DARWINIANA 43(1-4): 268-276. 2005 ISSN 0011-6793

A NEW SPECIES OF *UNCINIA* (CYPERACEAE) FROM THE NEW WORLD AND THE FIRST REPORT OF *U. CHILENSIS* FROM ARGENTINA

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ABSTRACT: Wheeler, G. A. 2005. A new species of *Uncinia* (Cyperaceae) from the New World and the first report of *U. chilensis* from Argentina. *Darwiniana* 43(1-4): 268-276.

A new species of *Uncinia* (Cyperaceae), *U. austroamericana*, is described and illustrated from austral South America and from the Tristan da Cunha archipelago in the south-Atlantic Ocean. This species grows in persistently wet, base-poor sites, particularly in *Sphagnum* bogs, and is known from southern Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, and from the largest island of the Tristan da Cunha group. It differs both morphologically and ecologically from the similar-appearing *U. macrolepis*, a minerotrophic species best known from moist depressions in grasslands. The new species differs morphologically from *U. macrolepis* by possessing achenes that, when mature, are pale-colored and conspicuously-thickened at the apex and, also, by having more or less loosely-flowered spikes that frequently exceed 2 cm in length. Additionally, *U. chilensis* is reported for the first time from Argentina.

Keywords: Taxonomy, Argentina, Chile, Tristan da Cunha, Cyperaceae, *Uncinia*.

RESUMEN: Wheeler, G. A. 2005. Una nueva especie de *Uncinia* (Cyperaceae) del Nuevo Mundo y primera cita de *U. chilensis* para la Argentina. *Darwiniana* 43(1-4): 268-276.

Se describe e ilustra *U. austroamericana*, una nueva especie de Sudamérica austral. Esta especie crece en suelos pobres y permanentemente húmedos, especialmente en los pantanos de *Sphagnum* (turberas), y está distribuida en Tierra del Fuego y en la isla mayor del Archipiélago Tristan da Cunha, en el océano Atlántico Sur. *U. austroamericana* difiere morfológica y ecológicamente de *U. macrolepis*, su taxón más afín, pues éste último es una especie minerotrófica típica de las depresiones húmedas de los pastizales. Desde el punto de vista morfológico, esta nueva especie difiere de *U. macrolepis* por poseer aquenios débilmente coloreados y conspicuamente engrosados en el ápice a la madurez, y por tener espigas relativamente laxas que con frecuencia exceden los 2 cm de longitud. Por otro lado, se publica el primer registro de *U. chilensis* para la Argentina.

Palabras clave: Taxonomía, Argentina, Chile, Tristan da Cunha, Cyperaceae, *Uncinia.*

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Uncinia* Pers. (Cyperaceae) is represented in South America with approximately 25 species (Wheeler & Goetghebeur, 1997), at least five of which occur in southern Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego (e.g., Barros, 1969; Wheeler, 1994; Guaglianone, 1996). In this paper a new species of *Uncinia*, *U. austroamericana*, is described from austral South America and from the Tristan da Cunha archipelago. In prior reports (e.g., Marticorena & Quezada, 1985; Wheeler,

Original recibido el 9 de Agosto de 2004; aceptado el 10 de Julio de 2005.

1994, 1995; Guaglianone, 1996) these plants were referred to *U. macrolepis* Decne. Salient differences between *U. austroamericana* and *U. macrolepis* are given in Table 1. In addition, *U. chilensis* G. A. Wheeler, previously known from Chile (Wheeler, 1997), is here reported for the first time from Argentina.

