GENERIC NAMES ENDING IN -IS AND THE DETERMINATION OF THEIR STEMS

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Summary
The determination of the stem of generic names ending in -is is a special task for each particular case. In the future it is preferable to avoid such names, except for quite obvious cases, viz. names having a second (final) part of either Greek or Latin origin ending in -is, or a Greek stem, with the widespread Greek element -ittis (ittidis), -yllis (ellidis) and so on.
For existing names one should be guided by the following criteria:
1. the grammatical form of the ancient word (Latin or Greek).
2. the existing tradition (which in most cases does not contradict 1).
3. the formation of the stem by analogy.

Introduction
There are two types of words among generic names with latinized form (from a linguistic point of view).
The stem of the first group may be easily found by dropping the ending of the nominative case; such are the names ending in -a, -us, and -um, such as Rosa, Pinus, and Asarum (with the corresponding stem Ros-, Pin-, Asar-) and some others; the stem of the second type may be determined only from the form of an oblique case, such as the genitive. Among these are the words Rumex (gen. Rumicis, stem Rumi-); Abies (gen. Abietis, stem Abiet-); Agrostemma (gen. Agrostemmati, stem Agrostemm-); Aphanactis (gen. Aphanactinis, stem Aphanactin) and so on.
There are times when the botanist must know the stem of the generic name. For instance:
1. When forming the name of a taxonomic group or of a plant association from the generic name.
2. When it is necessary to form the name of a parasitic organism from the name of the host plant, which is very often the case in mycology.
3. When it is necessary to describe a new plant and to use the generic name in the oblique case, for example when indicating affinity.
The determination of the stem, however, is not always an easy task. Such is the case with the stem determination of nouns ending in -is, which gives rise to particular difficulties. There are two reasons for this.
1. The nouns ending in -is, which can be found with the Greek authors, often had different stems; we can find variations of this sort in the works of one and the same author. For instance, πτερίς can be found in the genitive case with the forms πτερίδος and πτερείς, that is, with the stem ending in -ή and without it. This is also the case with the words Cannabis, Buprestis, and others.
2. There is a great number of names ending in -is, the precise stem of which it is practically impossible to determine. This is due to the fact that the authors of the

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A thorough analysis of Greek names ending in -is shows that the greater part of them have the stem in Greek ending in -δ. This is due to the fact that suffixes ending in -ις, to be more exact, in -ας- and -αδ, become rather common in the classical period.

This is even more pertinent if we exclude the special group of verbal nouns ending in -α/ις including such generic names as Malaxis — softening, Campsis — flexion, etc., the stem of which has no -δ; thus if the generic name is a word of Greek origin we consider the stem ending in -δ to be more correct (but only when there are no good reasons in favour of another variant).

The matter is quite different in Latin. Here the stems ending in -δ are a rare exception; therefore, if the name is not of Greek origin we consider it more proper to preserve the stem without the -δ.

This principle demands a careful analysis based on factual material. However, before starting such an analysis it is necessary to bear in mind the following: in compound words only the final part is important in determining the stem. Because of this, the etymology of the latter will be the special subject of our analysis.

I. Names of Latin origin

The names of Latin origin form a small group which includes, for instance, Vitis, is; Vepris, is; Bellis, idis ¹, Digitalis, is, etc. Some of them are based on adjectives, such as agrestis, is (agrester, pertaining to lands, fields), memorialis, is (memoriale, belonging to memory or remembrance) etc. Special attention should be paid to the word Cucumis, eris, which has quite a different stem type.

There are some names ending in -coronis (corona, ae — crown) whose stem has no -δ, in accordance with the above; for example, Gymnocoronis, is; Scyphocoronis, is; Trichocoronis, is etc. Names ending in -cuspis have -δ in the stem, like the noun cuspidis, cuspidis (spike) itself, and thus Tricuspis, idis etc.

The stems of such names, therefore, are to be established as they are found in the works of Latin authors.

II. Names of Greek origin

The names of Greek origin make up the most numerous group, so we shall divide them into the following subgroups:

a. Names of plants or nouns to be found among Greek authors, or formed later, retaining the grammatical form of the Greek prototype.

Among these there are words with the stem ending in -δ, without it, and sometimes even other types; for instance Anagallis, idis (άναγκαιλίς — idος Diosc.); Hypochoeris, idis (υποχοερίς, idος Theopr.); Pemphis, idis (πεμφίς, idος breath, blast); Derris, is (δέρρις, εως skin); Trichobasis, is (τρίχος βάσις, εως stepping, step); Halimocnemis, idis (χαλιμικός, idος greave, legging). Nouns ending in -actis and -charis are of particular interest. The stems of these elements end in -n and -t respectively, for instance Aphanacitis, inis (αφανικτίς, idος ray, beam), Ammocharis, itis (αμμοχαρίς, τος grace).

¹ Strictly speaking this word is a hybrid formed by combining the Latin stem bell- (bellus-beautiful) and the Greek element -δ. Such is, at least, the treatment of the word proposed by R. Strömberg (1940).
There is no difficulty in establishing the stem of such words, as they are found in the works of Greek authors.

b. *Names found in the works of Greek authors, the stems of which cannot be explained or have two variants.*

We have already mentioned some of these cases. On the basis of possibilities presented, we propose that the stem with -d be accepted for such names which include, for instance: Thylacitis, idis (θυλακίτης, ἴδος, found in Dioscorides only in the nominative case); Iris, idis (a name found in the works of many ancient authors, having different stems: ἰρίς, ἴδος and ἴρις, ἴως).

