

CHROMOSOME NUMBERS OF FALKLAND ISLANDS ANGIOSPERMS

By D. M. MOORE*

ABSTRACT. Chromosome numbers are given for 90 of the 143 species of flowering plants native in the Falkland Islands, many karyotypes being illustrated by photographs or camera lucida drawings. 73 species have not previously been counted, including the first counts reported for the genera *Abrotanella*, *Chevreulia*, *Chilodactylum*, *Enargea*, *Gaimardia*, *Hamadryas*, *Leuceria*, *Marsippospermum*, *Myrteola*, *Nassauvia* and *Schizeilema*. Ten species already known cytologically are here counted on South American material for the first time. The lists include species at the highest level of polyploidy yet recorded in *Pratia*, *Euphrasia* and *Lilaeopsis*, while a new basic chromosome number ($x = 4$ or 6) is reported for *Aster*. About 66 per cent of the Falkland Islands angiosperm species known cytologically are polyploid, thus being closely comparable to similar data from the New Zealand region.

ALTHOUGH many data on chromosome numbers exist for various taxonomic groups occurring in the Southern Cool Temperate Zone, there are as yet relatively few cytological studies on the floras of particular areas within that zone. The New Zealand region is partly covered by the work of Rattenbury (1957), Hair (1963), Hair and Beuzenberg (1958, 1959, 1960), Beuzenberg and Hair (1959, 1963) and Moore (1960), while the New Guinea studies of Borgmann (1964) are relevant, but the South American sector has had much less attention (Rahn, 1960).

The Falkland Islands, lying about 320 miles (515 km.) east of the Straits of Magellan, have a native vascular flora of 162 species, most of which also occur in southern South America. This paper documents data on chromosome numbers obtained during studies of the flora of the Falkland Islands. Most of the counts were made on material from the islands, but in some instances material from southernmost South America was used.

METHODS AND RESULTS

The material used in this study consisted of buds collected in the field, or either buds or root tips taken from plants in cultivation at Leicester which were derived from field collections of seeds or living plants. Material was fixed in one of the modifications of Carnoy's solution and subsequently stored in 70 per cent ethanol. Meiosis was examined in microsporocyte squashes and mitotic configurations were largely derived from squashes of root tips pretreated with paradichlorobenzene, but unpretreated styler tissue was used in some instances. All preparations were stained with aceto-orcein. Voucher herbarium specimens for all counts are deposited in the herbarium of the University of Leicester. Permanent slides, as well as drawings and photographs not published here, are also available.

Chromosome numbers have been determined for 90 of the 143 species of flowering plants native in the Falkland Islands. They are documented in Table I, and meiotic or mitotic chromosome complements of many species are illustrated by photographs (Figs. 1-3) or camera lucida drawings (Figs. 4-6). The nomenclature used throughout is that adopted in the forthcoming "Vascular flora of the Falkland Islands" (Moore, in press).

COMMENTS

Chromosome numbers are available for c. 63 per cent of the Falkland Islands angiosperm species, and about 66 per cent of these are probably polyploids. This is in remarkably close agreement with the figures of 63 per cent polyploidy in the New Zealand flora (Hair, 1966), of which c. 40 per cent is known cytologically, and c. 62 per cent polyploidy in the flora of the sub-Antarctic Macquarie Island (Moore, 1960).

Genera not previously counted

As far as I am aware, chromosome numbers for 11 genera are reported here for the first time: *Abrotanella*, *Chevreulia*, *Chilodactylum*, *Enargea*, *Gaimardia*, *Hamadryas*, *Leuceria*, *Marsippospermum*, *Myrteola*, *Nassauvia* and *Schizeilema*. *Schizeilema ranunculus* has the same number ($2n = 16$) as many species of *Azorella*, a genus of Umbelliferae in which it was formerly included, while it is interesting to note the very close similarity between the karyotype of

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TABLE I. DOCUMENTED CHROMOSOME NUMBERS IN FALKLAND ISLANDS ANGIOSPERMS

<i>Species</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>2n</i>	<i>Locality*</i>	<i>Collection number†</i>
Polygonaceae				
<i>Polygonum maritimum</i> L.	10		E.F.: San Carlos; Black Rincon	665
Portulacaceae				
<i>Calandrinia feltonii</i> Skottsb.		24	W.F.: West Point Island (cultivated)	915
Caryophyllaceae				
<i>Colobanthus crassifolius</i> (D'Urv.) Hook. f.		c. 80	Chile: Magallanes; Punta Arenas	380
<i>subulatus</i> (D'Urv.) Hook. f.		c. 80	E.F.: Mount Osborne (summit area)	597
<i>Spergularia media</i> (L.) Presl	18		E.F.: Goose Green (settlement)	634
<i>Cerastium arvense</i> L.		36	E.F.: Darwin; Carcass Bay	1276
		36	W.F.: West Point Island; Waterfall Valley	899
Chenopodiaceae				
<i>Chenopodium macrospermum</i> Hook. f.		36	E.F.: Darwin; Carcass Bay	629
Ranunculaceae				
<i>Caltha appendiculata</i> Pers.		48	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	1259
<i>sagittata</i> Cav.		48	E.F.: Cape Pembroke	1253
<i>Hamadryas argentea</i> Hook. f.		c. 92	W.F.: Port Stephens; Stephens Peak	732
<i>Ranunculus acaulis</i> Banks & Sol.		48	W.F.: Roy Cove; Grave Cove	916
<i>bitermatus</i> Sm.		48	E.F.: San Carlos; White Rincon	1271
<i>hydrophilus</i> Gaudich.		32	Chile: Magallanes; Puerto Natales	1031
<i>maclovianus</i> D'Urv.		48	E.F.: Goose Green; Bodie Creek	632
<i>pseudotrullifolius</i> Skottsb.		48	W.F.: West Point Island; Lion Cove	910
<i>sericocephalus</i> Hook. f.		48	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	1260
<i>trullifolius</i> Hook. f.		32	E.F.: Cape Pembroke; Whalebone Cove	525
Cruciferae				
<i>Cardamine glacialis</i> (Forst. f.) DC.		c. 48	E.F.: Mount Osborne (south slopes)	584
<i>Draba funiculosa</i>	8		Chile: Magallanes; Estancia Punta Delgado	1050
	8		E.F.: Goose Green; Bodie Inlet	631
<i>magellanica</i>	24		Chile: Magallanes; Estancia Punta Delgado	1049
Saxifragaceae				
<i>Saxifraga cordilleranum</i> Presl		76	Chile: Magallanes; Ultima Esperanza, Cerro Guido	1020
Rosaceae				
<i>Acaena lucida</i> (Lam.) Vahl		42	Chile: Magallanes; Estancia Cerro Castillo	930
<i>magellanica</i> (Lam.) Vahl		84	W.F.: Port Stephens; Ryans Creek	1272
<i>Rubus geoides</i> Sm.		28	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	515
Thymelaeaceae				
<i>Drapetes muscosus</i> Lam.		20	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	511
Violaceae				
<i>Viola tridentata</i> Menz.	20		E.F.: Mount Osborne (summit area)	593