BRIEF HISTORICAL OUTLINE

Kükenthal (1909) reported *Uncinia macrolepis* from Patagonia and New Zealand, though the New Zealand plants are now referred to *U. sinclairii* Boott (Hamlin, 1959; Moore & Edgar, 1970). Subsequently, Steyermark (1951) described *U. meridensis* Steyerm. from Venezuela, and Philcox (1961) described *U. smithii* Philcox from the south-Atlantic island of South Georgia. After studying two *Uncinia* specimens from Tristan da Cunha, Hooper (1968:7) assigned them to *U. meridensis*, and reduced *U. smithii* to synonymy. More recently, Wheeler (1995) considered both *U. meridensis* and *U. smithii* to be conspecific with *U. macrolepis*, whose type collection (*Hombron & Jacquinot s.n.* [holotype: P]) comes from "Magallanes" in southern South America and whose name has priority. At that time, the species was considered to have a South American distribution in southern Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego (e.g., Kükenthal, 1909; Barros, 1969; Wheeler, 1994, 1995), Bolivia (Wheeler & Goetghebeur, 1997), Colombia (Wheeler, 1996), Ecuador (Wheeler & Goetghebeur, 1997), Venezuela (Steyermark, 1951) and an Atlantic insular distribution on South Georgia (Philcox, 1961; Wheeler, 1994) and Tristan da Cunha (Hooper, 1968; Wheeler, 1995).

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

While examining South American Caricoideae from *Sphagnum*-dominated wetlands (e.g., Wheeler & Guaglianone, 2003), the author took the opportunity to study more closely *Uncinia* species common to *Sphagnum* bogs in austral South America. The work discussed below was initiated due to subtle, yet seemingly consistent, differences observed between similar-appearing bog plants and grassland plants, all of which were then referred to *U. macrolepis* (Wheeler, 1994, 1995).

One of the chief diagnostic features of bog plants is the pale-colored, conspicuously-thickened apex of the mature achenes, a feature poorly developed (if at all) in mature achenes of grassland plants. Also, the perigynia of bog plants are, in

Table 1. A selected morphological and ecological comparison of *Uncinia austroamericana* and *U. macrolepis* in the New World.

Character	***U. austroamericana***	***U. macrolepis***
Culm height (cm)	4-30(-45)	2.5-18
Spike length (cm)	1.5-4	1-2
Spike aspect	more or less loosely-flowered	tightly-flowered
Perigynium length (mm)	5-6	(3.5-)4-5.2
Perigynium width (mm)	1.2-1.6	1.4-1.9
Perigynium vestiture, degree of	usually smooth, but sometimes distally sparingly hispidulous abaxially and adaxially	abaxially and adaxially appressed hispid distally, smooth proximally
Achene length (mm)	3-3.6	2.2-3.2
Lowest pistillate scale length (mm)	generally > 5.5	5.5 or less
Habitats	bogs, poor fens, swampy woodlands, other *Sphagnum*-laden sites	moist depressions in grasslands, meadows, heathlands

Fig. 1.- A–G: *Uncinia austroamericana*. H–I: *U. macrolepis*. A: habit, from *Biganzoli 739*. B–C: achene (B) and perigynium (C), from *Moore 1869*. D: perigynium, from *Pisano 5381*. E: perigynium (immature), from *Mejland 1615*. F–G: achene (F, unripe) and perigynium (G), from *Biganzoli 739*. H–I: perigynium (H) and achene (I), from *Ambrosetti & Méndez s.n.*, T.B.P.A.-FIT. 4155. Bars: A = 2 cm; B–I = 3 mm.

general, longer and narrower than those of grassland plants; additionally, the perigynia of the former are smooth except sometimes sparingly hispidulous just beneath the beak, whereas those of the latter are distinctly appressed hispid above the middle of the perigynium. It is also noteworthy that bog plants have more or less loosely-flowered spikes that frequently exceed 2 cm in length, whereas grassland plants have tightly-flowered spikes 2 cm long or less. Indeed, during the course of this study, all examined *macrolepis*-like plants that possessed spikes longer than 2 cm were assignable to the new species. Issued as a caveat, however, herbarium specimens with immature plants bearing spikes 2 cm long or less can be difficult to place, particularly if habitat information is lacking. Other salient differences between bog and grassland plants are given in Table 1 and in the dichotomous key provided further below.

The present study shows that the two similar-appearing, *macrolepis*-like plants differ both morphologically and ecologically. Significantly, the plants growing in grasslands are essentially identical to the holotype of *U. macrolepis*. As such, the heretofore undescribed bog entity is newly described and named immediately below.

