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A synopsis of the genus *Parodia* Spegazzini s.l. (Cactaceae)

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Summary: The history of the ex-segregates of the genus *Parodia* Spegazzini s.l. (Cactaceae), since 1819 has been reviewed. A rather conservative approach is adopted to sum up the large number of the proposed names within 62 natural species. For each accepted species, a complete synonymy is given down to the subspecies level (varieties are included only in the case of basionyms). An enlarged description is taken from the field data, along with etymology, information about distribution, biome, ecological region and habitat, maps and, where necessary, an update on the conservation status expressed by the IUCN assessors.

Zusammenfassung: Die Geschichte der bisherigen (seit 1819 aufgestellten) Segregate der Gattung *Parodia* Spegazzini s.l. (Cactaceae) wurde überprüft. Es wird ein eher konservativer Ansatz verfolgt, um die große Zahl vorgeschlagener Namen in 62 natürlichen Arten zusammenzufassen. Für jede akzeptierte Art wird eine vollständige Synonymie bis auf die Ebene der Unterarten vorgelegt (Varietäten werden nur als Basionyme berücksichtigt). Eine erweiterte Beschreibung erfolgt basierend auf Felddaten und wird mit Angaben zur Etymologie, zur Verbreitung, zum Biom, zur ökologischen Region und zum Lebensraum, Karten und, falls erforderlich, einer aktualisierten Einschätzung des Gefährdungsstatus anhand der IUCN-Kriterien präsentiert.

Resumen: La historia de los ex segregados del género *Parodia* Spegazzini s.l. (Cactaceae), desde 1819 ha sido revisada. Se adopta un enfoque más bien conservador para resumir la enorme cantidad de nombres propuestos dentro de 62 especies naturales. Para cada especie aceptada, se da una sinonimia completa hasta el nivel de subespecie (se incluyen variedades solo en el caso de basiónimo). Se toma una descripción expandida por los datos de campo, junto con la etimología, información sobre la distribución, el bioma, la región ecológica y el hábitat, los mapas y, cuando necesario, una actualización de el estado de conservación expresada por los evaluadores de la UICN.

Introduction and History 1984

In *The genera of the Cactaceae: towards a new consensus* (Hunt & Taylor, 1986) the IOS Working Party members, present at Kew on 2–3 August 1984, (i.e. E. F. Anderson, W. Barthlott, D.R. Hunt, B.E. Leuenberger, H. Sanchez-Mejorada, N.P. Taylor), in the list of genera recommended for adoption, the genus *Parodia* Spegazzini was accompanied with the following note: “Unfortunately there are non-practical means whereby *Notocactus* can be distinguished from *Parodia*”. Thirty three years later, after 12 years of study journeys to populations in South American habitats, in addition to the acquisition of molecular evidence on the genus brought to light since 2002 (Nyffeler) until today, basically - apart from the group *Eriocactus* Backeberg or *Erioccephala* Backeberg, which shows signs of distinction with respect to the rest of the segregates of *Parodia* s.l. (Anceschi & Magli, 2013a) - we agree with the IOS members’ 1984 report. It should be noted that, in the same issue of *Bradleya*, W. Glaetzle and K.H. Prestlé (1986) presented a study on the seed micromorphology of the genus *Notocactus* and segregates, based on scanning electron microscope images (Jeol, JSM 35) (ibid.: 79–96). Evaluating the differences between the seeds is a good starting point for dividing the taxon into 7 infrageneric groups (1. *N. ottonis* - *N. linkii*, 2. *N. concinnus* - *N. scopia*, 3. *N. mammulosus* - *N. uebelmannianus*, 4. *Brasilicactus*, 5. *Malacocarpus*, 6. *Eriocactus*, 7. *Brasiliparodia*). They also pointed out that a comparison with seeds belonging to members of *Parodia* Spegazzini s.s., showed the close relationship between the two genera. In addition, they added that, at the time of the study, there were no doubts about the common origin of *Parodia* and *Notocactus*, a clade that would later divide into a high mountain line (the former) and to another of the Pampas (the latter). Indeed, including *Notocactus* (K. Schumann) Frič into *Parodia* Spegazzini in 1984, is only the latest of a series of proposed divisions and mergers, which had previously involved the segregates of the genus *Notocactus* s.l., now merged into *Parodia* s.l.