

Unwelcome Naturalization of *Chromolaena odorata* (Asteraceae) in Taiwan

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ABSTRACT: In recent years many alien adventive species found their ways to Taiwan. In this report we document the naturalization of the New World *Chromolaena odorata*, a problematic weed, that is growing rampantly on southern part of this island. A taxonomic account, line drawing, and distribution map for Taiwan with notes on this obnoxious weed are provided.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, *Chromolaena odorata*, Taxonomy, Taiwan, Weed.

INTRODUCTION

Chromolaena DC., a genus native to the New World and containing about 165 species, has long been treated as a section of *Eupatorium*. In 1970 King and Robinson reinstated the genus *Chromolaena* from synonymy, which has since been followed by many authors (e.g., Berry *et al.*, 1997; Cronk and Fuller, 1995; Hind *et al.*, 1993; Muniappan, 1988; Pruski, 1992; Rao and Datt, 1996). *Chromolaena* is characterized by non-enlarged, glabrous style bases, few hairs on the corolla, a small but distinct carpodium, cylindrical involucre with deciduous involucre bracts, narrowly cylindrical corollas with lobes longer than wide, 5-ribbed achenes, and generally flat to slightly convex receptacles (King and Robinson, 1970, 1987).

One of the members of this genus, *C. odorata* (L.) R. King and H. Robinson, is an obnoxious neotropical weed. It has considerably extended its distribution to the paleotropics in the last 150 years (Gautier, 1992) and is now thoroughly naturalized in parts of Africa, India, Ceylon, Indochina, southern China, Malaysia and Indonesia. Recently it has invaded southern Taiwan and become rampant in certain localities. A taxonomic account with notes on this problematic weed follows.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Chromolaena odorata (L.) R. M. King & H. Rob., Phytologia 20: 204. 1970; King & Robinson, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 62: 923. 1975. Fig. 1 香澤蘭

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