NEW SPECIES: DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS

Uncinia austroamericana G. A. Wheeler, sp. nov.TYPE: Argentina. Tierra del Fuego, Antártida e Islas Atlántico Sur. Dpto. Ushuaia: Isla de los Estados, 54° 52'S, 64° 41'W, 16-XII-1999, *Biganzoli 739* (holotype, MIN!; isotype, SI!). Fig. 1, A–G.

Rhizoma repens; culmi 4–30(–45) cm alti; vaginae basales brunneae, glabrae. Folia 3–9; laminae 4–16(–23) cm longae, (0.7–)1–3.4 mm latae; ligulae 0.5–1.5 mm longae. Spica solitaria, terminalis, androgyna, cylindrica vel linearioblonga, 1.5–4 cm longa. Pars mascula 6–14 mm longa, 1–1.6 mm lata, 4–8-flora. Pars feminea 1.2–3 cm longa, 2–4 mm lata, 4–16-flora; squamae pistillatae persistentes, 5–8.5(–9) mm longae, 1.8–3.6 mm latae, subcoriaceae. Perigynia 5–6 mm longa, 1.2–1.6 mm lata, anguste elliptici ad elliptici, superior laevis vel parce hispidi, marginibus super medio ciliato-scabridus. Achenium 3–3.6 mm longum, 1–1.6 mm latum, brunneum, apicem stramineum valde incrassatum; rachilla 8–11 mm longa, exserta pars 4–5.6 mm longa. Stylus basi incrassatus. Stigmata 3. Antherae 3, 1–2 mm longae, ca. 0.2 mm latae; filamentae linearis, ca. 0.1 mm latae.

Plants with short- to long-creeping rhizomes. Fertile culms 4–30(–45) cm tall, erect or slightly curved, more or less trigonous (especially distally), smooth but sometimes scaberulent beneath the inflorescence, with glabrous, brownish basal sheaths. Leaves 3–9; blades 4–16(–23) cm long, (0.7–)1–3.4 mm wide, flattish or channelled (at least proximally), glabrous, margins with unbranched and 2-branched prickle hairs, the unbranched ones antrorse or retrorse; inner band of leaf sheaths white-hyaline or pale brown, glabrous, the apex slightly concave; ligules 0.5–1.5 mm long, more or less rounded. Inflorescence a solitary, androgynous spike, 1.5–4 cm long. Staminate part 6–14 mm long, 1–1.6 mm wide, 4–8-flowered; scales 2.5–5 mm long, 1–2 mm wide, oblong-ovate, obtuse to subacute, greenish or stramineous center with hyaline or pale brown to brownish margins, the tips hyaline and entire. Pistillate part 1.2–3 cm long, 2–4 mm wide, cylindrical or linear-oblong, more or less loosely-flowered, with 4–16 perigynia; scales persistent, 5–8.5(–9) mm long, 1.8–3.6 mm wide, shorter than to about equaling the perigynia, ovate-lanceolate or broadly elliptic to slightly obovate, obtuse to subacute, glabrous, broad greenish center with hyaline or pale brown to brownish margins, the tips with a narrow hyaline strip and entire, 5–9-veined, the lowest sometimes with an excurrent scabrous-ciliate awn up to ca. 15 mm long. Perigynia 5–6 mm long, 1.2–1.6 mm wide, narrowly elliptical to elliptic, smooth but sometimes distally sparingly hispidulous abaxially and adaxially, the margins scaberulent to ciliate-scabrous distally, whitish green or stramineous to brownish, 2 prominent veins and the others obscure or weak in the proximal half on both faces, gradually tapered to a puckered base (when dry); perigynium beak 0.4–0.8 mm long, smooth or appressed hispidulous proximally, the margins smooth or scaberulent, orifice erose. Achenes 3–3.6 mm long, 1–1.6 mm wide, compressed trigonous with oblong sides, the widest side shallowly concave, brownish except the apex pale-colored (stramineous) and conspicuously thickened. Rachilla 8–11 mm long and projecting beyond orifice of perigynium, the exserted portion 4–5.6 mm long, smooth, whitish green or stramineous to brownish, the hook 1.6–2 mm long and stramineous or pale brown. Style base thickened. Stigmas 3. Anthers 3, 1–2 mm long, ca. 0.2 mm wide; filaments linear (ca. 0.1 mm wide), narrower than anthers.