Species	n	2n	Locality*	Collection number†
Myrtaceae				
<i>Myrteola nummularia</i> (Poir.) Berg		44	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	508
Onagraceae				
<i>Epilobium cunninghamii</i> Hausskn.		36	E.F.: Darwin; Burnside Creek	640
		36	E.F.: Goose Green; Bodie Creek	612
Haloragaceae				
<i>Gunnera magellanica</i> Lam.		34	W.F.: Cape Meredith; Kits Creek	1261
Umbelliferae				
<i>Apium australe</i> Thouars		22	E.F.: San Carlos; White Rincon	1277
	11		E.F.: Port Stanley; Eliza Cove	554
<i>Azorella filamentosa</i> Lam.	8		E.F.: Cape Pembroke	927
<i>lycopodioides</i> Gaudich.	8		W.F.: Cape Meredith; Kits Creek	1262
		16	E.F.: Mount Usborne (summit)	605
<i>Lilaeopsis macloviana</i> (Gandoger) A. W. Hill		44	E.F.: Goose Green; Bodie Creek	1263
		44	E.F.: San Carlos; White Rincon	649
<i>Hydrocotyle chamaemorus</i> Cham. & Schlecht.	36		E.F.: Goose Green; Bodie Creek	1238
<i>Oreomyrrhis hookeri</i> Mathias and Constance	6		W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	1264
<i>Schizeilema ranunculus</i> (D'Urv.) Domin		16	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	499
Ericaceae				
<i>Gaultheria antarctica</i> Hook. f.		44	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	1265
<i>Pernettya pumila</i> (L. f.) Hook.		44	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	513
Empetraceae				
<i>Empetrum rubrum</i> Vahl		26	E.F.: Port Stanley	1256
Primulaceae				
<i>Anagallis alternifolia</i> Cav.	22		E.F.: Cape Pembroke; Whalebone Cove	527
<i>Primula decipiens</i> Duby		72	Chile: Tierra del Fuego; Estancia Cameron	1077
Plumbaginaceae				
<i>Armeria macloviana</i> Cham.	9		E.F.: Port Stanley; Hooker's Point	542
Rubiaceae				
<i>Galium antarcticum</i> Hook. f.		c. 22	E.F.: Port Stanley; Eliza Cove	553
		22	W.F.: Port Stephens; Cape Meredith	785
Callitrichaceae				
<i>Callitriche antarctica</i> Engelm.		40	E.F.: Port Stanley; Hooker's Point	540
Scrophulariaceae				
<i>Calceolaria fothergillii</i> Sol. ex Ait.		18	W.F.: Hill Cove; Foot Point	829
<i>Euphrasia antarctica</i> Benth.	44		E.F.: Goose Green	624
<i>Hebe elliptica</i> (Forst. f.) Pennell		40	W.F.: Port Stephens; Carew Harbour	811
<i>Limosella australis</i> R. Br.		48	Argentina: Tierra del Fuego; Estancia Viamonte	1274

