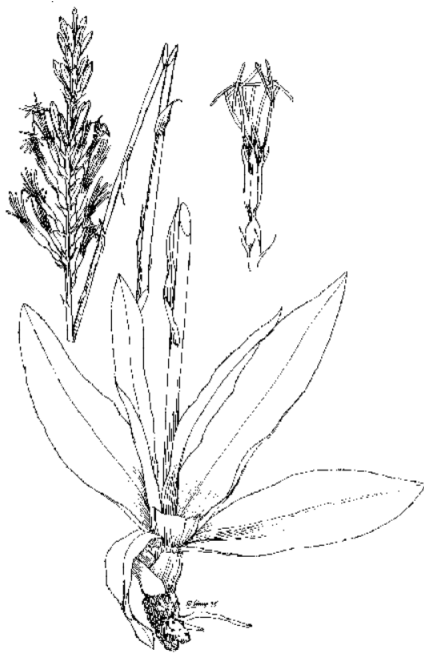


subsp. **lata** (Shinners) O'Kennon, Diggs, and Lipscomb, comb. nov. BASIONYM: *Agave lata* Shinners, Field & Lab. 19:171-173. 1951. TYPE: TEXAS. Grayson Co.: 4.7 miles south of Sherman, *H.V. Daly* 61, 15 Jun 1951, (HOLOTYPE: BRIT/SMU), (broad), WIDE-LEAF FALSE ALOE. Plant 0.6-1.7 m tall (to tip of inflorescence); corm pithy; leaves 4-10, noticeably fleshy, green to bluish gray-green, occasionally with reddish splotches near base, elliptic or broadly lanceolate, deeply concave, glabrous, margins scabrous; pedicels shorter than subtending bracts; flowers spicely-scented; perianth greenish or yellowish with dots or tinge of red-brown toward tips, the lobes

5-8 mm long; filaments green with reddish pigmentation; anthers exerted, cream-colored. Mainly Blackland Prairie; s Grayson (apparently now extinct locally), Hunt, and Kaufman cos., also Parker Co. (R. O'Kennon pers. obs.); otherwise apparently known only from s Oklahoma. Jun-Jul. [*Agave lata* Shinners, *Polianthes lata* (Shinners) Shinners] This taxon was named as a species in the genus *Agave* by Shinners (1951f) and subsequently transferred to *Polianthes* (Shinners 1966a). Verhoek-Williams (1975) placed it in the genus *Manfreda* but lumped it with the more widespread *M. virginica* (L.) Rose. By the time of Verhoek-Williams' study, the Grayson Co. site was apparently no longer in existence and no other TX sites were known. Since that time, several new Blackland Prairie populations with hundreds or even thousands of individuals have been discovered. While there is undoubtedly overlap in most of the characters distinguishing this subspecies from subsp. *virginica*, we agree with Shinners (1951f) that it is a geographically distinct entity; subspecific status appears most appropriate. Detailed taxonomic work on the large Blackland Prairie populations is needed. 📷/98



Manfreda virginica subsp. *lata* [HEA]