We consider the same stem correct in words ending in -cystis and -pteris (κύστις, ἴδος and ἴως bladder; πτέρις, ἴδος and πτέρις, ἴως male fern). So Echinocystis, idis; Dryopteris, idis etc.

c. *Names formed from real Greek words which do not end in -is, but whose stem may be determined indirectly, mainly by means of derivatives.*

A careful analysis of a large group of derivatives and compound words ending in -is shows that almost all of them have -d- in their stem. Thus, names ending in -glossis must have the stem ending in -d-, though they originate from the Greek word γλῶσσα (tongue), because there are among the ancient authors derivatives ending in -is such as ἐπιγλῶσσής, ἴδος (valve), which covers the larynx, and many others. The same can be said about names with the final element -opis, which though formed from ὁφς, ὁπός, the eye, has a wide usage in adjectives such as βοῦπτες, ἴδος (ox-eyed), γλαυκώπτες, ἴδος (with gleaming eyes), and so on, among the classic authors; hence Leptoglossis, idis; Rhodopis, idis, etc. The stem of verbal nouns must be defined in the same way, for instance:

- Apocopis, idis (from ἀποκόπτω, cut off); (κοπή, ἴδος chopper, cleaver).
- Oxygraphis, idis (from ὀξύς sharp and γράφω write; γραφή, ἴδος pencil).

One must say that the names of plants which we find in the works of ancient authors like Theophrastus and Dioscorides, formed from words not ending in -is, always have the stem ending in -d-; for instance: γαλακτίς, ἴδος (from γάλα, γάλακτος milk); ἀλώπηξ, ἴδος (from ἀλώπηξ, κος fox), γογγυλής, ἴδος (from γογγύλος round), πυρίς, ἴδος (from πυρός bitter) etc.

d. *Names of plants formed in a later period by means of adding -is to the stem of Greek origin.*

Here, too, their stem must end in -d by analogy with the previous:

- Exames: Glycosmis, idis (ὀσμή smell)
- Poliothyriris, idis (θύρος wand wreathed in ivy and vine leaves, with a pine-cone at the top)
- Solenangis, idis (σχοῦς, ἵως vessel to hold liquids)
- Anacampsis, idis (κέμπτω bend, curve)
- Chrysocoptis, idis (κόπτω cut off)

e. *Names of plants formed by adding typical Greek suffixes.*

Such names, naturally, have the stem analogous with the corresponding Greek words. Here are the most frequent types.
1. Names, ending in -yllis.

There is a great number of Greek nouns ending in -yllis which later were used as names of plants. Their stem ends in -d, for instance:

Agasyllis, idis (ἄγασιλλίς, ἱδός a plant name)
Amaryllis, idis (a female name)
Cathyllis, idis (γάθυλλίς, ἱδός a plant name)

We find names of plants formed in the same way in the works of ancient authors; for instance, ἄνθυλλίς, ἱδός (from ἄνθος, flower).

By analogy with these words the following modern names have the stem with -d-:

Chloryllis, idis (χλωρός green)
Crocyllis, idis (χρόνος saffron)

2. Names ending in -yllis.

These names of plants were formed in a similar way in ancient times. They all have -d- in the stem; for instance, κερατίτης, ἱδός, κέρας, ατός (horn), ἱπατίτης, ἱδός, ἱπαρ, ατός (liver).

By analogy with these words the following names have the stem ending in -d-:

Arachnitis, idis (ἀράχνη spider’s web)
Corynitis, idis (χόρνη club)
Sophronitis, idis (σώφρον of sound mind) etc.

3. Names formed from verbal stems ending in -sis.

Such nouns form a rich group in Greek and, as in older times, they are sometimes used now as names of plants; their stems do not end in -d-. Among them are:

ἀμφύρωσις, ἑως (darkening)
κατάψυξις, ἑως (cooling)
Campsis, is (κάμψις, ἑως bending)
Cryptis, is (κρύψις, ἑως hiding)

By analogy with such names, the following generic names have the stem without -d-:

Dypsis, is (δύπτω duck, dive)
Gnephosis, is (genus of Cassini of uncertain etymology)
Helosis, is (ἥλω sharpen)
Thelasis, is (θῆλαξω suck)

Thus, wherever it is possible, we suggest reference to words actually found among ancient authors.

