

ASTRAGALUS HOTKANENSIS (FABACEAE, SECT. MICROPHYSA), A NEW SPECIES FROM IRAN
A. A. Maassoumi & M. Mirtadzadini

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Astragalus hotkanensis is described as a new species from south east Iran. This species belongs to the sect. *Microphysa* Bunge. The related species are *A. meimandicus*, and *A. reuterianus*.

Ali Asghar Maassoumi, Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands, P. O. Box 13185-116, Tehran, Iran; e-mail: maassoumi@rifr-ac.ir, -Mansoor Mirtadzadini ICST, Shahid Bahonar University P. O. Box 76169-133, Kerman, Iran; e-mail: mirtadz@mail.ac.ir

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گونه جدید (*Astragalus hotkanensis* (Fabaceae, sect. *Microphysa*) از ایران

علی اصغر معصومی و سید منصور میرتاج الدینی

گونه *A. hotkanensis* Massoumi & Mirtadzadini به عنوان گونه جدید متعلق به بخش *Microphysa* از کرمان معرفی می گردد. گونه جدید با محور برگگی بلند، برگچه های واژ تخم مرغی با نوک تخت یا اندکی شیاردار، با گلادین کم گل و اندکی واژگون و همچنین با کاسه بزرگ که نیمه فوقانی آن برنگ قرمز می باشد از کلیه گونه های خویشاوند جدا می گردد. این گونه با *A. meimandicus* Maassoumi & Vakili و *A. reuterianus* Bunge که در همان مناطق پراکنش دارند مقایسه شده است.

Introduction

Among the recent collections from south east Iran by the second author, a new species of the genus *Astragalus* sect. *Microphysa* is described and illustrated.

***Astragalus hotkanensis* Maassoumi & Mirtadzadini, sp. nov.**

Diagnosis. Foliolis obovatis vel oblongo-ellipticis. Inflorescentiae laxae, deflexae. Legumen dense pilosum, basi c. 1.5 mm stipitatum, dorso-ventro compressum.

Differt ab *A. meimandicus* Maassoumi & Vakili, bracteis ovatae-triangularibus (nec linearibus); ab *A. reuterianus* Bunge, foliolis applanatis (nec complicatis), apicis retusis, emarginatis (nec rotundatis), corollis c. 15.5 mm longis (nec 10 mm), legumine c. 1.5 mm stipitatis (nec sessili).

Description. Small spiny shrub, 10-18 cm high; densely covered with dense white hairs. Stem divided at the base. Stipules membranous, lanceolate, 3-4 mm long, at the base c. 2- 2.5 mm adnate to the petioles. Leaves 4-11 cm long, spiny, densely covered with spreading hairs; rachis ± erect, rigid and hairy; petiole 1-5 cm long; leaflets 7-10 pairs, often obovate, c. 2-5 mm long and 3.5-6 mm wide, on the both sides densely covered

with spreading hairs, apex truncate or emarginate, rarely rounded, shortly mucronulate; mucro c. 0.7 mm long. Inflorescence a loose raceme, slightly flexuose, 3-6 cm long, with 3-7 flowers; peduncle 1.5-3 cm long, densely covered with short spreading hairs. Bracts ovate-triangular, acuminate, hairy, 2-4 mm long. Bracteoles linear, hairy, 1.5-2 mm long. Calyx tubular in young stage, later inflated, c. 11 mm long, at fruiting time elongated to 13-15 mm long and 6-8 mm in diameter, densely covered with spreading hairs, reddish or pale yellow beneath. Corolla cream at the base and red on the limb. Standard 15 mm long; the limb late ovate or orbicular, rounded at apex, c. 6 mm long and 6.5 mm wide, at the base abruptly constricted. Wings 15 mm long; limb elliptic, c. 4 mm long. Keels c. 14 mm long; limb shortly curved. Ovary hairy. Pods ellipsoid, c. 7 mm long and 3-4 mm wide, densely hairy, compressed dorso-ventrally, ventral side carinate and dorsally briefly sulcate, at the base with a stipe c. 1.5 mm long. Seed single, brown, c. 3.5-4 mm long.