Species	n	2n	Locality*	Collection number†
Plantaginaceae				
<i>Plantago barbata</i> Forst. f.		48	W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	754
		48	Chile: Magallanes; Ultima Esperanza, Salto del Paine	987
		48	Chile: Magallanes; Punta Arenas, Fuerte Bulnes	1126
<i>maritima</i>		12	Chile: Tierra del Fuego; Bahía Inútil	1083
		12	Chile: Magallanes; Punta Arenas, Fuerte Bulnes	1125
Valerianaceae				
<i>Valeriana sedifolia</i> D'Urv.		32	E.F.: Mount Usborne (summit area)	598
Lobeliaceae				
<i>Pratia repens</i> Gaudich.		84	E.F.: Cape Pembroke	522
Calyceraceae				
<i>Nastanthus falklandicus</i> D. M. Moore	c. 20		W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	707
Compositae				
<i>Abrotanella emarginata</i> Cass.		18	E.F.: Cape Pembroke	1267
<i>Agoseris coronopifolium</i> (D'Urv.) Chambers	9		E.F.: Cape Pembroke	1268
		18	W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	701
		18	W.F.: Port Stephens; Fegen Inlet	745a
	9		W.F.: Port Stephens; Cape Meredith	774
		18	W.F.: Port Stephens; Mount Lewis	800
		18	W.F.: Roy Cove; Hope Harbour	917
<i>Aster vahlii</i> (Gaudich.) Hook. & Arn.	12		E.F.: Cape Pembroke; Whalebone Cove	524
		24	W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	720
<i>Baccharis magellanica</i> Pers.	9		E.F.: Port Stanley; Eliza Cove	561
<i>Chevreulia lycopodioides</i> (D'Urv.) DC.	14		E.F.: Goose Green; Bodie Creek	622
<i>Chiliotrichum diffusum</i> (Forst. f.) Dusén		54	Chile: Tierra del Fuego; Estancia Cameron	1082
<i>Cotula scariosa</i> (Cass.) Franch.		c. 200–220	E.F.: Port Stanley; Moody Valley	1273
<i>Erigeron incertus</i> (D'Urv.) Skottsb.	18		W.F.: Port Stephens; Fegen Inlet	804
<i>Gnaphalium affine</i> D'Urv.	14		E.F.: Mount Usborne	585
<i>Hieracium antarcticum</i> D'Urv.		18	E.F.: Port Stanley; Surf Bay	537
<i>patagonicum</i> Hook. f.	9		W.F.: Hill Cove; Foot Point	835
<i>Hypochoeris arenaria</i> Gaudich.		8	W.F.: Port Stephens; Mount Lewis	799
		8	W.F.: Roy Cove; Hope Harbour	918
<i>Leuceria suaveolens</i> (D'Urv.) Hook. & Arn.	20		W.F.: Port Stephens	746
<i>Nassauvia gaudichaudii</i> Cass.	22		E.F.: Port Stanley; Eliza Cove	559
	22		W.F.: Port Stephens; Fegen Inlet	747
<i>serpens</i> D'Urv.		22	E.F.: Mount Usborne (south side)	583
<i>Senecio candicans</i> (Vahl) DC.	20		E.F.: Port Stanley; Hooker's Point	543
		40	E.F.: San Carlos; White Rincon	661
<i>litoralis</i> (Gaudich.) Hook. f.	c. 78		E.F.: Mount Usborne; Cerritos Rocks	566
<i>vaginatus</i> Hook. & Arn.	20		E.F.: Mount Usborne; Cerritos Rocks	565
Liliaceae				
<i>Astelia pumila</i> (Forst. f.) Gaudich.		64	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	505

Species	n	2n	Locality*	Collection number†
Philesiaceae				
<i>Enargea marginata</i> Banks & Sol. ex Gaertn.		20	E.F.: Port Stanley; Stanley Common	544
Iridaceae				
<i>Sisyrinchium filifolium</i> Gaudich.		18	W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	700
Juncaceae				
<i>Juncus scheuzerioides</i> Gaudich.		40	Chile: Magallanes; Puerto Natales, Dos Lagunas	1255
<i>Luzula alopecurus</i> Desv.		24	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	514
<i>Marsippospermum grandiflorum</i> (L. f.) Hook. f.		c. 50	Chile: Magallanes; Puerto Natales, Lago Escondida	1266
Centrolepidaceae				
<i>Gaimardia australis</i> Gaudich.		16	E.F.: Mount Usborne; near Cerritos Rocks	592
Gramineae				
<i>Cortaderia pilosa</i> (D'Urv.) Hack.		36	W.F.: Hill Cove; French Peaks	873
<i>Deschampsia antarctica</i> Desv.		26	E.F.: Mount Usborne	593
<i>Hierochloa redolens</i> (Sol. ex Vahl) Roem. & Schult.		56	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	1257
<i>Poa alopecurus</i> (Gaudich.) Kunth.		28	W.F.: Mount Adam	1258
<i>robusta</i> Steud.		c. 70-80	W.F.: Port Stephens; Ten Shilling Bay	726
Cyperaceae				
<i>Carex acaulis</i> D'Urv.		50	E.F.: Cape Pembroke; Whalebone Cove	1240
<i>curta</i> Good.		56	E.F.: Port Stanley (racecourse)	562
<i>fuscata</i> D'Urv.		c. 50	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	1275
<i>Eleocharis melanostachys</i> (D'Urv.) C. B. Clarke	12		E.F.: Darwin; Burnside Creek	641
	12		W.F.: Port Stephens; Flat Paddock	810
<i>Isolepis cernua</i> (Vahl) Roem. & Schult.		48	W.F.: Port Stephens; Carew Harbour	1270
<i>Oreobolus obtusangulus</i> Gaudich.		48	E.F.: Port Stanley; Tumbledown Mountain	1269
<i>Uncinia brevicaulis</i> Thouars		38	W.F.: Port Stephens; Hoste Inlet	791

* E.F. East Falkland; W.F. West Falkland.

† All collecting numbers of D. M. Moore.