1. Exceptions. There is one specific case in which botanical tradition is at variance with ancient word usage. We refer here to the word orchis, originating from the Greek ὀρχίς, ἑως. In all botanical works it is used as a word with the stem ending in -d-; hence the names of such high ranking taxa as Orchidaceae, Orchidaceae and so on. Due to this precedent, Crosswhite, F.S. and Itis, H.H. (1966), in their article suggest disregarding the stem types characteristic of the ancient words and taking into consideration only the variants found more frequently in botanical literature, as long as it is not contrary to the spirit of the Greek language. The authors are correct in their statement that Greek words with the stem ending in -d- are more frequent than any other stem varieties, and we fully agree with them in some concrete cases and consider Batidaceae and Haloragidaceae more reasonable than Bataceae and Haloragaceae, for we can find analogous material in the Greek language. We can’t agree with the statement, however, that an arbitrarily formed stem is perhaps preferable to an actually existing one. Such a procedure could bring us only to confusion, and what is more, it will never give us the right criterion for the selection of stems for a whole group of other names of plants ending in -is, now being created by contemporary botanists.
As to the specific case of Capparaceae vs. Capparidaceae, we don’t consider it advisable to multiply the number of exceptions in the botanical tradition. In this case usage is far from being as unanimous as it was in the case of the Orchidaceae.

g. Names with a Greek stem, but ending with an element of obscure or distorted origin.

In such cases, by analogy with the foregoing, we propose to establish the stem with -d, for instance:

Meliclis, idis, the genus of Rafinesque, who explains “honey lip... The lip distils honey, that fills the hollow bag”. Thus the author himself derives -clis from χέλως lip; what made him distort the stem of the Greek word to such an extent remains unclear. Not without reason we have a later correction of this name to Melichlis by many botanists (cf. Willis, 1925).

Hydrastis, idis (the author does not give any explanation: Fernald (1950) says “name suggested by the leaf of Hydrophyllum canadense”). However that may be, it is nearly impossible to establish the etymology of the element -astis, while there can be no doubt as to the first part (δωρ water).

Gomphichis, idis; the etymology of the first part of this word is quite clear (γόμφρος — nail), while the second, — ichis, is obscure; the other names of this type must be considered by analogy: Pterichis, idis (πτερόν wing) etc.

Chamaecyparis, idis (χαμαι on the ground; cyparis originates from κυπάρισσος, though it appears in a changed form).

One should add that such a decision agrees with botanic tradition.

h. Names obviously of Greek origin, with obscure etymology. Here belong, in particular, anagrams of Greek plant names, names with Greek word elements, letter combinations characteristic of words borrowed from the Greek language, and so on.

Such words must be treated as nouns of Greek origin, and have the stem with -d;

Examples:
Achratinis, idis, (anagram of Arachnites)
Anaphalis, idis (anagram of Gnaphalium)

III. Names of obscure etymology, where the author of the genus, or botanical tradition itself, establishes this or that treatment of the stem.

Examples:
Pallenis, idis (genus of H. Cassini, who does not give any etymology, but forms the name of the group Pallenidae from this name).

Distictis, idis (the second part of the word probably originates from στιχτός, pricked, or στήλος, row, though we have no direct evidence of it; but there are such group names as Pleostictides and Monostictides cited by the same author, and this enables us to select the stem of our name by analogy).

Berberis, idis (the etymology of the name is not quite clear). Fernald (1950) writes “name derived from Berberys, the Arabic name of the fruit”. However that may be, the name Berberidaceae has received wide acceptance, and here we would prefer to maintain the traditional usage.

IV. Different names having no evident connection with the Greek language.

We can indicate several types here:

a) Names appearing as a latinized form of the local name of the plant, for instance:

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Antiaris (anthiar a local name of a plant)
Salacistis (Salak a volcanic peak in Java, sec. Backer).

b) Names of obscure etymology, having no evidence of any kind of relation to the Greek language (characteristic suffixes, letter combinations, characteristics of the words borrowed from the Greek language, and so on). Such names are often found with Cassini and Adanson among others.

In these cases, which are rather few in number, we propose to establish the stem without -d.

Examples:
Facelis, is a genus of Cassini; etymology unknown
Detris, is; Tolpis, is; Torilis, is; names of genera in Adanson of which the etymology is unknown.

Conclusion
A thorough examination shows that the determination of the stem of generic names ending in -is is a special task for each particular case, and requires special study. That is why we consider it preferable to avoid such names, except for quite obvious cases, viz. names having a second (final) part of either Greek or Latin origin ending in -is, or a Greek stem with the widespread Greek element -itis (itidis), -yllis (ellidis), and so on.

As to the already existing names, one should be guided by the following criteria:

a) the grammatical form of the ancient word (Greek or Latin).
b) the existing tradition (which in most cases does not contradict point “a”)
c) the formation of the stem by analogy.

That is why we cannot accept the proposal by H. K. Airy Shaw and F. C. Deighton (1963) who, for sake of uniformity (which, by the way, is never reached), ignore both the original form of the word and the firmly established botanical tradition, and offer a stem ending in -d, particularly for such names as Vitis (the name of the family Vitidaceae?), Pedicularis and others.

A more serious, though partial attempt to solve this difficult problem is made by William T. Stearn in his fundamental work “Botanical Latin” (1966). However, even aside from the fact that the author determines the stem type only for some names, it is sometimes difficult to agree with him. For instance, he proposes to fix the -d- stem for Pteris (which, as we saw, has both stem types) and for Orchis, following the botanical tradition; yet he gives the stem without -d- for words ending in -cystis, though they also have a two-type stem, and there is no stable botanical tradition here.

As the determination of the stem for certain names may give rise to difficulties, we are appending:

1. A list of the final elements often found in generic names.
2. A list of generic names ending in other final elements.

In the first list, the origin of the final element is indicated; in the second the etymology of the whole name is given, as well as a reference to that part of the article in which the reader may find an explanation of the stem considered preferable in each case.

