

Name Changes for Legumes Used in Southwest Landscapes: *Acacia*, *Caesalpinia*, *Lotus*, and *Sophora*

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Since an earlier article on this subject was published in *Desert Plants* (vol. 17(1), 2001), work has continued on resolving the relationships among different groups of Fabaceae. This has led to changes in the names of many familiar legumes that are used for landscaping in the Southwest. Some of this nomenclature has appeared in recent publications while other name changes may be new to gardeners and those in the landscape and nursery industry.

The biggest group to be affected by these changes is the genus *Acacia*. Traditionally, *Acacia* has encompassed some 1,300 species worldwide. Botanists have long recognized that there are significant morphological differences among this large genus. Due to some dubious maneuvering, the phyllodinous acacias from Australia remain in *Acacia* while those from other parts of the world have been moved to *Acaciella*, *Mariosousa*, *Senegalia* and *Vachellia*. The native Arizona species formerly placed in *Acacia* are also split among these four genera. Of the species of *Caesalpinia* grown in the Southwest, only *Caesalpinia pulcherrima* remains unchanged. The others have been placed in *Erythrostemon*, *Libidibia*, and *Tara*. All but one of the native Arizona species of *Lotus* have been transferred to *Acmispon*. This has resulted in changes to some of

the specific epithets as well. However, only one of these, *Acmispon rigidus*, is typically encountered in Arizona horticulture.

For most plants, these name changes have been straight forward, with the specific epithets remaining the same or essentially so. But in two cases, the specific epithets have also changed. In the case of the North American species previously called *Acacia neovernicosa*, the species was originally published as *Acacia vernicosa* Britton & Rose. However, that name had previously been applied to an Australian species, *Acacia vernicosa* W. Fitzgerald, blocking its use for the North American plants. When *Acacia neovernicosa* was moved to *Vachellia*, the original specific epithet took priority as *Vachellia vernicosa* (Britton & Rose) Siegler & Ebinger. For *Acacia schaffneri*, some botanists have considered the central Mexican populations to be sufficiently distinct from those in northern Mexico and Texas to warrant recognizing them as distinct varieties or species. The northern populations which include the material in horticulture in the Southwest are now classified as *Vachellia bravoensis* while those plants from further south are called *Vachellia schaffneri*.

PREVIOUS NOMENCLATURE

Acacia angustissima (Miller) Kuntze
Acacia berlandieri Benth
Acacia constricta Benth
Acacia erioloba E. Meyer
Acacia farnesiana (Linnaeus) Willdenow
Acacia gerrardii Benth
Acacia greggii A. Gray

NEW NOMENCLATURE

Acaciella angustissima (Miller) Britton & Rose
Senegalia berlandieri (Miller) Britton & Rose
Vachellia constricta (Benth) Seigler & Ebinger
Vachellia erioloba (E. Meyer) P.J.H. Hurter
Vachellia farnesiana (Linnaeus) Wight & Arnold
Vachellia gerrardii (Benth) P.J.H. Hurter
Senegalia greggii (A. Gray) Britton & Rose

<i>Acacia karroo</i> Hayne	<i>Vachellia karroo</i> (Hayne) Banfi & Galasso
<i>Acacia millefolia</i> S. Watson	<i>Mariosousa millefolia</i> (S. Watson) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia nebrownii</i> Burt Davy	<i>Vachellia nebrownii</i> (Burt Davy) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia neovernicosa</i> Isley	<i>Vachellia vernicosa</i> (Britton & Rose) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia occidentalis</i> Rose	<i>Senegalia occidentalis</i> (Rose) Britton & Rose
<i>Acacia rigidula</i> Benth	<i>Vachellia rigidula</i> (Benth) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia roemeriana</i> Scheele	<i>Senegalia roemeriana</i> (Scheele) Britton & Rose
<i>Acacia schaffneri</i> (S. Watson) J.F. Hermann (in part)	<i>Vachellia bravoensis</i> (S. Watson) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia tortilis</i> (Forrskal) Hayne	<i>Vachellia tortilis</i> (Forrskal) Galasso & Banfi
<i>Acacia visco</i> Lorentz ex Grisebach	<i>Senegalia visco</i> (Lorentz ex Grisebach) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia willardiana</i> Rose	<i>Mariosousa willardiana</i> (Rose) Seigler & Ebinger
<i>Acacia wrightii</i> Benth	<i>Senegalia wrightii</i> (Benth) Britton & Rose
<i>Acacia xanthophloea</i> Benth	<i>Vachellia xanthophloea</i> (Benth) P.J.H. Hurter
<i>Caesalpinia cacalaco</i> Humboldt & Bonpland	<i>Tara cacalaco</i> (Humboldt & Bonpland) Molinari & Sánchez Ochoran
<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i> (Wallich ex W.J. Hooker) D. Dietrich	<i>Erythrostemon gilliesii</i> (Wallich ex W.J. Hooker) Klotzsch
<i>Caesalpinia mexicana</i> A. Gray	<i>Erythrostemon mexicanus</i> (A. Gray) E. Gagnon & G.P. Lewis
<i>Caesalpinia palmeri</i> S. Watson	<i>Erythrostemon palmeri</i> (S. Watson) E. Gagnon & G.P. Lewis
<i>Caesalpinia paraguariensis</i> (D. Parodi) Burkart	<i>Libidibia paraguariensis</i> (D. Parodi) G.P. Lewis
<i>Lotus rigidus</i> (Benth) Greene	<i>Acmispon rigidus</i> (Benth) Brouillet
<i>Sophora affinis</i> Torrey & A. Gray	<i>Styphnolobium affine</i> (Torrey & A. Gray) Walpers
<i>Sophora arizonica</i> S. Watson	<i>Dermatophyllum arizonicum</i> (S. Watson) Vincent
<i>Sophora secundiflora</i> Ortega	<i>Dermatophyllum secundiflorum</i> (Ortega) Ghandi & Reveal



Corallorhiza maculata blooming. Photo: James T. Verrier.