

# SILENE WENDELBOI (CARYOPHYLLACEAE), A NEW SPECIES

FROM SW. IRAN

M. Assadi

Assadi, M. 1977 05 31: *Silene wendelboi* (Caryophyllaceae), a new species from SW. Iran. *Iran. Journ. Bot.* 1(2): 181-183. Tehran.

*Silene wendelboi* is described as a new species from Khuzestan in SW. Iran. The closest relative to the new species seems to be *S. villosa* Forssk.

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گونه جدید (*Silene wendelboi* (Caryophyllaceae) از جنوب غربی ایران  
از ه اسدی

گونه جدید *Silene wendelboi* از خوزستان در جنوب غربی ایران معرفی میگردد.  
نزدیکترین گونه بآن *Silene villosa* Forssk. است.

***Silene wendelboi* Assadi, sp. nov.**

Annual, radice flavescente perpendiculari c. 12 cm longa; planta conferte dichasialiter ramosissima, omnio glandulosissima, tota glandulosa. Folia carnulosa linearia, acutiuscula, margine ciliata, ad 35 mm longa et c. 2.5 mm lata; internodia foliis multo breviora; bracteae herbaceae folia simulantes. Pedicelli calyce multo breviores. Calyx anguste cylindricus, inferne membranaceus, superne herbaceus, basi umbilicatus, c. 22 mm longus et c. 3 mm latus, dentibus anguste triangularibus c. 3 mm longis obtusiusculis apiculatis, margine membranaceo-ciliolatis. Petala alba, glabra, unguibus e calyce exsertis, lamina ad medium in lacinias obovates bifida, c. 10 mm longa; corona laciniis oblongis dentatis c. 2 mm longis. Stamina calyce exserta. Carpophoro glabro capsula parum longiore, c. 10 mm longo. Semina nigra, reniformia, facie tenuissime radialiter sulcato-striata, margine minute rugulosa, dorso acute canaliculata, 1 x 0.8 mm.

Typus: Persia, prov. Khuzestan, Albaji, 30 m, 28.4 1971, Gheisari 1252 (holotypus TARI).

Annual herb with many repeatedly branched stems forming dense globular masses. Whole plant yellowish green, densely glandular. Leaves fleshy, linear, slightly acute, with ciliate margins, up to 35 mm long and 2.5 mm broad;

internodes much shorter than the leaves. Bracts herbaceous, similar to the leaves. Calyx narrowly cylindrical with umbilicate base, membranaceous in the lower and herbaceous in the upper part, about 22 mm long and 3 mm broad; calyx teeth narrowly triangular about 3 mm long, slightly obtuse, apiculate with membranaceous ciliate margin. Petals white, glabrous, with claws distinctly exserted from calyx; lamina about 10 mm long; bifid up to the middle into obovate segments; coronal scales 2 mm long, oblong, dentate. Stamens exserted from calyx. Carpophore glabrous, somewhat longer than the capsule, about 10 mm long. Seeds black, reniform, the face excentric concave, with very fine radiate furrows, finely rugulose at the margin, dorsally sharply and deeply canaliculate, 1 x 0.8 mm.

*S. wendelboi* is characterized by its habit, forming globose masses with shortly articulated repeatedly divided branches, by its very narrow long calyx with comparatively long and narrow teeth and — last not least — by the sculpture of the seed. The seeds are excentrically depressed and they have a fine dense radiate sculpture on the face; dorsally they are deeply and sharply furrowed. In my opinion the closest relative will be *S. villosa* Forssk. from which it is mainly distinct by the seed character.

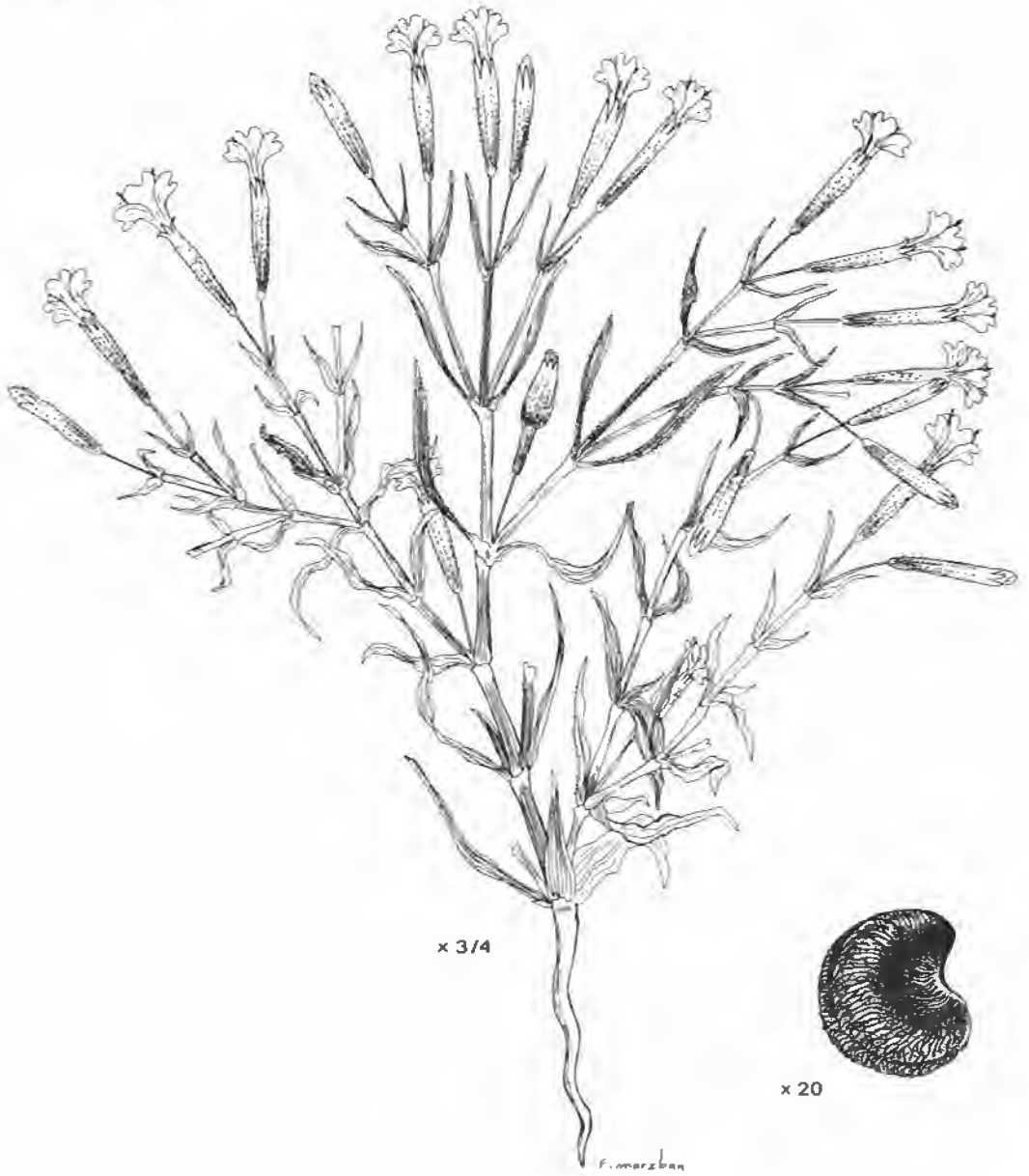


Fig. 1. *Silene wendelboi* (holotypus).