Both lists comprise the generic names ending in -is found in J. C. Willis, “Dictionary of the flowering plants and ferns”, 1931.

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References


APPENDIX I: LIST OF GENERIC NAMES

Achroratinis, isis Thh an anagram of Arachnites
Adonis, isis Tha "Aδωνις, ἰδος in mythology a beautiful youth who was beloved by Aphrodite
Agallis, isis Tha ἀγαλλίς, ἰδος a Greek plant name
Agathelpis, isis Tha ἀγάθελπις good; ἐλπίς, ἰδος hope
Agdestis, isis Thb "Ἀγδεστίς — one of the names of Cybele, a goddess of the powers of nature and the arts of cultivation
Agnis, isis Thi Lindley's name of unknown significance; may be from ἀ — without and γωνία, ας angle
Agrestis, is I agrestis, e pertaining to land, fields
Aletris, isis Tha ἀλετρίς, ἰδος female slave, who grinds corn
Alseis, isis Tha ἀλσηΐδες nymphs of groves
Ampalis, is is IVa a local name of the plant
Ampherephis, isis IIId ἀμφερεφής covered on both sides
Amphibecis, isis IIg ἀμφι βεκί around; — becis significance unknown
Amphibolis, isis IIa ἀμφι βόλις, ἰδος missile, javelin
Amphilophis, isis IIh ἀμφι λόφις around; κόρας, ω crest of a helmet
Amyris, isis Thc ἀ — prefix of strengthening meaning; μόρον, ω sweet oil, perfume; hence μορίς, ἰδος box for unguents
Anagallis, isis Tha ἀναγαλλίς, ἰδος a Greek plant name
Anagyris, is is IIa ἀναγιρίς, ως a Greek plant name
Anchorinis, isis IIc ἀν negative prefix; ἀκομαθμόν, ω a Greek plant name
Anaphalis, isis IIh an anagram of Gnaphalium
Antherias, is is IVa from anthiara, a local name of a plant
Apoballis, isis IIc ἀποβάλλω throw off, away
Apochoris, isis IIc ἀποχορίσμος separation (secundum auctorem)
Apocpita cut off; κοπίς, ἰδος chopper, cleaver
Arabis, isis Tha ἄραβις, ἰδος Arabian mustard
Arachis, isis Thc a contraction of the earlier Arachidna (sec. Fernald)
Arachnis, isis Thh ἄραχνη, ως spider's web

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Atractylis, idis IIa  
Axyris, idis IIa  
Baccharis, idis IIb  
Bactris, idis IIa  
Berberis, idis IIa  
Batis, idis IIa  
Baucis, idis IIa  
Bellis, id  
Berberis, idis III  
Brachycyrtis, idis IIa  
Buprestis, idis IIa  
Byblis, idis IIa  

callitris, idis IIg  
Camarotis, idis IIa  
Cannabis, idis IIb  
Cannomois, idis IIa  
Capparis, is IIa  
Catis, idis IIh  
Caucalis, idis IIa  
Caustis, is IIa  
Celtis, is I  
Cephalis, idis IIa  
Cephalopipactis, idis IIa  
Cercestis, is IIa  
Cerris, is I  
Clematis, idis IIa  
Clybatis, is IIa  
Cnestis, idis IIc  
Colocynthis, idis IIa  
Corydalis, idis IIa  
Corymbis, idis IIa  
Crepis, idis IIa  
Crossonephelis, idis IIg  
Cucumis, eris I  
Dactylis, idis IIa  
Danais, idis IIa  
Detris, is IVb  
Didiplis, idis IIh  
Digitalis, is I  
Dilatris, is IVb  
Disperis, idis IId  

ἄτρακτολίς, ἰδος a Greek plant name  
ἄξωρής; not cutting, blunt  
βάκκαρις, ἰδος a Greek plant name; there are also forms without – δ –  
βάκτρον, ou stick, cudgel  
βατίς, ἰδος a Greek plant name  
Baucis, idis a Greek female name  
bellis, idis the white daisy  
Name derived from Berberys, the Arabic name of the fruit (sec. Fernald)  
βραχύς short; κουρτός curved  
βουπρήστης, ἰδος and ες poisonous beetle  
Βοβίλις, ἰδος in mythology a daughter of Miletus and Cyane, who fell in love with her brother Caunus and being repulsed was changed to a fountain  
κάλλος beauty; -tris significance unknown  
χαμαρωτός vaulted, arched  
καννάβις, ες hemp (there are however forms with the – δ – stem, such as the accusative form κανναβίδα)  
κάννα a Greek plant name ὅμοος like, resembling  
κάππαρις, ες a Greek plant name  
the generic designation having reference to the drooping pinnae; from κάτω down?  
κυκκάλις, ἰδος a Greek plant name  
κυώστις, ες ripe barley  
Celtis, is a plant name  
κεφαλή, ἧς head  
κεφαλή head; Epipactis cf.  
Kερύκεττα, ὑν in Greek mythology the son of Aegyptus and Phoenissa; cf. Herpestis  
from latin vernacular name of a plant “cerrus” (sec. Backer)  
χιμάζι on the ground; κυτάρισσος, ou cypress  
χαρίς gen. εντος graceful, beautiful  
χέιμαρρος, ὑν winter-flowing, torrent  
χρυσός golden; κύνος, ὑν swan (sec. Schultes)  
Name said to be from the Greek κλάδος branch and θρασσυτός brittle, the latter Rafinesque’s etymology (sec. Fernald)  
κλυματίς, ἰδος vine-branch  
κλύβαττος – a Greek plant name; there is an accusative form κλύβαττον  
κνήθων scratch; κνηστίς, ἰδος hollow hair-pin  
κολοκυνθής, ἰδος a Greek plant name  
κορυθαλλίς, ἰδος a Greek plant name  
κόρυμβος, ὑν uppermost point, cluster of fruit or flowers  
κρητίς, ἰδος a Greek plant name  
κροσσότα fringe; Nepheleum a generic name  
cucumis, eris a cucumber  
κακτοτις, ἰδος name of a kind of grape  
Δαναίτες in mythology daughters of Danaus  
significance unknown  
Rafinesquean genus of unknown origin; may be from δι- two and διπλώδις double  
digitalis, e of or belonging to the finger  
significance unknown  
δις double; πήρα, ας pouch (sec. Backer)  

