

A NEW SPECIES OF BUPLEURUM (UMBELLIFERAE) FROM GILAN PROVINCE, IRAN

V. Mozaffarian

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A new species of the genus *Bupleurum* from Gilan province is described and illustrated. Morphological peculiarities are mentioned. The new species are compared with the closely related species.

Valiollah Mozaffarian (correspondence <mozaffar@rifr-ac.ir>) Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands P. O. Box 13185-116, Tehran, Iran.

Key words. New species; Umbelliferae; *Bupleurum*; Gilan Province; Iran

یک گونه جدید از جنس *Bupleurum* (Umbelliferae) از گیلان، ایران

ولی‌اله مظفریان، دانشیار پژوهش موسسه تحقیقات جنگلها و مراتع کشور

یک گونه جدید از جنس *Bupleurum* (Umbelliferae) از گیلان، ایران برای علم گیاه‌شناسی شرح داده شده، تصویر آن ارائه می‌گردد.

ویژگی ریخت‌شناسی گونه مذکور و تصویر آن نیز ارائه می‌گردد و با گونه‌های مجاور مقایسه می‌گردد.

INTRODUCTION

During the study on forest flora of Gilan Province the author concluded that the collection of *Bupleurum* from Gilan province (Mozaffarian, 97534, TARI) clearly differs from other Iranian species of the genus. It will be described as a new species and compared with its closely related taxa.

New species

Bupleurum gilanicum Mozaff. sp. nov. (fig. 1).

Perennial, glabrous, rootstock thick, covered by remnants of dead petioles, more or less woody. Stem stout, ascending or erect, 50-60 cm high, leafy, conspicuously striate, branched from near the base. All leaves thick, more or less coriaceous; basal leaves long petiolate, spatulate to orbicular, gradually passing over to oblong-elliptic leaves, margins entire, conspicuously cartilaginous, 8-nerved, secondary nerves reticulate; lower cauline leaves oblong-linear, gradually tapering to long petiole; upper cauline leaves sessile, oblong-linear; uppermost leaves and those subtending branches sessile, oblong-ovate, entire.

Synflorescence paniculate. Bracts 5-6, ovate-elliptic, acuminate. Umbel rays 7-14, unequal, 1. 5-4. 5 cm long, thin. Bracteoles 5-6, similar to bracts, but smaller. Umbellule 15-20-flowered. Pedicels 2-3 mm long. Fruit (submatured) ca. 2×1. 5 mm, becoming brown, pruinose; ribs prominent. Stylopodium depressed-conical; style short, reflexed.

Type: Gilan, Chaboksar, Rahimabad, Eshkevarat, rocky mountain, margin of road after Garmabdasht, close to tunnel. N 36° 51' 42"; E 50° 13' 17"; 475 m a. s. l 29. 4. 2014. V. Mozaffarian, 97534, TARI.

The new species with spatulate, orbicular to broadly elliptic basal leaves is isolated among perennial *Bupleurum* species. It is close to *B. falcatum* subsp. *polyphyllum* from Turkey which is a polymorphic complex with leaves 5-23 mm broad and 5-9 veined. According to Flora of USSR it is close to *B. polyphyllum* (which is considered as a distinct species) and according to Mozaffarian (1991) it is close to *Bupleurum ghahremani* but differ from them by characters showed in the table 1.



Fig. 1. *Bupleurum gilanicum* Mozaff. A, Plant habit; B, fruit.

Table 1. Comparison of characters in *Bupleurum gilanicum*, *Bupleurum polyphyllum* and *Bupleurum ghahremanii*.

Species	Basal leaves	Cauline leaves	Upper cauline leaves	Stem	Bract	Bracteole	Umbell rays
<i>B. gilanicum</i>	Coriaceous, spatulate to orbicular, evidently cartilaginous	Lower oblong-elliptic, median much smaller and narrower than the lower	Sessile oblong-ovate	One	5-6, ovate-elliptic, acuminate	5-6, similar to bracts but smaller	10-14 unequal
<i>B. polyphyllum</i>	Lanceolate or oblanceolate non cartilaginous	Lower similar to basal, median much larger than the lower leaves	Oblong-ovate or broadly lanceolate	One or few to 4-6	1-5, lanceolate, long acuminate	6-12, rarely 5 linear-lanceolate	(3-) 8-12 unequal
<i>B. ghahremanii</i>	Herbaceous, spatulate or oblong-elliptic, obsoletely cartilaginous	Lower and median linear-lanceolate	Bract-like lanceolate or deficient	Few, branching from the base	5, very unequal, lanceolate, to linear-lanceolate	5-6, similar to bracts but smaller	3-6 evidently unequal

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