

NEW ISOLATED SPECIES OF THE GENUS *ASTRAGALUS* L. (FABACEAE) FROM ILAM, IRAN

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Among the rich materials collected from different localities of Ilam province, one new species namely *Astragalus mehranensis* from section *Incani* DC. is described as a new species.

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گونه جدید از جنس گون از ایران

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نمونه‌های جمع‌آوری شده هرباریوم مرکزی ایران نامگذاری شدند. از میان نمونه‌های جمع‌آوری شده گونه *A. mehranensis* به عنوان گونه جدید شرح داده می‌شود. گونه جدید به همراه دیاگنوز، شرح و تصویر کامل گیاه ارائه می‌شود و با نزدیک‌ترین خویشاوندان خود مقایسه گردیده است. نمونه تیپ در هرباریوم مرکزی ایران نگهداری می‌شود.

Introduction

Flora and vegetation of Ilam province have been studied since 2003-2006 by the second author. During this period, very rich materials from different parts were collected. In the present paper a new species namely *A. mehranensis* Maassoumi & Mozaffarian from sect. *Incani* DC. is described. This new species was found in the lowland of the province. This area shows apparently floristic similarities with Iraq flat lowland.

Astragalus mehranensis Maassoumi & Mozaffarian, **sp. nov** e sect. *Incani* DC.

Species ab calycibus, pedunculis, bracteis, stipulis et leguminibus dense albis pilosis vestitus insignis.

Plant c. 20 cm tall, densely covered with symmetric medifixed appressed white straight hairs c. 0.5-0.6 mm long. Caudex c. 10 mm in diameter, with pluricipal root crow, shortly branched, densely covered with remnant of old stipules and petioles. Stipules 4-5 mm long, shortly adnate to the petiole, densely covered with medifixed white appressed hairs. Leaves imparipinnate, 10-12 cm long; petioles 2-4 cm long, similar the rachis

densely covered with white medifixed appressed hairs. Leaflets 6-8 pairs, narrowly elliptic or lanceolate, c. 6-10 mm long and 4-5 mm wide, acute, both sides densely covered with medifixed appressed hairs. Peduncle 10-12 cm long, striate, covered with white symmetric appressed hairs. Bracts triangular, white hairy. c. 3-4 mm long. Pedicels very short, nearly deflexed, c. 2.5 mm long, densely covered with medifixed appressed white hairs. Bracteoles c. 1 mm long, covered with appressed hairs. Calyx tubular, c. 5 mm long, gibbose at the base, densely covered with medifixed appressed white hairs; teeth subulate, c. 3 mm long, densely hairy. Corolla yellow (dry condition). Standard c. 23 mm long; the limb elliptic, subacute, c. 7 mm wide in the middle part; claw c. 8 mm long. Wing c. 20 mm long; the limb obovate, dilated toward the apex, rounded, at the base auriculate; auricle c. 1.5 mm long; claw c. 13 mm long. Keel c. 20 mm long; the limb oblique elliptic, c. 8 mm long, acute; claw c. 12 mm long. Ovary pilose, subsessile. Legumes spreading to pendulous, arcuate, maculate; beak c. 3 mm long straight, ventrally carinate, dorsally sulcate, densely covered with extremely asymmetric appressed to subappressed or spreading white hairs, fully bilocular.



Fig. 1. *Astragalus mehranensis* (x 0.7); flower details (x 1.4).

Type. Ilam: Mehran, c. 10 km from Kavar to Zarrinabad, 747 m, 01.05.2007, N: 32, 54, 33; E: 46, 50, 09, V. Mozaffarian 88397 (holotypus TARI).

Our new species is very close to *A. ancistrocarpus* Boiss. & Hausskn. which was described from Khaneghein area not far from the type locality of the

species, but taxonomically by the type of indumentum, direction of the hairs and other taxonomic characters different from above mentioned species and other allied species such as *A. gudrunensis* Boiss., *A. bordschensis* Bornm.