STUDIES ON SAXIFRAGACEAE IN FLORA OF IRAN

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Saxifraga ramsarica is described as a new species for the flora of Iran. S. afghanica Aitch. & Hemsl. var. racemiflora Parsa is treated as a synonym of S. iranica Bornm. and S. mazanderanica Rech. f. is considered as a synonym of S. exarata subsp. moschata (Wulf.) Cavillier

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INTRODUCTION

Revising Saxifragaceae for the Flora of Iran revealed a new species which will be described. By examining the type specimen of *S. mazanderanica* in Rechinger collection in Wien and *S. exarata*, *S. adenophora*, *S. moscoides* and other related species in Boissier herbarium in Geneva and recollecting the specimen from Darfak in north of Iran, it became clear that *S. mazanderanica* should be considered as a synonym of *S. exarata subsp. moschata*. Meanwhile examining the type specimen of *S. afghanica var. racemiflora* Parsa revealed that it is a synonym of *S. iranica* Bornm.

NEW SPECIES

*Saxifraga ramsarica* Jamzad sp. nov.

Planta caespitosa, caudiculis dense imbricatis foliatis. Folia basalia 3.5-4.5x2-3mm, oblonga, obtusa, a basi ad $\frac{3}{5}$ marginis ciliata. Caulis floriferus 1.5-3cm longus, tota longitudine pilis nigro-glandulosus obsita. Inflorescentia monoflora. Calycis laciniae 3-4mm longae, triangulari-ovatae, margine apicem versus glabrae; petala 11mm longa, Obovato-cuneata, margine undulata, 7-10 nervia, prima alba demum subrosea. Stamina petalis breviora. Ovarium semiinferum, pilis glanduliferis obsitus. Stylis divaricatis, staminibus aequantibus. 

*Typus*: Mazanderan; 6 km SW. of Javaherdeh (SW of Ramsar) N. exposed slope, 2750m, Runemark & Maassoumi, no. 20903 (Holo. TARI).

Other specimen seen: 

Mazanderan: Ramsar, Javaherdeh Maassoumi, sine numero.

Perennial, caespitose, caudicle branched, covered by dense imbricate leaves. Basal leaves 3.5-4.5x2.3mm, oblong, obtuse, with 3(5) pits, covered by ciliate hairs on the margin at $\frac{3}{5}$ of the length. Flowering stem 1.5-3cm long, covered by glandular hairs, glands dark, the leaves linear, purple, glandular hairy. Calyx dents 3-4mm long, triangular-ovate, obtuse, glabre. Petals 11x6-7mm, obovate cuneate, undulate with 7-10 nerves, white in young state turning to pale rose later, longer than stamens. Ovary semiinferior, covered by glandular hairs. Style bifid, divaricate, more or less equaling the stamens.

It is close to S.iranica but differs from it in inflorescence which consists of one flower, petals with 7-10 nerves, leaves with 3(5) pits.
Fig. 1. Saxifraga ramsarica Jamzad (nat. size; A. flower x3; B. Petal x3; C. leaf x6)
NEW SYNONYMS

**Saxifraga exarata** Vill subsp. *moschata* (Wulf.) Cavillier, Fl. Alp' Marit., 5: 81(1913)


The *S. exarata* and *S. moschata* complex have been discussed by several authors such as Briquet (1915), Engler & Irmscher (1916), Webb (1987) and Webb & Gornal (1989). These authors mainly concentrated on the materials collected from Europe. In this work the Iranian specimens were studied and compared with the specimens seen in herbarium Boisser and herbarium Rechinger-I came to the conclusion that they belong to *S. exarata* Vill subsp. *moschata* (Wulf.) Cavillier

*Specimens seen:*

Gillan: Djulfeck, Aucher 4545, Lahijan, Siahkal, Kuh-e Darfak 1500-2000m, Jamzad & Asri 71791.- Mazanderan: In valle fluvii Chalus, Pol-e Zanguleh 2200m, Rech. 6323. (typus S. mazanderanica); S. of Ramsar, between Bagh-e dasht and Lapasar, 2900m, Runemark & Maassoumi, 21749; Ca. 50km SW. of Chalous, above the village Delir, 2800m Assadi & Maassoumi 51631; 6km SW. of Javaherdeh, N. exposed slope, 2750m Runemark & Maassoumi 20904; Sang-Deh, 30km SE. Pol-e Sefid, in rocky mountain, 2500-3000m, Renz & Iranshahr 16789-E; Tunekebon, between Janat Rudbar & Chorte to Temel, 1100-2450m Ghahreman & Mozaffarian, no. 9608.

The above mentioned specimens collected from North of Iran can be distinguished by following characters:

They have leaves with three lobels which each of them may sometimes be divided to smaller divisions, non of them have furrows on the upper surface of the lobes, but some veins are seen on undivided part of the leaves. The flowers are cream to greenish white; petals 3-4x1.5-2mm, oblong to narrowly elliptical, obtuse to somewhat acute, slightly longer to 1.5 times as long as sepals.

Glandular hairs are seen with different density and the plants are ± viscous and aromatic.


Syn.: *S. afghanica var. racemosa* Parsa in Flore de l'Iran vol. 2: 674.

*Specimens seen:*

Mazanderan: Ca. 50km SW. of Chalous,
above the village Delir (WA4,WA2), 2800m Assadi & Maassoumi, 51591; Kelardasht, Kuh-e Thakhte Solyman, 3500m, Fotowat, 10156; Ibidem 3600-4200m, Termeh, s.n.; Kojur distr. M. Uloj, 3200-3400m, Rech. 6529; Kojur, Namazgah, 3400m Parsa, s.n. (Typus S. afghanica var. racemiflora Parsa.) The type specimen of S. afghanica var. racemiflora was studied in Parsa herbarium in Tehran University, all the characteristics are identical with S. iranica Bornm.

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