

79. **LACTUCA** Tournef., L.; Benth. & Hook. f. Gen. Pl. ii. p. 524.

1. **L. gorænsis** Schultz Bip. in Flora xxv. p. 422 (21 July 1842); O. & H. in Oliv. Fl. Trop. Afr. iii. p. 452.

Sonchus gorænsis Lam. Encyl. Méth. iii. p. 397 (1789); non Less. *Lancea gorænsis* O. Hoffm. in Engl. & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. iv. 5, p. 370 (1894).

LOANDA.—An annual erect herb; radical leaves rosulate, variously shaped; stem sometimes only 7 in. high and sparingly branched, sometimes 2 to 3 ft. high and very much branched; flowers yellow, like lettuce. The whole plant is eaten by the negroes, and the leaves are prepared and eaten by the colonists after the fashion of lettuce. In places neglected after cultivation and at the sandy margins of dried-up streams, plentiful; Quicuxe; fl. and fr. 7 Feb. 1859, got in company with Governor Amaral. Colonial name "Serralhas" (milk lettuce). No. 3629. An annual or biennial erect herb, simple or sparingly branched, milky, with the habit of this genus or of *Sonchus*; stem smooth, glaucescent; leaves variable, membranous, quickly withering; ligules of the florets pale yellow, flesh-coloured-purplish outside. It is used like endive as a salad and Welwitsch pronounced it very relishing. In rather dry and in moist places among low bushes throughout the district, not uncommon; between the two Maiangas; fl. and fr. Feb. 1858. No. 3630. At Loanda; fl. and fr. May 1854. No. 3631.

CAPE DE VERDE ISLANDS.—Along the rocks at the shore near Villa da Praya, in the island of San Thiago, tolerably plentiful, but mostly past flowering; fl. and fr. Jan. 1861. Our specimens much resemble *Lactuca nudicaulis* Murr. in Nov. Comment. Gotting. iii. p. 74, t. 4 (1773), but the achenes differ in having a very short beak. No. 3652.

2. **L. petrensis** Hiern, sp. n.

An erect subglaucescent perennial herb, 9 to 15 in. high or more; rootstock rather thickened and almost woody; stems sulcate-striate, glabrate or puberulous above with short simple hairs, leafy throughout; leaves alternate, oval-oblong, acute at the apex, broad or somewhat narrowed at the sessile or subsessile clasping base, thinly herbaceous, denticulate and sometimes with a few short spreading lateral lobes, scattered on both faces with minute glandular adpressed scales, hispid with rather long and fleshy simple hairs along the midrib, otherwise glabrous, 2 to 3 in. long by $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 in. broad; the teeth spreading, unequal, acute, often prickly; capitula broadly campanulate, many-flowered, about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long or rather more, on rather substantial pedicels ranging up to 2 in. long, arranged in flat-topped rather dense bracteate terminal somewhat leafy cymes $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 in. broad; bracts intermediate in form and size as well as position between the ordinary leaves and the involucre bracts, sessile, clasping; involucre scales imbricate, pluriseriate, mostly subacute at the apex, not thickened at the base, the outermost ones broadly ovate often obtuse, the inner ones successively longer and more oblong, the innermost ones linear-lanceolate or sublinear subobtuse $\frac{5}{8}$ in. long, all partly clothed with minute glandular adpressed scales on the back, thinly coriaceous with thinner coloured or scarious margins; flowers

yellow; young achenes all alike, much compressed, elliptic-oblong, somewhat narrowed at the base, narrowed at the apex into a short beak, glabrous, with a central and sublateral rib on each side, $\frac{1}{8}$ in. long; pappus copious, $\frac{1}{8}$ in. long, setose, whitish, unequal; the setæ minutely scabrid, the outermost ones very short; receptacle without conspicuous scales.

HUILLA.—In hilly rocky places near Mumpulla, towards Nene; fl. Oct. 1859. No. 3655. At Lopollo; fl. and young fr. Jan. 1860. No. 3654.

This is nearly related to the next species.

3. *L. imbricata* Hiern, sp. n.

A robust very nearly glabrous glaucescent herb, strictly erect, 4 to 6 ft. high; stem and branches sulcate-striate, fistular; stem-leaves alternate, pinnati-partite, rigidly membranous, acute, 6 to 8 in. long, the terminal lobe narrowly linear-lanceolate 4 to 5 in. long, the uppermost pair of the lateral lobes erect-patent similar, $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, all or most of the other lateral lobes much shorter patent obtuse acute or acutely dentiform; capitula campanulate, many-flowered, nearly an inch long, on pedicels ranging up to $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, arranged in rather lax, dichotomous, corymbose or obovoid cymes; involucreal scales imbricate, pluriseriate, obtuse, not thickened at the base, the outermost ones short and very broad, the inner ones successively longer and more oblong, the innermost ones sublinear, $\frac{5}{8}$ in. long, all covered at least on the exposed part of the back with groups of minute very glandular specks arranged in intricate closely-figured series, coriaceous with the margins thinner and coloured or scarious; flowers yellow; the corollas rather exceeding the involucre; achenes all alike, compressed, dark reddish, ovate-oblong, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{5}{16}$ in. long or at length shorter and blunter, obtusely narrowed at the base, attenuate at the apex into the short beak, glabrous, surrounded with a thickened border and with a rib along the centre of each side; pappus $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{2}{5}$ in. long, whitish but rather drab, copious, deciduous together, setose, the setæ (except microscopically) smooth; receptacle naked or without conspicuous scales.

HUILLA.—In thickets at the outskirts of the Monino forests; fl. and fr. Dec. 1859. No. 3656.

The imbricate involucre in this plant suggests *Troximon* or *Reichardia* rather than *Lactuca*; the ribs on the fruit place it near to *L. Schweinfurthii* O. & H.

4. *L. Macroseris* Hiern, sp. n.

An erect subglabrous subglaucescent robust herb, 7 to 9 ft. high, with the habit of a *Sonchus*, milky in all parts, perennial; root thick, succulent, oblique; stem solitary, terete, striate, straight, simple, widely fistular, purple throughout, almost an inch in diameter at the base, more or less leafy throughout; leaves alternate, pinnatifid, the lower ones deeply so, the upper ones scarcely lobed, denticulate, apiculate, thinly herbaceous, rather paler and aculeate-hispidulous along the midrib beneath, abruptly narrowed into a quasi-petiolate auriculate-clasping base or the