

Lactuca Varianii, sp. nov., glaberrima ca. 4.5 dm. alta perennis; caulibus compluribus erectis herbaceis striatis paullo glaucescentibus ca. 2 mm. crassis aphyllis pauciramosis e radice crassa erecta orientibus; ramis strictis cum bracteis triangularibus brunnescentibus ca. 3 mm. longis suffultis; foliis rosulatis oblanceolatis ca. 6–8 cm. longis ca. 10–12 mm. latis basi attenuatis enervosis ad anthesin deciduis; capitulis numerosis cymosis 5–30 mm. longe pedunculatis anguste cylindraceis 15–18 mm. altis ca. 3–3.5 mm. crassis; tegulis glaberrimis, exterioribus inaequalibus 1–3 mm. longis 1–1.5 mm. latis ovatis acutis 5–7, interioribus aequalibus 5 linearibus obtusis 14–16 mm. longis saepe ca. 1.7 mm. latis margine anguste scariosis in sicco atratis; floribus 10–13 ca. 15–18 mm. longis, tubo gracili 5–6 mm. longo glabro, lamina ca. 2.3 mm. lata valde dentata tegulis ca. 4 mm. longiori; achaeniis compressis anguste lanceolatis 6 mm. longis pallidis ca. 0.8 mm. latis ca. 12-costatis supra in rostrum crassiusculum 1 mm. longum attenuatis antrorse scabridulis stramineis; pappi setis 6–7 mm. longis albis sparse antrorse scabridulis.—ANGOLA: Giant Sable Country, between the Cuanza and Loando rivers, Sept. 20, 1923, *Anita G. Curtis 225* (TYPE, Gray Herb.); Dondé, Bailundo, Sept. 9, 1923, *Anita G. Curtis 167*.—Related to *L. Verdickii* De Wild., *Annal. Mus. Congo, Bot.*, ser. 4, 170, t. 28 (1903), of Katanga, from which it differs in its five tegules, and larger, more attenuate, more abundantly ribbed achenes. The two collections of *L. Varianii* are more erect than the plant of *L. Verdickii* figured by De Wildeman, but otherwise are quite similar in gross habit. Recently R. E. Fries, *Acta Hort. Bergiani* viii. 113 (1924), transferred *L. Verdickii* to the genus *Sonchus*. The mature achenes of *L. Varianii* are strongly compressed, as much so as those of *L. Verdickii* figured by De Wildeman, and hence the species is launched as a member of *Lactuca*. It is noteworthy, however, that in habit *L. Varianii* seems very similar to the species that Fries, l. c. 92, associates to form the *Sonchus rarifolius*-group.

In accord with a suggestion of Mr. C. P. Curtis this species has been named for Captain H. F. Varian, chief engineer of the Benguella Railroad, to whose hospitality and effective aid the success of the Angola hunting and collecting trip is largely attributed.