

Taxonomic Review of *Clematis flabellata* Nakai

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The genus *Clematis* L. (Ranunculaceae) comprises about 300 species of the woody or herbaceous vines. The species are characterized by the flowers without petals, persistent and plumose styles, and compressed achenes. In Korea, 20 species of *Clematis* have been described so far. Among these species *C. flabellata* which is previously described as *C. coreana* by L veill  (1902) based on specimens collected from Nai-Pyongis, North Korea is morphologically different from *C. fusca* Turcz. by its erect herbaceous stem less than 1m height, and terminal inflorescences. The purpose of this study was to investigate the morphology, distribution and taxonomic identity of endemic species *C. flabellata* and related taxa *C. fusca*, and *C. fusca* var. *violacea* collected from different parts of Korea. The major indentifying characteristics of these taxa include habit, branched position, flowering season, inflorescence, trichomes in pedicels, sepals adaxial surface, and stamens. *Clematis fusca* and *C. flabellata* are usually distributed above 900m in Gangwon-do and Gyeonggi-do area, whereas *C. fusca* var. *violacea* is found in all province of Korea except Jeju-do. Although, *C. flabellata* appear similar to *C. fusca*, but morphologically it showed different characters, thus it is reasonable to treat as a different species.

Key words: *Clematis* L., *C. flabellata*, *C. fusca*, morphology, endemic.

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