

COUSINIA (SECT. ALBIDAE) IRANSHAHRIANA (ASTERACEAE, CARDUEAE), A NEW ENDEMIC SPECIES FROM KURDISTAN PROVINCE, IRAN

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Cousinia iranshahriana (sect. *Albidae*) collected from rocky hills of Baneh, Kurdistan province, is described as a new species and photographed. It is compared with its closest relative, *C. bachtiarica*.

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Key words. *Cousinia*, Iran, Kurdistan, section *Albidae*, new species.

گونه جدید *Cousinia iranshahriana* (خانواده کاسنی) از استان کردستان، ایران

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یک گونه جدید انحصاری از بخش آلبیده از جنس کوزینیا از ارتفاعات صخره ای بانه از استان کردستان تحت نام کوزینیا ایرانشهریانا همراه با عکس شرح داده می‌شود. نزدیک‌ترین گونه به این گونه جدید احتمالاً گونه کوزینیا بختیاریکا از استان چهار محال بختیاری است.

Introduction

Section *Albidae* Rech. f., represented by nine species in Flora Iranica (Rechinger 1972). All members of this section are endemic to SW Iran, distributed in provinces Fars, Lorestan and Bachtari. The most characteristic features of the section are grey habit by having tomentose-canescenscent indumentum, number of flowers per head (20-40), yellow corolla, exappendiculate bracts and smooth bristles.

The first author has reviewed the sect. *Albidae* in project of Flora of Iran (Assadi 1989)). This study is based on specimens of some herbaria: TUH, TARI and Herbarium of Research Center of Agriculture and Natural Resources of Kurdistan province, Sanandaj, also field investigations.

The present paper describes a new species, *Cousinia iranshahriana* Attar & Maroofi, identified after herbarium study of collected materials.

***Cousinia iranshahriana* Attar & Maroofi, sp. nov.** (Fig. 1).

Holotypus. Iran: Kurdistan: 15-25 km Baneh to Maryvan, Gozeh-Koreh pass, 1850 m, 26.06.2006 Maroofi 7630 (Kurdistan herbarium); Isotypus TARI.

Suffruticoso-caespitosa, usque ad 20 cm alta, tomentoso-canescenscentia, cinerea. Caulis albus, foliosus, pauciramosus. Folia concoloria, coriacea; folia basalia breviter petiolata, oblongo-elliptica, lobata; folia caulina decurrentia (1.5-2.5 cm), lobata; folia summa capitulis approximata. Capitula 2 cm diam. ± 20-flora; involucrem 1-1.5 cm longum, 1-1.5 cm latum, araneosum; phylla ± 115, exappendiculata; phylla exteriora et intermedia erecto-patentia, margine serrulata, acuta, trequetra; phylla interiora lata, oblonga, alba, attenuata, margine lacerata; phylla intima linearia. Receptaculi setae leaves. Corolla flava, ± 14 mm longa, tubo limbum subequante, laciniis 3-4 mm longis; antherarum tubus flavus. Achaenia 5 x 1.5-1.6 mm, atro-brunnea, rugoso-reticulata, apice denticulata.

Caespitose-suffrutescent, densely tomentose, canescenscent-grey. Stem up to 20 cm high, white, leafy, few branched in upper part. Leaves concolored, coriaceous; basal leaves oblong-elliptic, with short petiole, lobed; stem leaves long decurrent, lobed (1.5-2.5 cm); uppermost leaves close to capitula. Capitula 2 cm in diam., ± 20-flowered; involucrem 1-1.5 cm long,



Fig. 1. *Cousinia iranshahriana*.

1-1.5 cm wide, arachnoid; bracts \pm 115; outer and median bracts erect-spreading, serrulate at the margin, acute, triquetrous; inner bracts broader, oblong, white, gradually attenuate toward the apex, lacerate at margin; innermost bracts linear. Receptacle bristles smooth. Corolla yellow, \pm 14 mm long; limb as long as tube; lobes 3-4 mm long. Anther tube concolored. Achene 5 \times 1.5-1.6 mm, dark brown, wrinkled-reticulate, denticulate above.

Other specimen seen: Kurdistan: road of Baneh to Marivan, Southe, 2050 m, 13.07.1991, Mozaffarian 70054 (TARI).

Relationships. *Cousinia iranshahriana* is probably related to *C. bachtiarica* Boiss. & Hausskn. The most important characteristic features of *C. iranshahriana* are as follow: flowers \pm 20 (not 30-35); bracts \pm 115 (not 70-80); limb as long as tube (not obviously longer than tube); anther tube yellow (not pink).

It should be noted that unlike other members of the section *Albidae* Rech. f., the new species is distributed in Kordestan province, known only from a small area in

Baneh, where it was found on rocky slopes at an altitude about 2000 m.

Etymology. The specific epithet is named in honour of Dr. Musa Iranshahr, professor of Botany of Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection.

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