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Distichlis, idis IIg διστίχος two ranked (sec. Fernald)
Distictis, idis III may be from δι- two-and στίχος, ou rank or may be στυκτὸς
          pricked
Doryalis, idis IIg δόρος spear
Drypis, idis IIa δρυμός, ίδος a Greek plant name
Echenais, idis IIa Ἔχενας, ίδος a name of the nymph
Elaeis, idis IId Ἑλαιόν, οὐ olive – oil
Epacris, idis IIc ἐπαξιρίζω reach the top; ἐπαξιρίδες πόλεις cities on the hills
Ephapactis, idis IIa ἐπιπακτής, ίδος a Greek plant name
Eriaxis, idis IIId ἔριων wool; ἔριων, ὄνος axis
Eriochrysis, idis IIc ἔριον wool; χρυσός gold; χρυσίς, ίδος a vessel of gold, peace
          of gold plate
Erithalis, idis, IIa ἔριθαλις, ίδος a Greek plant name
Euchaitis, idis IID ἐψάχατης with beautiful hair, mane, leaves; cf. Herpestis
Euscaffis, idis IIa εὔσκαφης, ίδος vessel
Euthemis, idis IIb εὖ good; σκαφῆς, ίδος vessel
Excremis, idis IIb εὑρομίζω, ίδος and νῆς in Greek mythology the
          personification of the order of things, a prophetic divinity
          from ἕξω outside and κρεμαχό hang up, hang (sec. Witt-
          stein)
Facelis, is IVb significance unknown
Geissolos, idis IID γείσσον, οὐ hem or border of a garment
Geosiris, idis IIh significance unknown; may be from γῆ earth and Iris; cf.
          Iris
Glycosmis, idis IID γλυκῶς sweet; ὄσμη, ᾧς smell
Gynopachis, idis IID γυνηθή woman; παχύς thick
Gyrostachis, idis IID γυρὸς rounded; στάχυς, υφς spike
Haematostaphis, idis IIa ἁμα blood; σταφής, ίδος dried grapes, raisins
Halopeplis, idis IIa ἅλε, ἄλος salt; Peplis cf.
Haloragis, idis IID ἅλε, ἄλος salt; βάξ, βαχύς grape; cf. οἱ. σύργες, γγαίς shep-
          herd’s pipe; συργυγής, ίδος like a pipe
Hedynopsis, idis IIa ήδυνοπόρος, ίδος a Greek plant name
Herpestis, idis IIa ἑρπητής, οὗ creeping thing, reptile; cf. δυνάστης lord,
          master; δυνάστης, ίδος fem. of this word; πλάστης moulder,
          modeller; πλάστης, ίδος fem. of this word e.t.c.
Hesperis, idis IIa ἑσπερής, ίδος a Greek plant name
Hexalectris, idis IIg εἴκος six; – electris significance unknown
Hippocrepis, idis IIa ἱπποκρέπης horse; κρέπης, ίδος high boot
Hyalis, idis IID ὑάλος, ὦ some kind of crystalline stone
Hydrastis, idis IIg name suggested by the leaf of Hydrophyllum canadense
          (sec. Fernald)
Hydrocleis, idis IIa ὑδρός water; κλείς, ίδος bar, bolt
Hydropeckis, idis IIa ὑδρός water; Pectis cf.
Hypertelis, idis IID ὑπερτέλης overleaping; cf. Herpestis
Hypochoeris, idis IIa ὑποχοέρης, ίδος a Greek plant name
Hypodaphnis, idis IIa ὑπὸ – somewhat; βάρης, ίδος bay-berry
Hyptis, idis IID θητός laid on one’s back
Iberis, idis IIa ἰβηρης, ίδος a Greek plant name
Irish, idis IIb ἰρις, ίδος and πῶς rainbow; a Greek plant name
Isatis, idis IIa ἰσάτης, ίδος a Greek plant name
Kedrostis, idis IIh significance unknown; may be, the first part of the name
          from κέδρος a Greek plant name
          λαμπρότης, ἦτος brilliancy, splendour; cf. Herpestis
          λαμπρότης slender
          λαμπρότης slender; ἀερήμα, κτός skin; ἐπαδαμής, ίδος outer skin
          λευκός white; νότης, ίδος moisture
          etymology is unknown
          λιβανωτής, ἰδος a Greek plant name

