SCORZONERA TOMENTOSA L. (ASTERACEAE), A NEW RECORD FOR THE FLORA OF IRAN

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Scorzonera tomentosa L. is reported for the first time from Iran, it has been collected from Kordestan, NW. of Iran.

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INTRODUCTION

The author has worked on the project “Flora of Iran (Asteraceae, Lactuceae)” in the herbarium of Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands (TARI) since 1998. During one of the plant excursions in 2004, a new record of Scorzonera L. was collected from Kordestan mountains, in NW. of the Iran. This specimen have been compared with many specimens of Scorzonera deposited in the Iranian herbaria and matched with descriptions of Scorzonera species in Iran and around countries flora too (Chamberlain, 1975; Komarov, 1964; Rechinger, 1955 and 1977; Safavi & al. 2013) and was compared with many specimens of Scorzonera in the herbaria of TARI, Tehran University (THU) and Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection (IRAN) too. Also, the type materiel of the species was seen by online service of ”Linnean Society of London Herbarium”. After careful consideration, it was concluded that the specimen was a new record for the flora of Iran.

RESULTS


Stout erect caulescent perennial, ± tomentose, 16-40 cm; rootstock thick, cylindrical. Basal and lower stem leaves entire, Lamina 6-12 × 1-5 cm, lanceolate to ovate, 2-6 × as long as broad, sparsely villous-tomentose to densely canescent-pannose, margin often ±...
cartilaginous, sometimes undulate; petioles 0-5 cm. Upper stem leaves often broader than lower, subessile. Capitula 4-10 (-many) per stem, 20-25 mm. long. Outer phyllaries 17-19 mm, arista-lanceolate, lanate; inner 16-21 mm. villous. Flowers yellow. Achene c. 10 × 1 mm., glabrous, ridges acute, smooth to tuberculate; pappus yellow to brownish, hairs barbellate to base, rarely plumose, 2n=12 (Martini & al., 2012). (figs. 1 & 2).

Habitat: Mountainous steppe and rocky slopes and cliffs, 800 to 2800 m.

Distribution: An Ir.-Tur. element belongs to Turkey and NW. Iran (map 1).

DISCUSSION

*Scorzonera tomentosa* is similar to *Scorzonera veratrifolia* Fenzl, which is distributed in Turkey, Iran (Azerbaijan & Kordestan) and Iraq (Safavi & al. 2013). It belongs to subgen. *Scorzonera*, sect. Nerrosae Lipsch. too. It differs from *S. veratrifolia* in the following aspects: Plant ± tomentose (not pannose); stem 16-40 cm (not 20-70 cm); with basal leaves (not without basal leaves); lower leaves lamina lanceolate to ovate (not lanceolate to elliptical), 6-12 × 1-5 cm (not 10-14 × 2-4); capitula outer phyllaries 16-21 mm (not 14-17); achene c. 10 × 1 mm (not 8-10× 1 mm.); Pappus yellow to brownish (not light yellow), (figs. 1 & 2).

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Fig. 1. Image of herbarium specimen of *Scorzonera tomentosa* L. (TARI).
A new record of Scorzonera for the flora of Iran

Fig. 2. Achene and capitule of *Scorzonera tomentosa* L. (106218-TARI).

Map 1. Distribution of *Scorzonera tomentosa* L. in Iran.
REFERENCES
Linnean Society of London Herbarium: http://linnean-online.org/9561/