Type. Iran, Kerman, Zarand, Hotkan village, 2420 m, 4.6.2004, Mirtadzadini s.n. (holo. TARI).

Other specimen. Iran, Kerman, Zarand, Khanuk village, c. 2100 m, Assadi & Bazgosha 56350 (TARI).

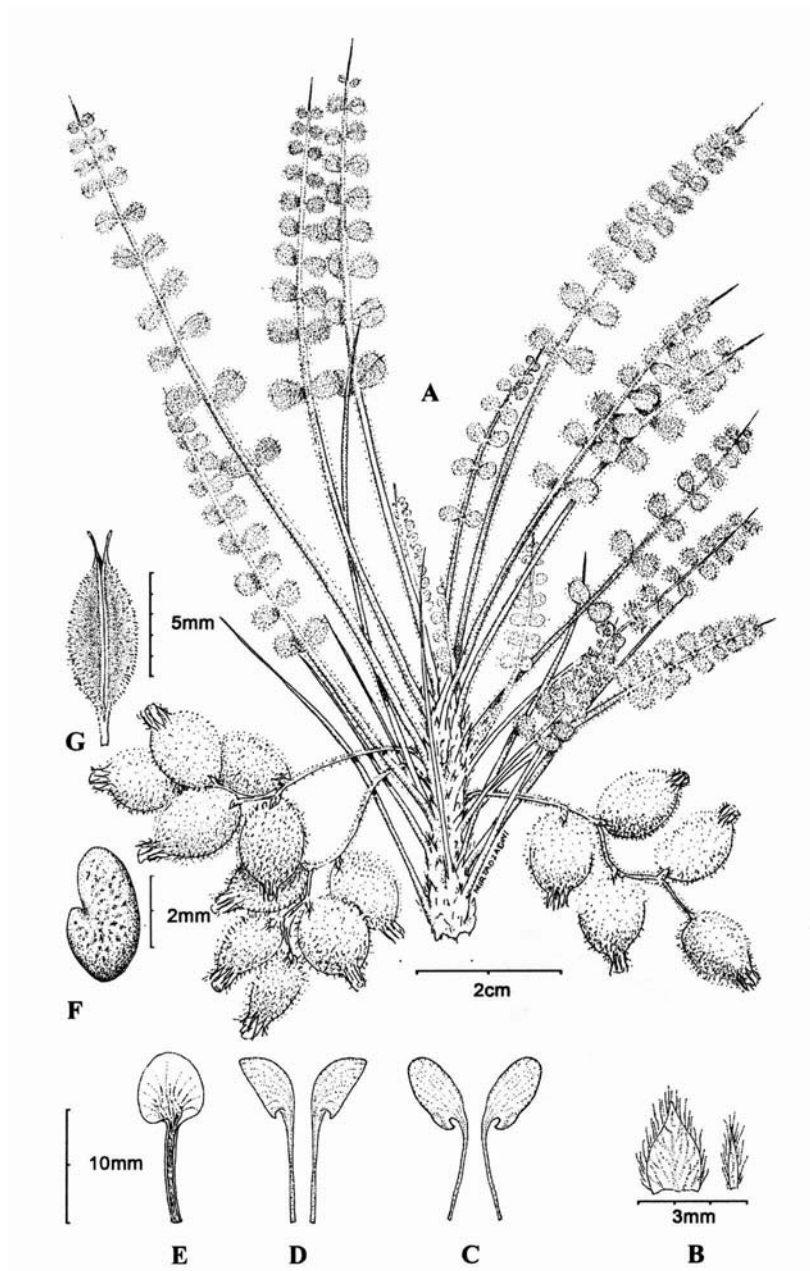


Fig. 1. *Astragalus hotkanensis*. – A: habit, B: bract (left) and bracteole (right), C: wings, D: keel, E: standard, F: seed, G: pod.