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Liparis, idis IIa  λιπαρός oily, shiny with oil
Lipozygis, idis IIa  λιποζύγιος freed from the yoke
Lotononis, idis IIa  Lotus a plant name; Ononis cf.
Lychnis, idis IIa  λυχνίς, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Lycochris, idis IIa  etymology is unknown to me, may be the first part from λύκος wolf; Λυκωρίς, ἄδος a Greek female name
Macrosepis, idis IIa  μακρός large; σκέπτω cover
Magyaralis, is IIa  memolaris, e belonging to memory or remembrance
Mahoberberis, idis III  a hybrid name from Mahonia and Berberis; cf. Berberis
Malabathris, idis III  a genus of Rafinesque; significance unknown
Melanobasis, is I  μέλας black; Sinapis cf.
Melinis, idis IIg  μέλι honey; χέλιας, eος lip (sec. auctorem); κλαίς, ἄδος key, bolt (sec. Schultes)
Melitris, idis IIa  μελιτρίς, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Melittis, idis IIa  μέλιττα, ἄδος bee
Memorialis, is I  memorialis, e belonging to memory or remembrance
Mercurialis, is I  mercurialis, e of or belonging to the god Mercury
Myrmex, idis IIa  μυρμήξ, γονος ant
Myrrhis, idis IIa  μυρρίς, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Neactelis, is IVb  etymology is unknown to me
Neliitis, is IVb  etymology is unknown
Neoptris, idis IIa  νέος new; πικρίς, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Nepethytes, idis IIa  Νέφθυς – in Greek mythology the wife of Typhaon
Nestorhys, idis IIa  νέθος spurious; κλαίς, ἄδος precious stone of a greenish-blue, turquoise
Nothocnestis, idis IIc  νόθος spurious; Cnestis cf.
Onobrychis, idis IIa  ὀνόμβρυχις, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Ononis, idis IIa  ὄνων, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Oreograstis, is IIa  ὕδρος mountain; γράκτις, eος grass, green fodder
Oreomyrhris, idis IIa  ὕδρος mountain; μυρρίς, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Oxy polys, idis IIh  significance unknown; may be the first part from ὄξος sharp
Pallenides, idis III  The author of the genus (Cassini) does not give the etymology of the name, but uses the name of a group Pallenides παρά near; Cephalis cf.
Paracephalitis, idis IIa  παρά near; Chimarris cf.
Parachimarris, is IIa  παρά near; Pholmis cf.
Paraphamis, is IIa  παρά near; Vallaris cf.
Paris, idis IIa  ἰδίος in Greek mythology the son of Priam, king of Troy by his wife Hecuba; there are also forms without – δ –
Pectis, idis IIa  πεκτίς, ἰδίος shepherd’s pipe
Pedicularis, is I  pedicularis, e of or belonging to lice, pedicular
Pemphis, idis IIa  πεμφίς, ἄδος breath, blast
Pentadynamis, is IIa  πεντάδυναμις, eος power, might
Pentachistis, idis IIa  πεντάχιστης, ἄδος five; σχιστός cloven, divided
Peplis, idis IIa  πεπλίς, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Phalaris, idis IIa  φάλαρις, ἄδος a Greek plant name
Pheretrichis, idis IIc  φέρω bear; φῆς, τριχής hair, hence τριχής, ἄδος a kind of anchovy full of small hair like bones
Phitopis, idis IIh  an anagram of Hippotis
Philomis, idis IIa  φιλόμις, ἄδος a Greek plant name

TAXON VOLUME 17
Phyllis, idis IIa
Physalis, idis IIa
Picris, idis IIa
Pieris, idis IIa
Pseudochimarrhis, idis IId
Pseudoliparis, idis IId
Pteroceltis, is I
Salacistis, IVa
Simethis, idis IIh
Sinapis, is I
Stelis, idis IIa
Synthyris, idis IIc
Tetaris, is IVb
Tetraclis, idis IIg
Tetragastris, idis IId
Tetraneuris, idis IId
Thecacoris, idis IIg
Thespis, idis IIb
Thringis, idis IIh
Thryallis, idis IIa
Tolpis, is IVb
Torilis, is IVb
Tricuspis, idis I
Tricyrtis, idis IId
Trientalis, is I
Triplaris, is I
Vallaris, is I
Vepris, is I
Vitis, is I
Xyris, idis IIa
Xystris, idis IIa