Morphological differences and niche requirements of the two *macrolepis*-like uncinias, as propounded throughout this paper, such as in Table 1 and in the key, seem to justify species rank for *U. austroamericana*. The epithet refers to austral South America as apparently being the center of distribution of this species. Based on features of its perigynia and stamens, the new species belongs in section Uncinia.

Uncinia austroamericana (Fig. 1, A–G) grows in persistently wet, base-poor sites and is more or less confined to the southern and western portions of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego (Fig. 2), where heavy rainfall and cool temperatures are conducive to the accumulation of peat deposits. It often occurs in boggy and swampy places, particularly where *Sphagnum* hummocks are well developed.

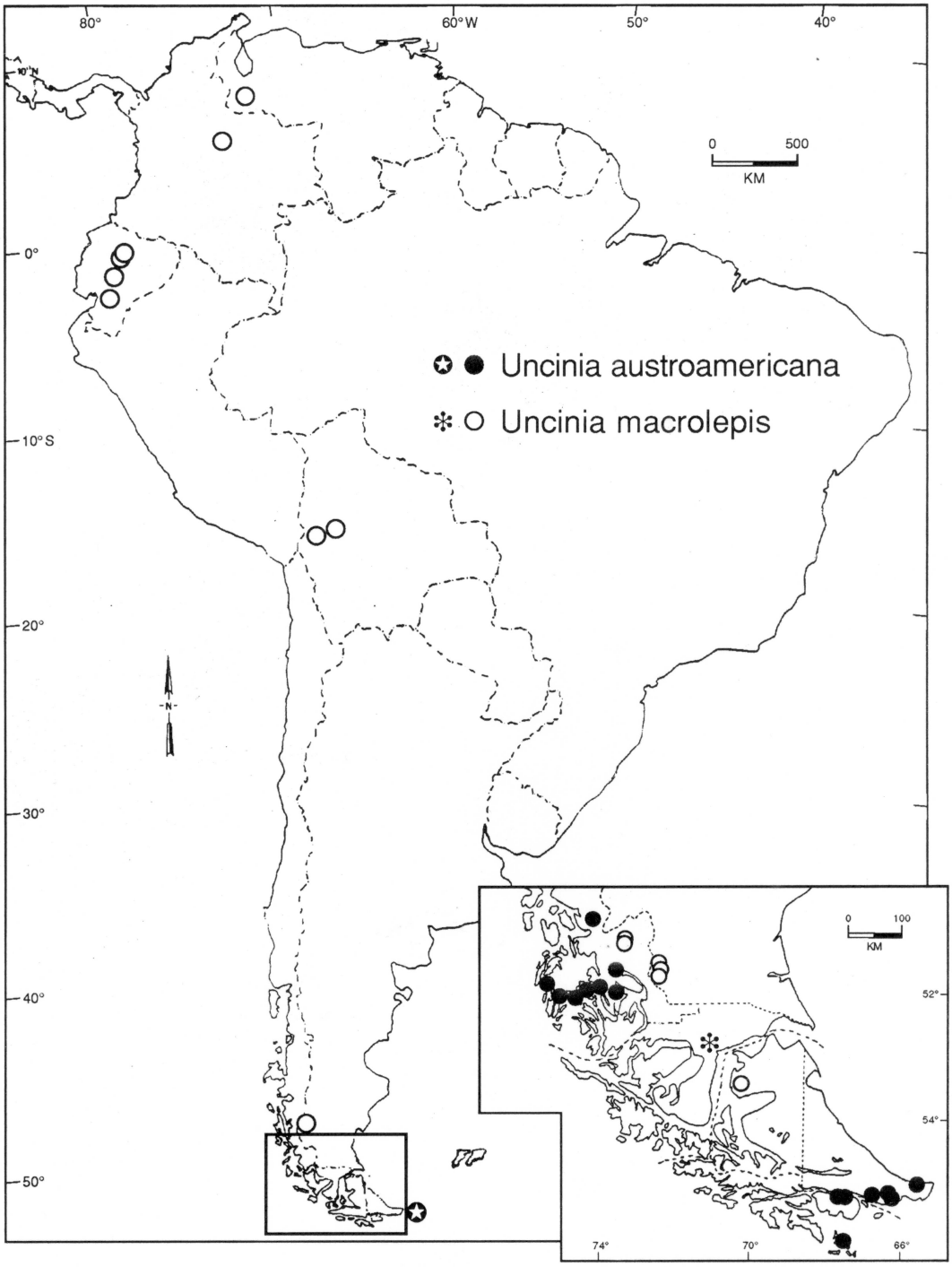

Fig. 2.- Map of South America showing the distributions of *Uncinia austroamericana* and *U. macrolepis*; starred dot represents the holotype locality for *U. austroamericana*; enlarged asterisk represents, approximately, the holotype locality for *U. macrolepis*. The localities for *U. austroamericana* on Tristan da Cunha and for *U. macrolepis* on South Georgia are not shown on the map.

The majority of collections come from "*Donatia-Marsippospermum* bogs," where typical species are, among many others, *Donatia fascicularis* J. R. Forst. & G. Forst., *Empetrum rubrum* Vahl ex Willd., *Marsippospermum grandiflorum* (L.f.) Hook. f., *Carex camptoglochin* V. I. Krecz., *C. magellanica* Lam., as well as *Sphagnum* spp. and other hydric mosses. As treated here, *Uncinia austroamericana* also occurs as a disjunct on the Tristan da Cunha archipelago, where it grows on the largest island in *Empetrum* bogs (Hooper, 1968).

In austral South America, *U. austroamericana* grows at elevations from near sea level to about 600 m, and mature perigynia have been collected from January through March. The quasi-linear, east-west distribution of collection sites for this species near 52° S. lat. in western Chile, as shown in Fig. 2, is the result of a transect study conducted in 1976–1977 (Boelcke et al., 1985). That comprehensive study seems to indicate that this species is more common in southwestern Chile than present collections suggest.

