NEW RECORD OF SAGINA PROCUMBENS L. (CARYOPHYLLACEAE) FROM IRAN

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The genus Sagina L. (Caryophyllaceae) was reviewed during the preparation of Flora of Iran (in Persian). All specimens of Sagina and close taxa were studied and identified in the Herbarium of Research Institute of Forests & Rangelands (TARI). A specimen from SW of Ramsar, W. of Javaher-deh was identified as Sagina procumbens L. which is new for Iran and the Flora Iranica region. Geographical distribution and its illustration are presented here.

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Key words: Carophyllaceae; Sagina new record; Flora Iranica; Iran

INTRODUCTION

The genus Sagina L. (Caryophyllaceae) belongs to tribe Alsineae from subfamily Alsinoideae, has 30 species in the world distributed in Europe, Asia, America and North of Africa (Shi Zhu Ke & al. 2001). Based on Flora Iranica (Rechinger 1988), there are 3 Sagina species in Flora Iranica area and Iran too, namely: S. saginoides (L.) H. Karst., S. micrantha Bunge and S. apetala L. These species are small annual or perennial herbs with slender stem, narrow – linear to linear – acicular sessile, axillary and rosette (in perennials) leaves, and solitary or very lax cyme inflorescence. Capsule splitting to the base in 4 or 5 valve, seed many.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The herbarium materials of the genus Sagina in different herbaria, including the herbarium of Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands (TARI), Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection herbarium (IRAN) and herbarium of Tehran University (TUH), as well as herbarium of Research Center for Plant Sciences of Mashhad University, and the herbaria of Provincial Research Centers of Agriculture and Natural Resources were studied. The specimens were identified using the keys of Flora Iranica (Rechinger 1988), Flora Europaea (Claphan & Jardin 1964), Flora of USSR (Komarov 1970), Flora of Turkey (McNeill in Davis 1967), Flora of Pakistan (Ghazanfar & al. 1986), Flora of North America (Rabeler & Hartman 2005).

NEW RECORD


Herbs perennial, often mat forming, stems few, well branched, up to 7 cm long, slender. Leaves narrowly linear, 4 – 10 mm long, apex attenuate and aristate, in base slightly connate but never forming an inflated cup.
shape, glabrous. Pedicels 1.2 – 2 cm long, filiform, frequently recurved after anthesis and re-erecting in mature capsule, glabrous. Flowers solitary, axillary or terminal, 4 (5) merous. Sepals ovate to broadly ovate or suborbicular, often equal, 1.2 – 2.1 mm long, apex obtuse to rounded, glabrous, attached in flowering and then reflexed in fruit. Petals shorter than sepals or absent. Stamens 4 rarely more. Capsules up to 2.5 mm long, slightly longer than or one third of sepals. Seeds sub-reniform with distinct abaxial groove. Flowering time, beginning of spring to end of summer, (fig. 1).

Geographical distribution: Europe, Turkey, Iran, Caucasus and Siberia, West of Asia, Lebanon.

Specimen examined: Mazandaran, SW of Ramsar, E of Javaherdeh, 1800 m, Runemark and Maassoumi 20745.

Fig. 1. Herbarium specimen of *Sagina procumbens.*

REFERENCES


