

VENTENATA KOELER, A NEW GENUS (GRAMINEAE: POOIDEAE) RECORD FOR IRAN

B. Hamzeh'ee, F. Ghahremaninejad, M. Bidar Lord & F. Attar

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Ventenata dubia (Leers) Cosson belongs to the family *Gramineae* is recorded for the first time as a new genus for the flora of Iran. This taxon has been collected from Ardabil province (Lisar Protected Area of Gilan and Sardabeh Ardabil) in NNW of Iran for the first time. Its characteristics, localities, habitat, and geographical distribution are discussed.

Behnam Hamzeh'ee (correspondence), Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands, P. O. Box 13185-116, Tehran, Iran.— Farrokh Ghahremaninejad & Mahmoud Bidar Lord, Dept. of Biology, Tarbiat Moallem University, Mofatteh Avenue, Tehran, Iran.— Farideh Attar, Central Herbarium, Dept. of Botany, School of Biology, College of Sciences, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran.

Key words. *Ventenata*, *Gramineae*, new record, Iran.

Ventenata Koeler، گزارش جنسی جدید برای فلور ایران

بهنام حمزه، مربی پژوهش مؤسسه تحقیقات جنگلها و مراتع کشور.

فرخ قهرمانی نژاد، دانشیار گروه زیست‌شناسی دانشگاه تربیت معلم.

محمود بیدار لرد، دانشجوی کارشناسی ارشد گروه زیست‌شناسی دانشگاه تربیت معلم.

فریده عطار، دانشیار دانشکده زیست‌شناسی دانشگاه تهران.

گونه *Ventenata dubia* (Leers) Cosson از تیره گرامینه برای اولین بار از ایران گزارش می‌گردد. این گونه از استان اردبیل (منطقه حفاظت شده لیسار گیلان و سردابه اردبیل) جمع‌آوری شده است. ویژگیها، محل جمع‌آوری، رویشگاه و پراکنش جغرافیایی آن توضیح داده می‌شود.

Introduction

During floristic investigations, some interesting grass specimens were collected from a part of Lisar Protected Area, Gilan province and Sardabeh Ardabil, Ardabil province, Iran. Among them some specimens could not be identified using the account of *Gramineae* Flora Iranica (Bor 1970) and *Flore de l'Iran* (Parsa 1948). Eventually, using the generic account in the Flora of Turkey (Davis 1985) and Grasses of the Soviet Union (Tsvelev 1983), two specimens were identified as *Ventenata dubia* (Leers) Cosson (fig.1) in the herbarium of Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands (TARI). The genus is the first record for the flora of Iran. The record is not so surprising since the species also grows at an high altitudes of Caucasus, rather close to the Iranian gatherings. The genus *Ventenata* Koeler includes 6 species in the world

(Mabberley 1997). The specimens are preserved in TARI and FAR)

Ventenata dubia (Leers) Cosson – Fig. 1.

Gilan Province: Lisar Protected Area, northern slope of altitudes around N Subatan village, 37° 57' 59" N, 48° 42' 51" E, 1871 m, 15.9.2007, M. Bidar Lord 1611 and 1450; Ardabil Province: Sardabeh Ardabil, 1800 m, 5. 8.1993, Y. Youssefi, 8337.

Annual. Stem ca. 46 cm high, glabrous. Ligule membranous, lacerate. Panicle pyramidal, open; branches 4-9 cm long, with 1-3 spikelets borne subterminally; pedicels clavate, scabrid all over. