

scariosis, exterioribus gradatim reductis, anguste deltoideis vel lanceolatis; flosculis 5-7 pro capitula; corollis violaceis, ad apicem tubi pilosis, alibi glaberrimis, 10-11 mm. longis; antheris coeruleis, 2.2 mm. longis; achaeniis nigris, rugulosis scabridulisque uninervatis, anguste ellipticis, 3.8-4.4 mm. longis, 1-1.4 mm. latis, rostro filiformi, 1.8-2.2 mm. longo; pappi setis interioribus 5-6 mm. longis, ad basim luteis, superne albidis, exterioribus brevissimis, unicellulatis.

TROPICAL AFRICA: Belgian Congo and Nyasaland. Type specimen in University of California Herbarium (n° 544659), environs d'Élisabethville, District Katanga, Belgian Congo, *Quarré* 4683; same locality, *Quarré* 4685 (Ex Herb. Hort. Bruxellensis).

Seedlings from the type were grown in 1936 (Univ. Calif. Hort. Genet. n° 335).

Another specimen in Herb. Mus. Palat. Vindob. (Vienna) from Nyassa Hochland-Station Kyimbila, *Stolz* 599 is undoubtedly the same species. Both specimens were originally identified as *Lactuca capensis* Thunb.

Observation. — *L. leptcephala* differs strikingly from most of the members of the *capensis-abyssinica* group in its annual habit and tall, slender stems. From *L. capensis*, furthermore, it is easily distinguished by its smaller, fewer flowered involucre, violet corollas, and smaller-achenes. It apparently approaches in habit most nearly *L. Vanderysti* De Wild., of Western Belgian Congo, which also has small involucre, but which, according to the description, differs from *L. leptcephala* in its obovate-lanceolate basal leaves, more numerous involucre bracts, and somewhat smaller achenes. *L. praecox* R. E. Fries, of Northern Rhodesia resembles *L. leptcephala* in its few-flowered involucre, but has shorter, stouter stems from a perennial base, broader, involucre bracts, larger, apparently yellow flowers, and larger, completely glabrous achenes.

Lactuca kenyaensis Stebbins, sp. nov. (Fig. 19, c and d).

Herba perennis, radice crassa, 2-3 caules et innovationes foliosas emittente; caulibus 50-55 cm. altis, ramosis, glabris, ad basim 4-5 mm. crassis; foliis pubescentibus, praesertim ad venas; basilaribus 7.5-13 cm. longis lanceolatis, acutis, margine remote dentatis, pinnatifidis, lobis lanceolatis, 0.5-1.5 cm. longis; caulinis sessilibus, auriculatis, auriculis linearibus, attenuatis, 0.7-1.5 cm.

longis; foliis superioribus linearibus, gradatim reductis. *Inflorescentia* 10-25 cm. longa, anguste paniculata, capitulis ad ramulos sessilibus vel cum pedunculis 1-7 mm. longis; involucris ad anthesin 6.5-7.5 mm., ad fructificationem 10-12 mm. longis, squamis imbricatis, glaberrimis, viridibus vel lividis, saepe purpureo-maculatis; interioribus 5-6, 1.5-2 mm. latis, margine scariosis, exterioribus anguste deltoideis, 1.5-6 mm. longis; flosculis 5 pro capitula; corollis coeruleis (ex note collectoris), 9.5-10.5 mm. longis; ad apicem tubi pilosis, alibi glabris; antheris pallidis, 2.2 mm. longis; achaeniis nigris, rugulosis scabridulisque, uninervatis, ellipticis,

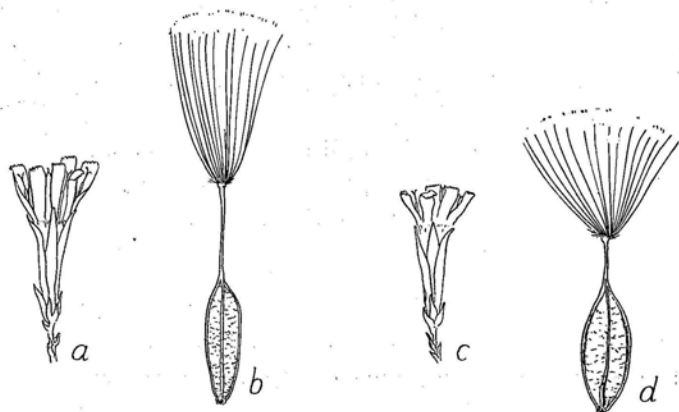


Fig. 19. — a-b *Lactuca leptoccephala* Stebbins, from type; a flowering head ($\times 2$), b achene ($\times 4$). c-d *L. kenyaensis* Stebbins, from type; c flowering head ($\times 2$), d achene ($\times 4$).

4-4.2 mm. longis, 1.5-1.7 mm. latis, rostro filliformi, 1.4-1.7 mm. longo; pappi setis interioribus 4-4.5 mm. longis, niveis, exterioribus brevissimis, unicellulatis.

TROPICAL AFRICA: Kenya Colony. Common in grassland, Kabete, 6,000 feet (1,818 m.) July 24, 1935, *D. C. Edwards* 3107, type, in Herb. Univ. Calif.

Observation. — This species is closer in habit to *L. capensis* and *L. abyssinica* than the preceding, like which it differs from them in its smaller, fewer flowered heads and smaller achenes. Aside from its perennial habit, it differs from *L. leptoccephala* in that the heads are usually 5- rather than 6-flowered, the flowers are apparently blue rather than violet, the anther tube is pale, the achenes are somewhat broader and shorter-beaked, and the pappus

bristles are somewhat shorter, and not at all yellowish. The relatively short beak on the achenes, as well as the 5-flowered heads, suggest a relationship to *L. Schweinfurthii* O. and H., and its relatives, *L. longespicata* De Wild. and *L. Homblei* De Wild., but these species are all much taller, have entire or merely dentate leaves without auricles, while their achenes have still shorter beaks, and are brownish or reddish rather than black. *L. praecox* R. E. Fries has, like *L. kenyaensis*, 5-flowered heads and black, 1-nerved achenes, but its heads are larger and on longer peduncles, its corollas are apparently much larger, and its achenes are longer and narrower, longer beaked, and glabrous.