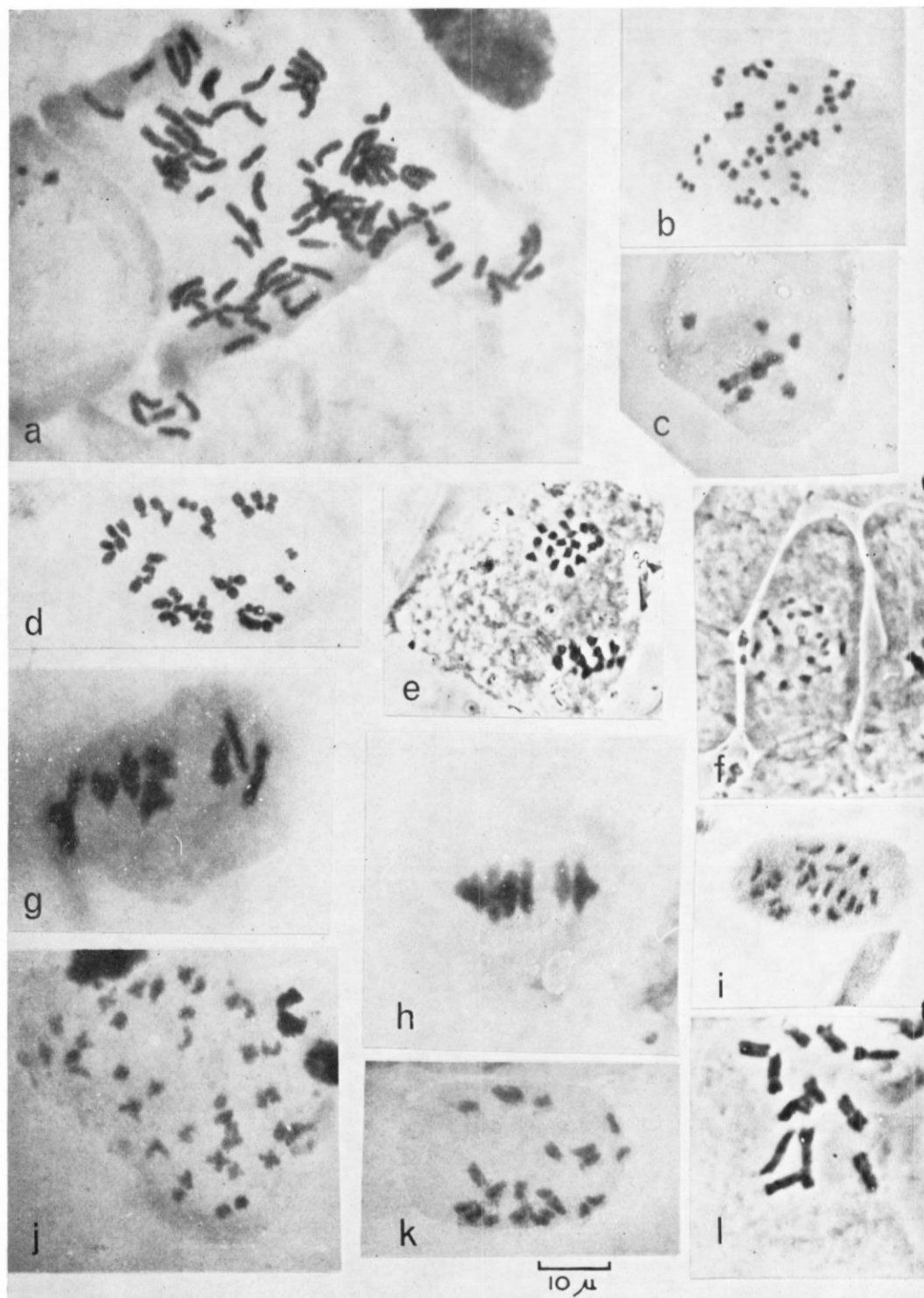


Fig. 1. a, b, d, f, i, k and l at mitotic metaphase in root tips; the remainder at the stage of meiosis indicated.
 a. *Hamadryas argentea* ($2n = c. 92$). b. *Caltha sagittata* ($2n = 48$). c. *Draba funiculosa* (8_{II} , first metaphase).
 d. *Ranunculus hydrophilus* ($2n = 32$). e. *Spergularia media* ($n = 18$, first anaphase). f. *Drapetes muscosus* ($2n = 20$). g. *Azorella filamentosa* (8_{II} , first metaphase). h. *Oreomyrrhis hookeri* (6_{II} , first metaphase).
 i. *Calandrinia feltonii* ($2n = 24$). j. *Hydrocotyle chamaemorus* (36_{II} , diakinesis). k. *Apium australe* ($2n = 22$).
 l. *Plantago maritima* ($2n = 12$).