Additional specimens of *U. austroamericana* examined.

ARGENTINA: **Tierra del Fuego. Antártida e Islas Atlántico Sur.** *Dpto. Ushuaia*: Estancia Moat, Bahía Moat, 54° 57'S, 66° 46'W, swampy woodland near Moat Lake, 27-I-1968, *Moore 1702* (RNG); Bahía Aguirre, Puerto Espagnol, Alan Gardiner Cove, 54° 57'S, 65° 58'W, wet *Marsippospermum* bog, 15-II-1968, *Moore 1864* (RNG); Bahía Aguirre, Lucio Lopez range W of bay (E slopes), along ridges to 2000 ft. down to Gardiner Bay, back to Río Bonpland, 54° 52'S, 66° 04'W, 15-II-1968, *Goodall 1412* (NA); Bahía Thetis, muddy flat, 25-XI-1969, *Goodall 2374* (RNG).

CHILE: **XII Región** (Magallanes y de la Antártica Chilena) *Prov. Antártica Chilena*: Isla Navarino, Puerto Toro, 54° 55'S, 67° 30'W, piso del bosque, 1-III-1976, *Dollenz 369* (HIP); Isla Navarino, Bahía Windhond, 55° 13'S, 67° 31'W, piso del bosque, 5-III-1976, *Dollenz 415* (HIP, NA); Isla Grevy, Arch. Cabo de Hornos Rada Norte, Ba. Gretton, 16-I-1982, *Pisano 5381* (GH, HIP, RNG); *Prov. Ultima Esperanza*: Fiordo Peel, rio al E al del cerro Aguilera, 50° 30'S, 73° 44'W, en turbales esfagnosos con *Empetrum*, 17-XII-1985, *Pisano 6109* (HIP, RNG); Puerto Toro, Río Serrano, 2 km from mouth, W side, 51° 24'S, 73° 05'W, 17-I-1977, *Sphagnum* bog, *Moore & Pisano s.n.*, T.B.P.A. 1776 (HIP, RNG); Isla Virtudes, Canal Eliás, Puerto Virtudes, 51° 33'S, 74° 54'W, coastal brushland, *Dollenz et al. s.n.*, T.B.P.A. 1486 (RNG); Isla Piazzi, Caleta Ocasión, Abra Leackey's Retreat, 51° 44'S, 74° 01'W, 80 m s.m., *Donatia-Marsippospermum* bog, 19-I-1976, *Dollenz et al. s.n.*, T.B.P.A. 1088 (HIP, RNG); Isla Rennel Norte, Canal Smyth, 51° 54'S, 74° 12'W, 23-I-1976, open coastal forest, *Dollenz et al. s.n.*, T.B.P.A. 1128 (RNG); Isla Vidal Gormaz, Seno Nantuel, Bahía María Angelica, 51° 53'S, 74° 41'W, open sites, 3-II-1976, T.B.P.A. 1315 (HIP, partim); Canal de las Montañas, 51° 38.5'S, 73° 24.2'W, turbal musgoso, 28-XI-1987, *Pisano 6184* (HIP); Península Roca, Seno Resi, 51° 51'S, 73° 02'W, ca. 175 m s.m., turbal interior, sitios húmedos con suelos orgánicos, 23-I-1978, *Pisano s.n.*, T.B.P.A. 2865 (HIP, RNG).

