

REDISCOVERY, NEW COUNTY RECORDS, AND DISTRIBUTION NOTES FOR *CHLORIS TEXENSIS* (POACEAE) IN TEXAS, U.S.A.

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ABSTRACT

Rediscovery of the Texas endemic *Chloris texensis* in Brazoria County, and new records for Ft. Bend, Matagorda, and Waller counties are documented. Collection records outside the narrow Upper Coastal Prairie distribution are also reviewed.

RESUMEN

Se documenta el redescubrimiento Rediscovery en Texas de la endémica *Chloris texensis* en el condado de Brazoria, y se documentan nuevos registros para los condados de Ft. Bend, Matagorda, y Waller. También se revisan registros de colectas fuera de la estrecha distribución en Upper Coastal Prairie.

Chloris texensis Nash is considered a rare and narrowly distributed endemic of the Upper Coastal Prairie of Texas (Poole et al. 2007; Shaw 2012). Verified collections have been documented from prairie remnants in Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, and Harris counties (Silveus 1933; Anderson 1974, 1975; Shaw et al. 2011; Singhurst et al. 2018).

Rediscovery and new county records

The oldest collections (1900–1931) of *Chloris texensis* examined for which the location is known are from Brazoria County, but it has not been documented from there since. Fieldwork has resulted in its rediscovery:

Specimens: **TEXAS. Brazoria Co.:** on and S of FM 213, 3.2 mi E of its intersection with FM 523, ca. 5 mi E of Angleton, undisturbed ca. 114-acre coastal prairie remnant, 07 Nov 2020, *Rosen 7461* (BRIT, TEX, US); 0.8 mi E of jct. of Hwy 36 and FM 2004 on Hwy 36 to Weldon Road (near Jones Creek, Texas) to Justin Hurst Wildlife Management Area new tract gate at 28°59'5.03"N and 95°30'17.93"W, S 2.3 mi to power-line ROW then NE on ROW 0.3 mi, 18 Nov 2020, *Singhurst & Best 22405* (BAYLU, TEX). The first site, Flo Hannah Prairie (named for the late Galveston native, conservationist, and prairie enthusiast), was recently purchased by the Galveston Bay Foundation and placed in permanent conservation.

Fieldwork has also resulted in records from three new counties in the Upper Coastal Prairie:

TEXAS. Ft. Bend Co.: Cinco Ranch, 0.25 mi N of the jct. of FM 1093 (Westpark Tollway Rd) and Houghton Rd on Houghton Rd. Hike Barker Dam trail east 110 m along canal and then due N of trail 90 m in coastal prairie that lies underneath transmission line, 23 Dec 2020, *Singhurst 22407* (BAYLU, TEX). **Matagorda Co.:** Hawkins Ranch, 9.1 mi E of Wadsworth, from jct. of Hwy 60 and State Hwy 521, 07 Nov 2020, *Singhurst 22378* (BAYLU, TEX). **Waller Co.:** Sandhill Farm Ranch, 0.6 mi N of the jct. of Mathis Rd and Berry Ln on Mathis Rd to maintenance road entrance gate, from this gate head SE 0.8 mi, 04 Dec 2020, *Singhurst, Ealy, & Newman 22406* (BAYLU, TEX).

Erroneous or dubious county records

There are reports of *Chloris texensis* collections outside the documented narrow Upper Coastal Prairie distribution. These collections have been located, examined, and are discussed here.

TEXAS. Bexar Co.: Cultivated in Bexar Co. at the San Antonio Botanical Garden, source population unknown, Jun 2000, *A. Miller s.n.* (TEX). Comment: Excluded since cultivated and not collected from a native, naturally occurring population. **Brazos Co.:** [without a precise location], Oct 1938, *Malone s.n.* (TAES). Comment: Excluded since any useful location information is absent and the County doubtful. Attempts were made in the early 1990s, by the senior author, to locate *C. texensis* in Brazos Co., but all attempts were unsuccessful. Poole et al. (2007) also considered this collection a dubious voucher specimen for Brazos Co. **Cameron Co.:** Ringgold Park, Brownsville, 23 Oct 1944, *R. Runyon 4063* (BRIT). Comment: This collection is *Enteropogonopsis chloridea* (J. Presl) Wipff & R. Shaw. **Jeff Davis Co.:** Davis Mts., Davis Mts. Resort, McGuire Ranch ruins (30°37'30"N, 104°05'30"W), 5600 ft elev., bottomland of Limpia Creek, 17 Aug 1979, *R.D.*

Worthington 5001 (TAES). Comment: This collection is *Chloris submutica* Kunth. The specimen was accidentally mislabeled [herbarium technician error] with an annotation label of *Chloris texensis* while specimens of *Chloris* were being prepared for a databasing project.

Nueces Co.: near Tuloso-Midway High School, Hwy 9, between Corpus Christi and Calallen, 06 Aug 1966, L.E. Brown 755 (TAES). Comment: Reported in Brown (1969) as *Chloris texensis*. Anderson (1974) identified this collection as *C. divaricata* R. Br. **Nueces Co.:** Corpus Christi, on S side along road shoulder, clay, 2 Jul 1959, F.B. Jones 3273 (Corpus Christi Museum). Comment: This collection is *Chloris verticillata* Nutt. **Nueces Co.:** ca. 6 mi W of Corpus Christi on road shoulder, clay, 9 Jul 1959, F.B. Jones 3311 (Corpus Christi Museum). Comment: This collection is *Chloris divaricata* R. Br. **Nueces Co.:** Corpus Christi, in waste place on S side, clay, 2 Sep 1973, F.B. Jones 7833 (Corpus Christi Museum). Comment: This collection is *Chloris divaricata* R. Br.

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