Φυλλάς, ἵδος in Greek mythology daughter of king Sithon; she was changed into an almond – tree
φυσαλίς, ἵδος a Greek plant name
πικρίς, ἵδος a Greek plant name
Pieris, idis in Greek mythology a daughter of an Athenian king Erechtheus, wife of Cephalus, who shot her in a wood, mistaking her for a wild beast
ψευδής false; Chimarrhis cf.
ψευδής false; Liparis cf.
πτερόν a wing; Celtis cf.
Salak a volcanic peak in Java (sec. Backer)
that likes acids (sec. auctorem)
Sinapis, is mustard
στέλλας, ἵδος a Greek plant name
σύν together; θόρα door, hence θορίς, ἵδος window, a little door
Name by Lindley of unknown etymology
tετρά- four; etymology of element -clis is unknown
tετρά- four; γαστήρ paunch, belly, hence γάστρις, ἵδος and εῶς pot-bellied glutton
tετρά- four; νεῦρον, ὑν sinew, tendon
ἡχή box; χωρίς apart

Thuspis, idis IIb

from the generic name Thrinax
ὁφυκλίς, ἵδος a Greek plant name
significance unknown
significance unknown
tri-three; cuspis, idis a point, the pointed end
tρι – three-; κυρτός curved
trietalis, e that contains a third of a foot
triplaris, e threefold, triple
vallaris, e of or belonging to a rampart
vepris, is a thorn-bush, brier-bush, etc.
a vine, grape-vine
ξυρίς, ἵδος a Greek plant name
ξυστρίς, ἵδος scraper used after bathing
## APPENDIX II: LIST OF FINAL ELEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final word-element</th>
<th>Etymology</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- achyris, idis IId</td>
<td>ἄχυρον, ὁ chaffy scale</td>
<td>Amphiachyris, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- acis, idis IIa</td>
<td>ἄχις, ὁς pointed object, needle</td>
<td>Acis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- actis, inis IIa</td>
<td>ἂκτίς, ἵνος ray, beam</td>
<td>Aphanactis, inis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- agathis, idis IId</td>
<td>ἀγάθος, ὁ, ὁν good</td>
<td>Agathis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- agrostis, idis IIb</td>
<td>ἀγροστίς, ὁς and ἔως grass</td>
<td>Agrostis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- angis, idis IId</td>
<td>ἄγγος, ἔως vessel to hold liquids</td>
<td>Acragis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- anthemis, idis IIa</td>
<td>ἀνθεμίς, ὁς flower</td>
<td>Anthemis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- anthis, idis IIc</td>
<td>ἀνθος, ὁς flower; ὀιναινίς, ὁς in Poets vine</td>
<td>Arctanthis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- aspis, idis IIa</td>
<td>ἄσπις, ὁς shield</td>
<td>Diaspis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- basis, is IIa</td>
<td>βάσις, ἔως stepping, step</td>
<td>Anabasis, is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- blepharis, idis IIa</td>
<td>βλεφαρίς, ὁς eye lash</td>
<td>Blepharis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- callis, idis IIc</td>
<td>κάλλος, ὁς beauty; ἡμεροκάλλις, ὁς a plant name</td>
<td>Hemerocallis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- camptis, idis IId</td>
<td>κάμπτω bend, curve</td>
<td>Petrocallis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- caulis, is I</td>
<td>caulis, is stem</td>
<td>Anacamptis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- cercis, idis IIa</td>
<td>κερκίς, ὁς a Greek plant name</td>
<td>Gymnanacamptis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- charis, itis IIa</td>
<td>χάρις, ἵτος grace</td>
<td>Serapicamptis, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- chloris, idis IIa</td>
<td>Χλωρίς, ὁς the goddess of flowers</td>
<td>Chloris, idis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- clinis, idis IIc</td>
<td>κλίνη, της that on which one lies, couch; κλίνης, ὁς dim. of κλίνη</td>
<td>Platyclinis, idis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- cnemis, idis IIa  
  χνημίς, ἴδος greave, legging  
  Halimocnemis, idis
  Hymenocnemis, idis
  Rhopalocnemis, idis

- comis, idis IIc  
  χόμη, ἴδος hair of the head; ἐρυθροκόμης,  
  ἴδος with red down, a kind of pomegranate  
  Acomis, idis
  Eucomis, idis

- coptis, idis IId  
  κόπτω cut off  
  Chrysocoptis, idis
  Coptis, idis
  Petrocoptis, idis
  Gymnocoronis, idis
  Scyphocoronis, idis
  Trichocoronis, idis
  Echinocystis, idis
  Hyalocystis, idis
  Porocystis, idis
  Heteroderis, is
  Phalacroderis, is
  Adenoderris, is
  Hypoderris, is
  Leptoderris, is
  Microdesmis, idis
  Tridesmis, idis
  Diclis, idis
  Lepyrodichis, idis
  Spiradichis, idis
  Syndichis, idis
  Leptoglossis, idis

- coronis, is I  
  corona, ae crown

- cystis, idis IIb  
  κύστις, ἴδος and  ἐως bladder

- deris, is IIa  
  δέρις, ἴδος neck, throat

- derris, is IIa  
  δέρρις, ἴδος skin

- desmis, idis IIa  
  δεσμίς, ἴδος package, bundle

- diclis, idis IIa  
  δίκλις, ἴδος double folding doors

- glossis, idis IIc  
  γλῶσσα, ἴδος tongue; ἐπιγλῶσσις, ἴδος valve, which covers the larynx, epiglottis
  Blephariglossis, idis
  Dichoglossis, idis
  Hexagonalis, idis
  Chionographis, idis
  Digraphis, idis
  Oxygraphis, idis
  Cestichis, idis
  Cranichis, idis
  Gomphichis, idis
  Pterichis, idis
  Aegialitis, idis
  Phyllitis, idis
  Sideritis, idis
  Turritis, idis