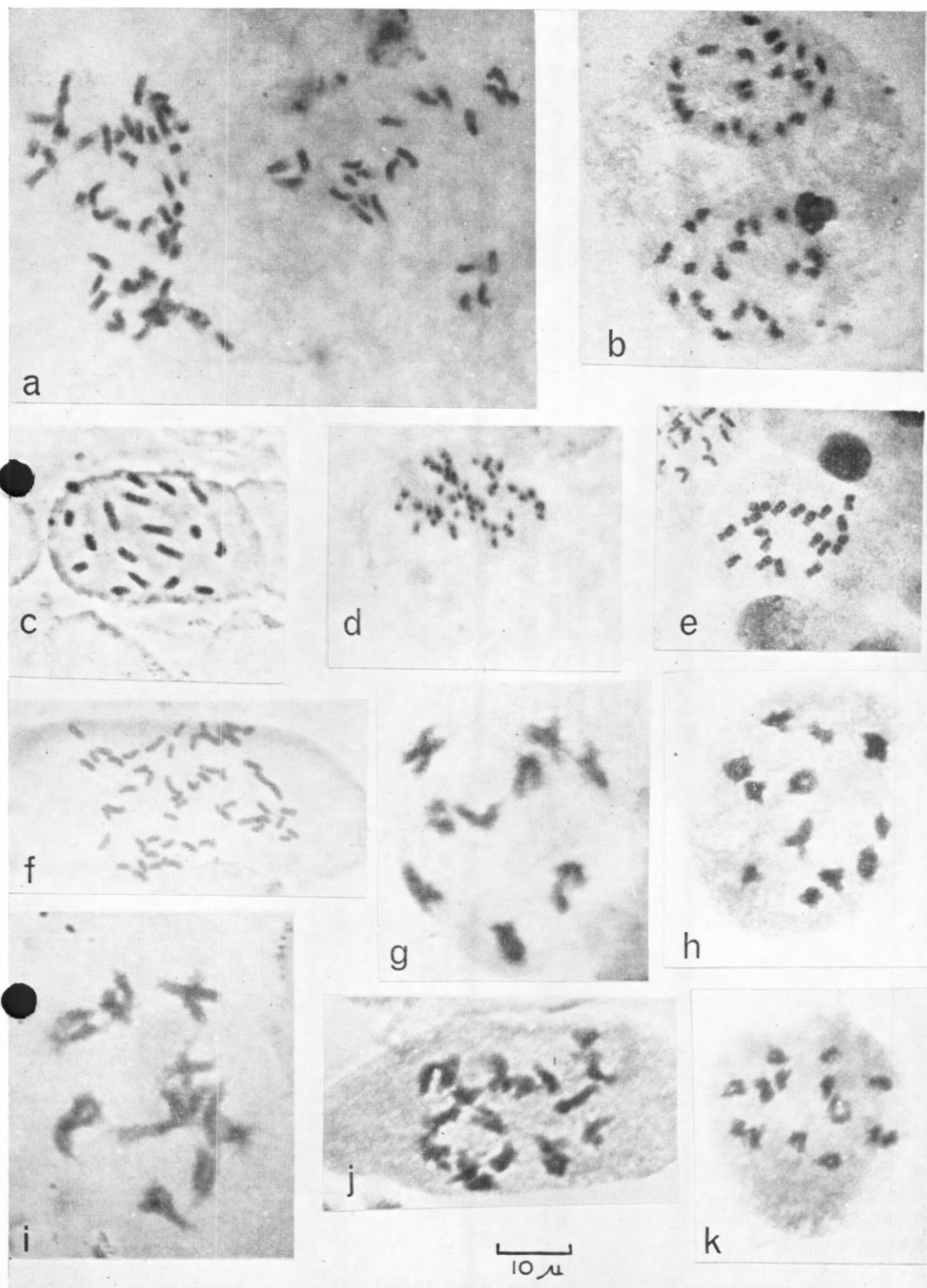


Fig. 2. a and c-f at mitotic metaphase in root tips; b at first anaphase of meiosis; g-k at diakinesis.
 a. *Primula decipiens* ($2n = 72$). b. *Anagallis alternifolia* ($n = 22$). c. *Calceolaria fothergillii* ($2n = 18$).
 d. *Limosella australis* ($2n = 48$). e. *Abrotanella emarginata* ($2n = 18$). f. *Chiliotrichum diffusum* ($2n = 54$).
 g. *Baccharis magellanica* (9_{11}). h. *Aster vahlii* (12_{11}). i. *Hieracium patagonicum* (9_{11}). j. *Erigeron incertus* (18_{11}).
 k. *Chevreulia lycopodioides* (14_{11}).

