entities are also given in Keller (2010) and Yeatts et al. (2011). They can be differentiated as follows.

1. Plants 3–5 cm; older plants mainly with unbranched caudices, rarely branched; basal leaf blades 10–15+ × 1–2 mm; phyllaries usually 13; stems 1–2 per rosette; phyllaries mainly purple to deep reddish purple; cypselae evidently hirtellous; short grass prairie; northeast New Mexico
..... ***Packera spellenbergii*** (Fig. 1.)
1. Plants (4–)5–15 cm; older plants mainly with strongly branched caudices; basal leaf blades 20–40 mm × (1–)2–3 mm wide; phyllaries 13 to mostly 18; stems 1(–2) per rosette; phyllaries green or purple-tipped, usually not entirely purple; cypselae nearly glabrous; piñon-juniper woodlands and mixed conifer forests; northwest New Mexico, northeast Arizona, and south-central and south-west Utah
..... ***Packera cliffordii*** (Fig. 2)

The requisite nomenclatural combination is made here.

Packera cliffordii (N.D. Atwood & S.L. Welsh) O'Kane, **comb. nov.** *Senecio cliffordii* N.D. Atwood & S.L. Welsh, Utah Fl., ed. 3, rev., 838. 2003. **TYPE: New Mexico.** McKinley Co.: Todilito Park Area, ca. 4 mi SW of Tsaya Lake, Bowl Canyon Recreation Area, 1.25 mi NE of Beezlebub Point, 4 Jun 2001, A. Clifford & N.D. Atwood 01-575 (holotype: BRY).

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Figure 1. *Packera spellenbergii* (photo O'Kane).



Figure 2. *Packera cliffordii* (photo O'Kane).