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BOUTELOUA CHIHUAHUANA (GRAMINEAE), A NEW NOMENCLATURAL COMBINATION

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In 1982 Johnston described Bouteloua rigidiseta (Steud.) Hitchc. var. chihuahuana from material he and others gathered from the northern end of Sierra de Las Pampas, near Ciudad Camargo, Chihuahua, México (Chiang et al. 8811; holotype: LL; isotypes: CAS!, MEXU, NY!). Other collections made since that publication are Allred 5820 (ANSM, NMCR, RSA) and Columbus 2289 (RSA and to be distributed), both from the type locality. My research has shown that this taxon is not closely related to B. rigidiseta var. rigidiseta and merits recognition as a distinct species:

Bouteloua chihuahuana (M. C. Johnst.) J. T. Columbus, stat. et comb. nov.

Basionym: Bouteloua rigidiseta (Steud.) Hitchc. var. chihuahuana

Bouteloua chihuahuana differs from B. rigidiseta in many characters, including vegetative, inflorescence, and spikelet. Its closest relatives appear to be B. chondrosideoides (Kunth) Benth. ex S. Watson, B. eludens Griffiths, and B. johnstonii Swallen. A complete account, including micromorphology and anatomy, of B. chihuahuana and close relatives is forthcoming.