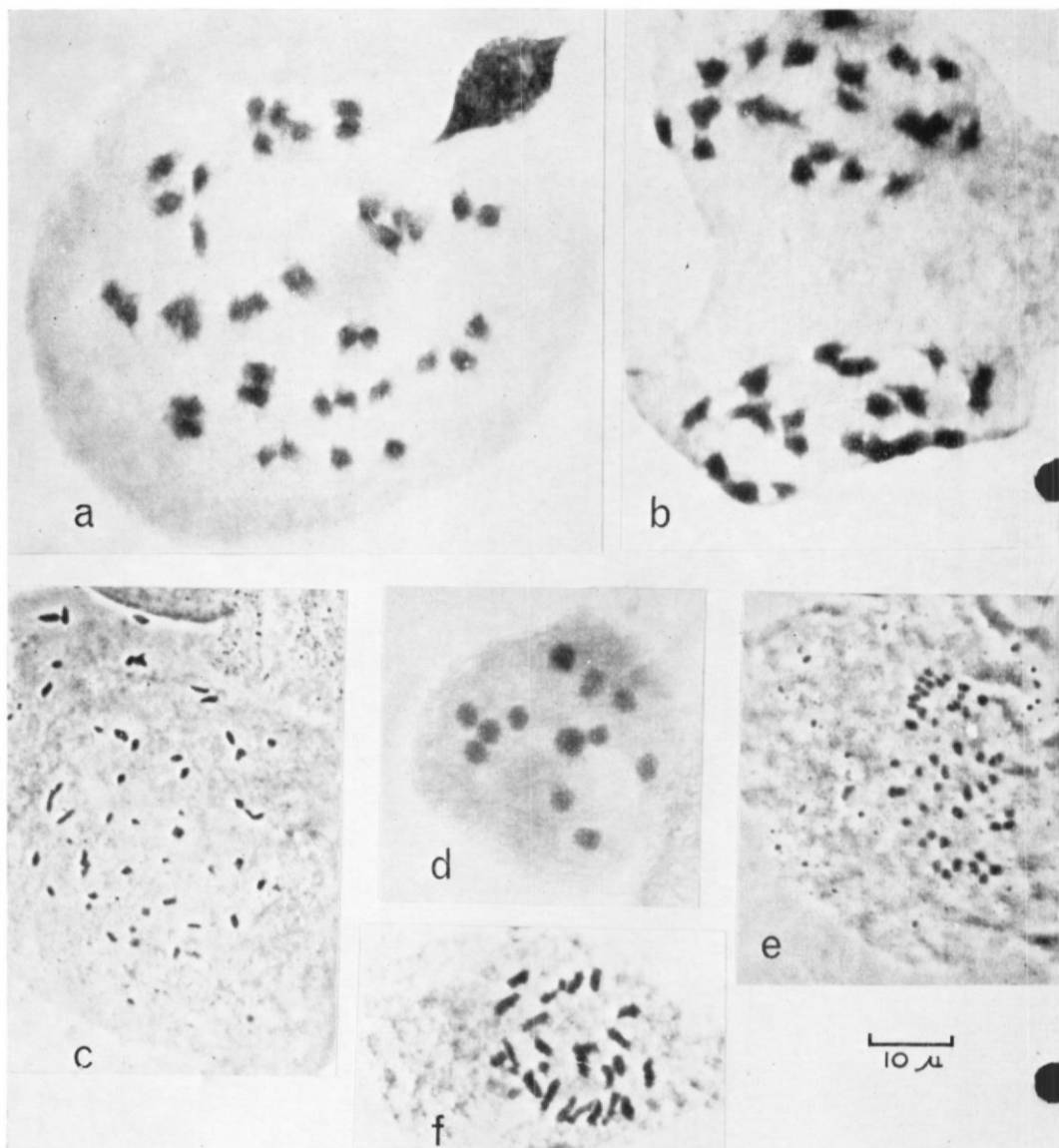


Fig. 3. a and d at diakinesis; b at first anaphase of meiosis; c, e and f at mitotic metaphase in root tips.
 a. *Leuceria suaveolens* (20_{11}). b. *Senecio candicans* ($n = 20$). c. *Isolepis cernua* ($2n = 48$). d. *Eleocharis melanostachys* (12_{11}). e. *Oreobolus obtusangulus* ($2n = 48$). f. *Luzula alopecurus* ($2n = 24$).

Enargea marginata (Fig. 6a) and that of *Luxuriaga parviflora* (Beuzenberg and Hair, 1963, fig. 23), another member of the small family Philesiaceae. *Myrteola*, like several members of Myrtaceae, tribe Myrtoideae (e.g. Smith-White, 1957) is tetraploid ($x = 11$). Three genera of Compositae accord with the commonest basic numbers known in the tribes to which they belong: *Chilotrichum* ($n = 27$) in Astereae ($x = 9$; Solbrig and others, 1964), *Chevreuria* ($n = 14$) in Inuleae ($x = 7$; Darlington and Wylie, 1955) and *Abrotanella* ($n = 9$) in Anthemideae ($x = 9$; Darlington and Wylie, 1955); on the other hand, *Leuceria* ($n = 10$) and *Nassauvia* ($n = 11, 22$) show that the basic numbers $x = 10$ and 11 must be added to those



Fig. 4. Chromosome configurations at diakinesis or first metaphase of meiosis. Camera lucida drawings. All $\times 1,400$.

a. *Draba magellanica* (24₁₁). b. *Viola tridentata* (20₁₁). c. *Azorella lycopodioides* (8₁₁). d. *Anagallis alternifolia* (22₁₁). e. *Armeria macloviana* (9₁₁). f. *Euphrasia antarctica* (44₁₁). g. *Gnaphalium affine* (14₁₁). h. *Senecio vaginatus* (20₁₁). i. *Agoseris coronopifolium* (9₁₁). j. *Nassauvia gaudichaudii* (22₁₁).

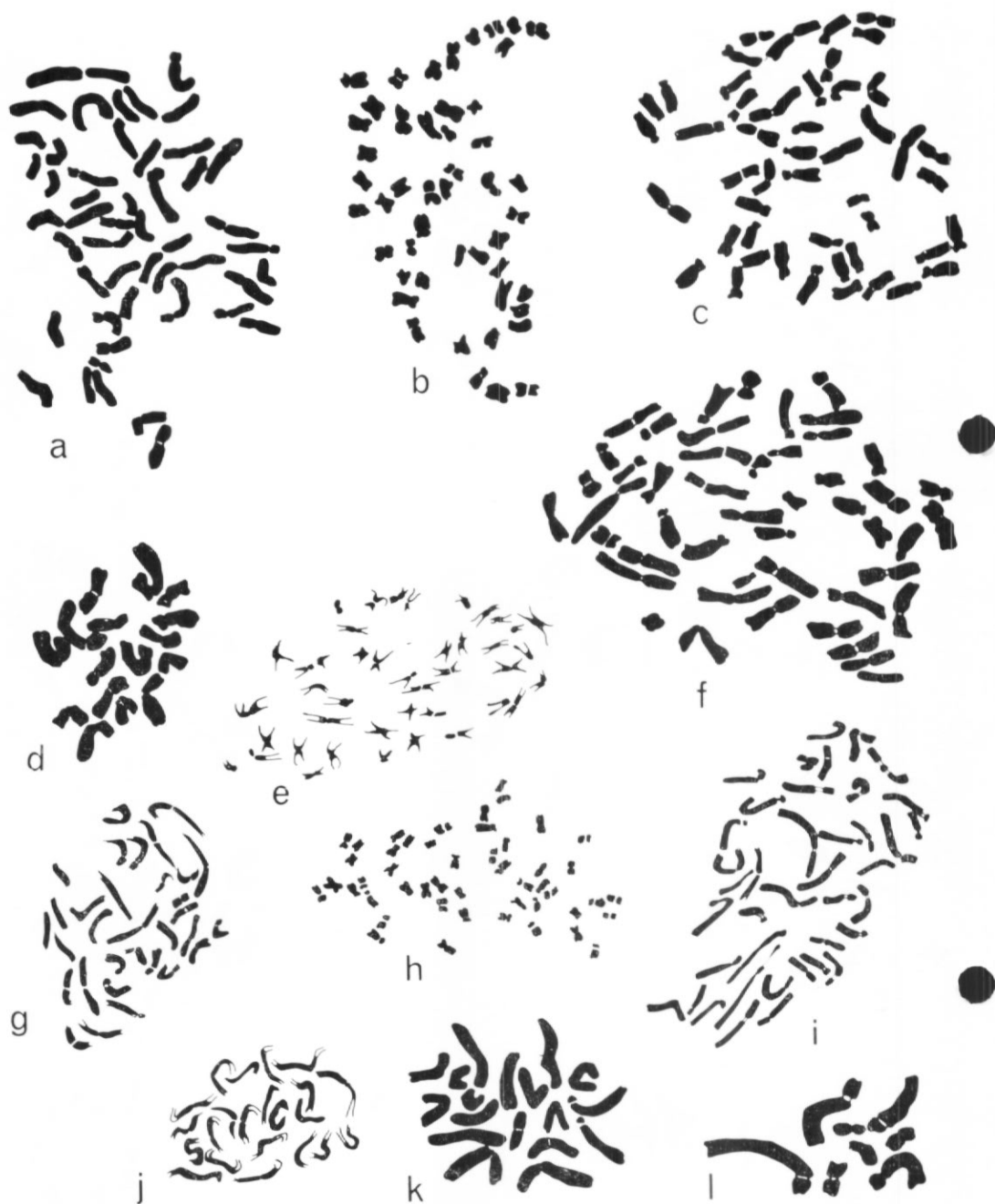


Fig. 5. Somatic karyotypes. Mitotic metaphase or prometaphase; root tips except where indicated. Camera lucida drawings. All $\times 1,400$.

