

117-123, 1926, treating the Rosaceae). Only a few centimeters high (taller when crowded or in shade), with tiny, apetalous flowers concealed by the leafy stipules, the species is so easily overlooked that reported collections of it can hardly give an accurate idea of its occurrence.—*Lloyd H. Shimmers.*

Yellow-flowered Oxalis (Oxalidaceae) of eastern Texas and Louisiana

Lloyd H. Shimmers

Oxalis corniculata L., a dark green, creeping plant with brownish, oblong stipules, occurs as a rather recent introduction in southern Texas (Aransas, Calhoun, Duval, Hardin, Hidalgo, Jasper, Kenedy, Kleberg, Newton, Nueces, Refugio, Wharton, and Willacy counties; earliest collection seen dated 1929, "Rockport-Bayside," Aransas Co.). Far more abundant and widespread, evidently native from Texas to Florida, is another creeping plant, light green, less prostrate, and without the distinct dark stipules of *O. corniculata*, to which it has consistently and quite erroneously been referred:

OXALIS DILLENII Jacq. var. *radicans* Shimmers, var. nov. *O. corniculatam* caulibus repentibus imitans sed estipulata vel subestipulata; *O. Dillenii* omnino nisi habitu stolonifero accedens. TYPE: 4.8 miles south-southeast of Streetman, Freestone Co., Texas, *Shimmers 23872*, 28 April 1956 (SMU). "Road shoulder, sandy clay. Stoloniferous, forming loose mats. Petals yellow with inconspicuous red-orange basal marking (12 M., partly cloudy)."

Though often quite weedy, all the *Oxalis* of eastern Texas (north of Jasper and Newton counties) and Louisiana are, in my opinion, undoubtedly native. They may be distinguished as follows:

- 1a. Petals 4—12 mm. long, 1.3—2.5 times as long as the sepals; styles elongating very little, 0.3—1.5 mm. long when young capsule emerges from calyx, usually united or appressed together; inflorescence shorter to slightly longer than leafy portion of stems (or erect branches); widespread
- 2a. Stem glabrous to sparsely appressed- or spreading-pubescent; stipules absent, petiole-base barely widened; inflorescence often compound; petals 4—8 mm. long, 1.3—2 times as long as the sepals, light yellow; flowering summer—fall.....*O. stricta* L.
- 2b. Stem moderately to densely appressed- or ascending-pubescent; petiole-base more or less flaring or wing-margined, appearing narrowly stipulate; inflorescence usually simple; 6—12 mm. long, 1.8—2.5 times as long as the sepals, deep yellow, often marked red at base; flowering spring—summer—fall.....*O. Dillenii* Jacq.

- 3a. Stems erect or loosely trailing, 5—40 cm. long, not rooting or longest ones rooting only at lowest nodes; taproot becoming stout and woody, up to 4 mm. thick on old plants; leaflets glabrous or pilose above; petals 7—12 mm. long; chiefly Blackland Prairie (Texas) westward, rare eastward
—*O. Dillenii* var. *Dillenii*
- 3b. Stems creeping and rooting (not evident on very young plants), the branches stem-like, 2—35 cm. tall; taproot usually slender; leaflets glabrous or rarely pubescent above; petals 5—10 mm. long; W. Cross Timbers (Texas) eastward, common everywhere.....*O. Dillenii* var. *radicans*
- 1b. Petals 10—18 mm. long, 2.5—3.2 times as long as the sepals; styles elongating rapidly, 0.7—7.0 mm. long when young capsule emerges from calyx, usually separate; inflorescence becoming elevated well above leafy portion of stem; Pine Belt (Texas) eastward
—*O. recurva* Ell.

For the nomenclature of *O. stricta* (*O. europaea* Jordan) and *O. Dillenii* (*O. stricta* of American authors, not L.), see George Eiten, "The typification of the names '*Oxalis corniculata* L.' and '*Oxalis stricta* L.,"" *Taxon* 4 (no. 5): 99-105, 1955. I am not able to distinguish the several named varieties of *O. recurva*, which varies from tufted to decidedly stoloniferous.

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