TRISTAN DA CUNHA ISLANDS: Tristan da Cunha, flats W of Ponds, bog in fern scrub, 24-II-1938, *Mejland 1615* (A).

Uncinia macrolepis Decne. in D'Urville, Voy. Pole Sud 2: 13.1853. TYPE: XII Región (Magallanes y de la Antártica Chilena) *Prov. Magallanes:* Magallanes, 1837–1840, *Hombron & Jacquinot s.n.* (holotype: P!). Fig. 1, H–I.

Syn.: *Uncinia meridensis* Steyermark, *Fieldiana, Bot.* 28: 61. 1951. *U. smithii* Philcox, Kew Bull. 15: 229. 1961.

A detailed description of *U. macrolepis*, as presently understood and treated in this paper, is given below.

Plants with creeping rhizomes. Fertile culms 2.5–18 cm tall, erect or slightly curved, more or less trigonous (at least distally), smooth but sometimes scaberulent beneath the inflorescence, with glabrous, brown basal sheaths. Leaves 4–9; blades 4–23 cm long, (1–)1.4–3.9 mm wide, flattish or channelled (at least proximally), glabrous, margins nearly smooth or with unbranched and 2-branched prickle hairs, the unbranched ones antrorse or retrorse; inner band of leaf sheaths white-hyaline or pale brown, glabrous, the apex slightly concave; ligules 0.5–1.5 mm long, rounded. Inflorescence a solitary, androgynous spike, 1–2 cm long. Staminate part 5–8 mm long, 1–1.6 mm wide, ca. 4–7-flowered; scales 3–5 mm long, 0.9–1.5 mm wide, ovate to oblong-ovate, obtuse to subacute, greenish brown or stramineous center with hyaline or pale brown to dark brown margins,

the tips hyaline and entire. Pistillate part 1.4–2.8 cm long, 3–5 mm wide, linear-oblong to oblong, tightly-flowered, with 5–17(–20) perigynia; scales persistent, 3–5.5 mm long, 2–4 mm wide, slightly shorter than to somewhat exceeding the perigynia, ovate to broadly ovate, obtuse to subacute, glabrous, broad greenish center with hyaline or stramineous to dark brown margins, the tips with a narrow hyaline strip and entire, 5–7(–9)-veined, sometimes with an excurrent scabrous-ciliate awn up to ca. 7 mm long. Perigynia (3.5–)4–5.2 mm long, 1.4–1.9 mm wide, elliptic to broadly elliptical, abaxially and adaxially appressed hispid distally and smooth (or nearly so) proximally, the margins ciliate-scabrous above the middle, stramineous but often with brown maculations or brownish, 2 prominent veins and the others obscure or weak proximally on both faces, gradually tapered to a puckered base (when dry); perigynium beak 0.4–0.8 mm long, smooth or appressed hispid proximally, the margins smooth distally and ciliate-scabrous proximally, orifice entire or slightly erose. Achenes 2.2–3.2 mm long, 1–1.6 mm wide, compressed trigonous with oblong sides, the widest side shallowly concave, brown, apex little (if at all) thickened. Rachilla 6–8 mm long, projecting beyond orifice of perigynium, the exserted portion 3.3–4.2 mm long, smooth, whitish green or stramineous to brownish, the hook 1.2–2 mm long and stramineous to brown. Style base slightly to moderately thickened. Stigmas 3. Anthers 3, ca. 1–1.5 mm long, ca. 0.2 mm wide; filaments linear (ca. 0.1 mm wide), narrower than anthers.