- a. *Caltha appendiculata* ($2n = 48$). b. *Ranunculus pseudotrullifolius* ($2n = 48$). c. *Ranunculus sericocephalus* ($2n = 48$). d. *Schizeilema ranunculus* ($2n = 16$). e. *Acaena lucida* ($2n = 42$). f. *Ranunculus biternatus* ($2n = 48$). g. *Valeriana sedifolia* ($2n = 32$, stylar tissue). h. *Plantago barbata* ($2n = 48$). i. *Callitriche antarctica* ($2n = 40$). j. *Nassauvia serpens* ($2n = 22$, stylar tissue). k. *Hieracium antarcticum* ($2n = 18$). l. *Hypochoeris arenaria* ($2n = 8$, stylar tissue).

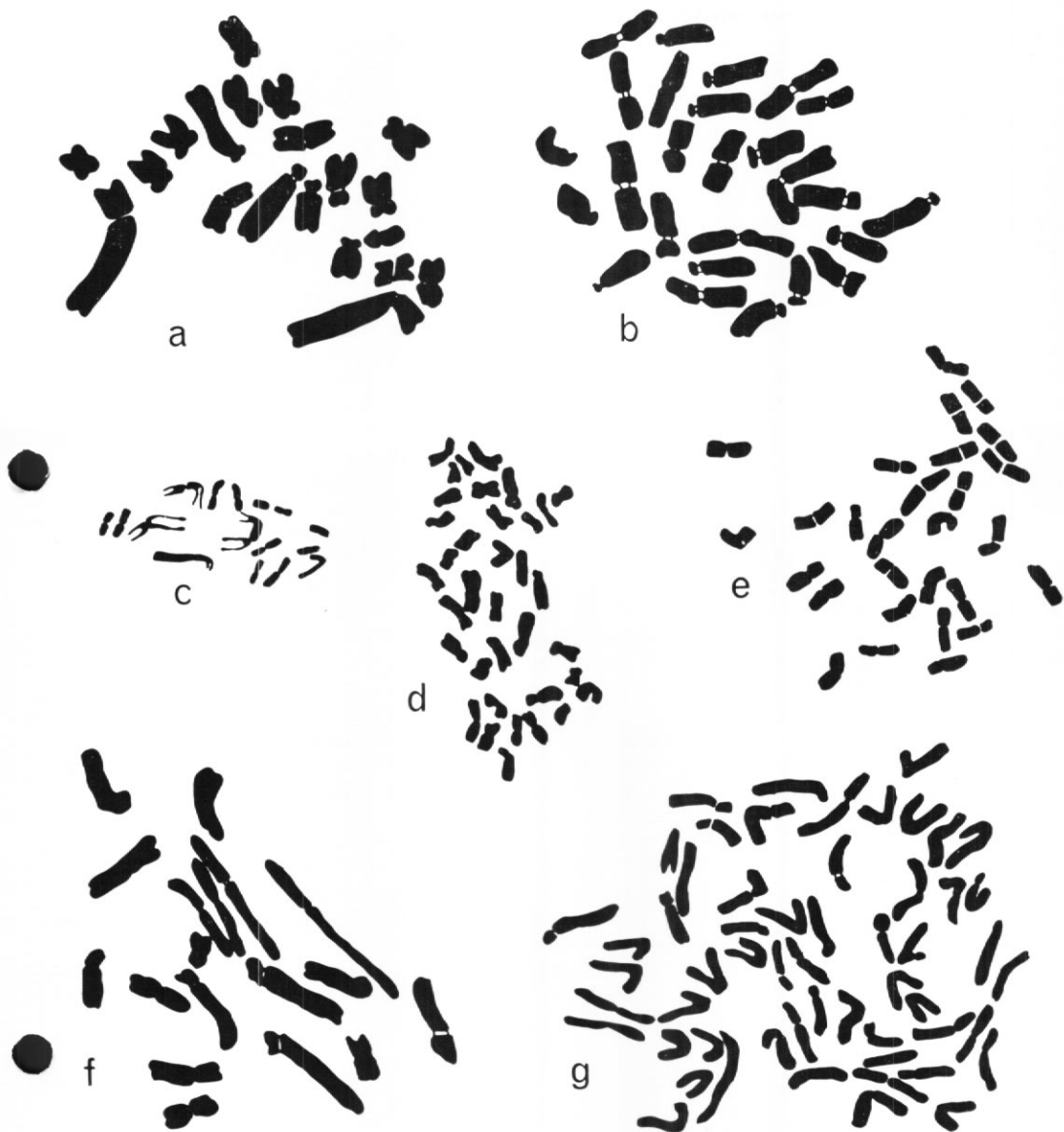


Fig. 6. Somatic karyotypes. Mitotic metaphase or prometaphase; root tips. Camera lucida drawings. All $\times 1,500$.