- glottis, idis IIc  
  γλῶττα, ἴδος tongue; ἐπιγλωττίς, ἴδος valve, which covers the larynx, epiglottis

- graphis, idis IIc  
  γράφω write; γραφής, ἴδος pencil

- ichis, idis IIg  
  significance unknown

- itis, idis IIe  
  -ίτις, ἴδος a final Greek word element, often in nouns, particularly in names of plants

- lacis, idis IIa  
  λακίς, ἴδος rent, rendering
  Lacis, idis
  Rhynchosacis, idis

- lepis, idis IIa  
  λέπις, ἴδος epithelial debris scales
  Acantholepis, idis
  Actinolepis, idis
  Brachylepis, idis
  Tricholepis, idis

- lithis, idis IIc  
  λίθος, ἴδος stone; λιθής, ἴδος little stone
  Eriolithis, idis
  Phlebolithis, idis

- melis, idis IIg  
  an element of unknown meaning, may be from μῆλον apple frequently in Rafinesquian genera; ἀμμακτής, ἴδος medlar
  Hamamelis, idis
  Octomelis, idis
  Ozomelis, idis

- meris, idis IIa  
  μερίς, ἴδος part, portion
  Actinomeris, idis
  Oligomeris, idis
- mixis, is IIa  μίξις, εώς mixing, mingling  Aphanamixis, is Catamixis, is
- opis, idis IIc  ὀψ, ὄπος the eye; βουτίς, ἴδος ox-eyed; κυκλώπις, ἴδος dark-eyed
- opsis, is IIa  ὁπής, εώς sight
- orchis, idis IIf  ὀρχής, εώς testicle and plant so called because of the shape of the roots
- osyris, idis IIa  ὄσυρις, ἴδος a Greek plant name  Acanthosyris, idis Leucosyris, idis Linosyris, idis  Chamaeorchis, idis Hymenorchis, idis Orchis, idis
- otis, idis IIc  ὀὖς, ὄτος ear; ἄμφωτις, ἴδος two handled pail; covering for the ears
- oxalis, idis IIa  ὀξάλις, ἴδος sour wine, sorrel
- oxis, idis IIc  ὦξις sharp, keen; ὥξις, ἴδος = ὀξάλις cf.
- peltis, idis IId  πέλτη, ης small light shield
- pholis, idis IIa  φολίς, ἴδος horny scale
- plexis, is IIa  πλέξις, εώς plaiting, weaving
- pteris, idis IIb  πτερίς, ἴδος and εώς male fern
- ptychis, idis IIa  πτυχίς, ἴδος slab
- pyramis, is IIa  πυραμίς, ἴδος pyramid
- pyxis, idis IIa  πυξίς, ἴδος box of box-wood
- rachis, is IIa  ράχις, εώς the lower part of the back, the chine, pine or backbone
- rhaphis, idis IIa  ραφίς, ἴδος needle
- rhapis, idis IIa  ραπις, ἴδος rod
- rhipsalis, idis IIg  ρψ, ῥιπτὺς wicker-work  Acanthorhipsalis, idis Pseudorhipsalis, idis

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- rhytis, idis IIa  ῥυτίς, ἴδος pucker, wrinkle
- seris, idis IIa  σέρις, ἴδος endive or chicory
- sis, is IIe  -σίς, εἴς a final element, often in Greek nouns, derived from verbs and particularly in plant names
- steris, idis IIg  significance unknown
- stylis, idis IIa  στυλίς, ἴδος a small pillar
- taxis, is IIa  τάξις, εἴς arranging, arrangement
- trophis, idis IIc  τρόφις, ἴς well-fed; stout; ἵμεροτροφίς, ἴδος feeding for the day
- tropis, idis IIb  τρόπις, ἴδος and τρόπις, εἴς keel
- uris, idis IIc  οὐρά, ἴς tail; νωθαυρίς, ἴδος black hound; μελανουρίς, ἴδος a seafish
- xis, is IIe  -ξίς, εἴς a final element, often in Greek nouns, derived from verbs, particularly in names of plants
- yllis, idis IIe  -υλλίς, ἴδος a final element, often in nouns of feminine gender, particularly in names of plants

Actinorhytis, idis
Aposeris, idis
Calycoseris, idis
Lagoseris, idis
Apolepsis, is
Diaspasis, is
Echetrosis, is
Henosis, is
Monosis, is
Trichodyopsis, is
Callisteris, idis
Gymnosteris, idis
Microsteris, idis
Adenostylis, idis
Bulbostylis, idis
Cheirostylis, idis
Fimbrystylis, idis
Aplotaxis, is
Diplotaxis, is
Monotaxis, is
Paratrophis, idis
Pseudotrophis, idis
Taxotrophis, idis
Calycotropis, idis
Oxytropis, idis
Rhynchotropis, idis
Anduris, idis
Hippuris, idis
Onuris, idis
Aphelexis, is
Atraphaxis, is
Malaxis, is
Stixis, is
Agasyllis, idis
Amaryllis, idis
Anthyllis, idis
Chloryllis, idis
Genethyllis, idis