As pointed out earlier, *Uncinia macrolepis* differs ecologically as well as morphologically from *U. austroamericana*. In austral South America (Fig. 2), *U. macrolepis* grows in moist to wet depressions in grasslands, particularly those dominated by *Festuca gracillima* Hook. f., but has also been recorded from subalpine meadows and dry heathlands. On the subantarctic island of South Georgia (Philcox, 1961) this species occurs in *Festuca* grasslands and on rock-laden, grassy hillsides. In northern South America, on the other hand, *Uncinia macrolepis* grows primarily on wet rocks and among cushion plants in páramo (Steyermark, 1951; Wheeler & Goetghebeur, 1997), though seemingly in sites where *Sphagnum* hummocks are absent or poorly-developed. Plants of *U. macrolepis*, including the holotype, are illustrated in Wheeler (1995:163, Figs. 1–4) and Wheeler & Goetghebeur (1997:12, Figs. 1, 2).

Specimens of *U. macrolepis* examined from the southern half of South America (see Fig. 1, H–I) and South Georgia are cited below; specimens from northern South America are cited elsewhere for Colombia (Wheeler, 1996), Ecuador (Wheeler & Goetghebeur, 1997), and Venezuela (Steyermark, 1951). Regarding the geography of *U. austroamericana* and *U. macrolepis*, the markedly discontinuous distributions of both species are probably best explained, in each case, by the exogenous transport of desmochores (hooked fruits), with long-range dispersal taking place by bird migration.

Representative specimens of *Uncinia macrolepis*.

ARGENTINA. **Santa Cruz**. *Dpto. Güer Aike*: al N de Pto. Dos Antonios, Faldeo Mesta Latorre, 51° 32'S, 72° 07'W, formando pequeñas colonias en el pastizal de *Festuca gracillima*, 27-1-1978, *Ambrosetti & Méndez s.n.*, T.B.P.A.-FIT. 3260 (RNG); Idem, 550 m s.m., comunidad de *Chilotrichum* & *Berberis*, 27-I-1978, *Ambrosetti & Méndez s.n.*, T.B.P.A.-FIT. 3290 (RNG); ruta 293, limite N carta Mina Río Turbio, 51° 20'S, 72° 11'W, 440 m s.m., en los sitios bajos entre matas de *Festuca gracillima*, 9-II-1978, *Ambrosetti & Méndez, s.n.*, T.B.P.A.-FIT. 3923 (RNG); Ea. Rospentek, proximadades del Pto. Dos Antonios, 51° 38'S, 72° 11'W, 200 m s.m., pastizal de *Festuca gracillima*, 1-XI-1978, *Ambrosetti & Méndez s.n.*, T.B.P.A.-FIT. 4155 (RNG). *Prov. Lago Argentino*: Uppsala Glacier, Estancia La Cristina, ca. 500 ft., in moist depressions on grassy hillside, 20-XII-1959, *James 112* (BM). **Tierra del Fuego, Antártida e Islas del Atlántico Sur.** *Dpto. Rio Grande*: Porvenir, 31-I-1946, *E. Barros 6018* (SI) and *6019* (SI). *Islas Georgias del Sur*: Ocean Harbour, N-facing *Festuca* grassland slope leading down to harbour, 50 m s.m., 16-II-1980, *Headland 559* (NA); North Valley, Husvik, Stromness Bay, amongst dry *Festuca* association, ca. 500 ft., 21-I-1961, *Green 1493* (GH); Cumberland Bay, *Festuca* association, ca. 500 ft., 1-II-1961, *Green 1624* (GH); Cumberland Bay, amongst *Festuca* association at foot of rock face, ca. 1250 ft., 11-III-1961, *Jones s.n.*, Hb. Green 2882 (GH); Brown Mountain, in *Acaena–Festuca* grassland on rocky E-facing slope, 600–700 ft., 13-II-1964, *Longton s.n.* (RNG).