- a. *Enargea marginata* ($2n = 20$). b. *Deschampsia antarctica* ($2n = 26$). c. *Gaimardia australis* ($2n = 16$).
 d. *Cortaderia pilosa* ($2n = 36$). e. *Poa alopecurus* ($2n = 28$). f. *Sisyrinchium filifolium* ($2n = 18$).
 g. *Hierochloa redolens* ($2n = 56$).

already known in the Mutiseae ($x = 8, 9, 12$; Diers, 1961). *Hamadryas*, a highly derived, dioecious genus of Ranunculaceae, is undoubtedly at the 12-ploid level ($x = 8$), despite some uncertainty as to the exact number. Close relatives of *Marsippospermum* (Juncaceae) and *Gaimardia* (Centrolepidaceae) are not known cytologically, but the latter probably has a basic number of $x = 8$, compared with $x = 10$ and perhaps 8 in *Centrolepis* (Hamann, 1960; Larsen, 1963).

Species not previously counted

Several genera occurring in the Falkland Islands are known to have little or no variation in chromosome number and the counts for the species listed here are in accord with the earlier studies cited for the genera: *Armeria* (Baker, 1948), *Baccharis* (Solbrig and others, 1964), *Epilobium* (Hair, 1966; Lewis and others, 1958), *Gunnera* (Beuzenberg and Hair, 1963) and the cushion forms of *Valeriana* (Diers, 1961). The diploid number 48, which is most frequent in Falkland Islands species of *Ranunculus*, has been commonly encountered in Southern Hemisphere studies of the genus (e.g. Smith-White, 1957; Fisher, 1965) but the number $2n = 32$ appears to be much less frequent. It is perhaps rather surprising that *R. pseudotrullifolius* is one of the hexaploid ($x = 8$) species referred to above, while its closest morphological relative, *R. trullifolius*, is tetraploid. The Falkland Islands species of *Oreomyrrhis* and *Erigeron* have the same numbers as their close relatives, respectively *O. andicola* (Bell and Constance, 1960) and *E. myosotis* (Solbrig and others, 1964). *Empetrum rubrum* is diploid, like its Northern Hemisphere counterpart *E. nigrum* (e.g. Hagerup, 1927), while *Cotula scariosa* appears to be 16-ploid, as indicated by Hair (1962) for other members of the subgenus *Leptinella* ($x = 13$).

Several species reported here are at higher ploidy levels than hitherto recorded for their genera. *Pratia repens* is 12-ploid ($x = 7$), New Zealand species being diploid, hexaploid or decaploid (Beuzenberg and Hair, 1959), while *Euphrasia antarctica* is octoploid ($x = 11$), compared with the diploids and tetraploids known previously (personal communication from P. Yeo). Only diploid species have previously been reported in *Lilaeopsis* (Bell and Constance, 1960) but some Californian species are now known (personal communication from L. Constance) to be tetraploid ($x = 11$) like *L. macloviana*.

Aster has been shown to have three basic numbers, $x = 5, 8, 9$, by Solbrig and others (1964) but the discovery of 12 bivalents at meiosis in *A. vahlii* indicates that either $x = 4$ or 6 must be added to this list. The only species of *Drapetes* hitherto counted, from New Guinea (Borgmann, 1964), had $2n = 18$ and the basic number $x = 9$ appears to be common elsewhere in the Thymelaeaceae (e.g. Cruickshank, 1953; Nevling, 1964). The present report of $2n = 20$ for *D. muscosa* must, therefore, be rather unexpected and further material will be required before deciding whether to attribute another basic number to the family or whether there has been confusion with satellites in the present study. The preparations of *Nastanthus falklandicus* only permitted the approximate count given and it may have a haploid complement of 21 chromosomes as found in another species by Rahn (1960).

Lourteig (1964) has united all the austral populations of *Limosella* in a single species, *L. australis*, which also extends north through the Americas to Canada and which occurs in Africa and western Europe. Of the species which she has thus united, *L. subulata* has been shown to have $2n = 20$ (Blackburn, 1939) in Europe, *L. lineata* from New Zealand has $2n = 60$ (Hair and Beuzenberg, 1960) and the southern South American material reported in this paper, which was formerly referred to *L. aquatica* ($2n = 40$; e.g. Blackburn, 1939), has $2n = 48$. Clearly, there is need for more extensive cytological study of this widespread group of populations.

Species previously counted

The chromosome numbers of 17 species documented in this paper have been counted previously and all the earlier records are confirmed here. Six of these species occur in temperate regions of both hemispheres and, while counts from both Northern (e.g. Hagerup, 1941) and Southern (Böcher and others, 1963) Hemispheres are available for *Plantago maritima*, counts for five species were available hitherto only from the Northern Hemisphere: *Carex curta* (e.g. Löve and Löve, 1956), *Cerastium arvense* (e.g. Söllner, 1952), *Chenopodium macrospermum* (Homsher, 1963), *Polygonum maritimum* (e.g. Styles, 1962) and *Spergularia media* (Blackburn and Morton, 1957), although the latter species is apparently normally diploid ($2n = 18$) in Europe and North Africa (Ratter, 1964). Five species were known cytologically only from the Australian-Neozelandic region: *Callitriche antarctica* (Moore, 1960; Beuzenberg and Hair, 1963), *Hebe elliptica* (personal communication from O. Frankel), *Hierochloa redolens* (Borgmann, 1964), *Juncus scheuzerioides* (Moore, 1960) and *Ranunculus bitermatus* (Moore, 1960). Chromosome counts for the remaining seven species are already available from South America: *Acaena magellanica* (Moore, 1964), *Agoseris coronopifolia* (Chambers, 1963), *Apium*

australe (Bell and Constance, 1960; also from New Zealand by Beuzenberg and Hair, 1963), *Draba magellanica* (Heilborn, 1927), *Hydrocotyle chamaemorus* (Bell and Constance, 1957), *Plantago barbata* (Böcher and others, 1963) and *Primula decipiens* (Bruun, 1932).

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