BOLIVIA. **La Paz**. *Prov. Murillo*: La Paz ca. 20 km hacia Unduavi, alrededor de las lagunas de la cumbre, 4700 m s.m., 8-III-1985, *Beck 11133* (LPB, SI). *Prov.*

Sud Yungas: del pueblo de Tres Rios hacia las faldas orientales del glaciar Illimani, 67° 46'S, 16° 37'W, 4400 m s.m., 11-XI-1995, *Beck & Ruthsatz 21803* (LPB, MIN).

CHILE. **XII Región** (Magallanes y de la Antártica Chilena) *Prov. Ultima Esperanza*: SE slope of Monte Almirante Nieto, above and N of E end of Lago Nordenskjöld, on trail to Camp Chileno, 50° 58.4'S, 72° 53.6'W, rocky exposed SE slope, subalpine meadow, 20-II-2001, *Ziska 15760* (MIN); Parque Nacional Torres del Paine, 0.5–1 km N of Salto Grande, 51° 04'S, 73° 02'W, 80–100 m s.m., dry open heathland, 7-XII-1995, *Elvebakk 95:309* (MIN).

Key to *Uncinia austroamericana* and *U. macrolepis*

Apex of achene pale-colored and conspicuously thickened; lowest pistillate scale usually more than 5.5 mm long (excluding awn, if present); spikes 1.5–4 cm long, more or less loosely-flowered; perigynium smooth but sometimes sparingly hispidulous distally, 1.2–1.6 mm wide; primarily in bogs and in other *Sphagnum*-laden sites ..... *Uncinia austroamericana*

Apex of achene not pale-colored and very little thickened; lowest pistillate scale 5.5 mm long or less (excluding awn, if present); spikes 1–2 cm long, tightly-flowered; perigynium appressed hispid (at least distally), 1.4–1.9 mm wide; primarily in wet depressions in grasslands and meadows ..... *Uncinia macrolepis*

A FIRST REPORT OF *UNCINIA CHILENSIS* FROM ARGENTINA

Uncinia chilensis was originally reported from Chile (Wheeler, 1997) and this note represents the first report of it from Argentina. In Argentina it is known, thus far, only from a single locality in Río Negro Province, where it was collected in a forested area. In Chile, where the plant grows from about 1000 to 1500 m s.m., it is known from a single locality each in Arauco, Bío Bío, and Concepción provinces (VIII Región, Bío Bío), and from one in Malleco Province (IX Región, Araucanía). Mature fruit has been collected from December through February. The plant is illustrated in Wheeler (1997:4, Figs. 2, 3).

This species is somewhat similar to *U. erinacea* (Cav.) Pers. but differs by having: long-awned pistillate scales; lanceolate, short-awned staminate scales; larger perigynia, achenes, and rachillae; staminal filaments narrower than the anthers; and leaves (abaxial side) papillate-scabrescent (Wheeler, 1997). Because *U. chilensis* is poorly represented in major herbaria, it is probably uncommon in both Argentina and Chile.

Specimen examined from Argentina: **Río Negro**. *Dpto. Bariloche*: subida al Chall Huaco, bosque, 11-II-1989, *Nicora 9569* (MIN, SI).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wants to thank E. R. Guaglianone (Instituto de Botánica Darwinion, Argentina) and S. Beck (Herbario Nacional de Bolivia) for duplicate specimens of *Uncinia*; the *Darwiniana* Editorial Board, R. Pozner, and an anonymous reviewer for manuscript suggestions and skillful editing, and for a spanish abstract; A. Cholewa (University of Minnesota) for arranging loans and other herbarium services; and also to the directors and curators of the following herbaria for the loan of specimens: A, BM, GH, HIP, LPB, MIN, NA, P, RNG, and SI.

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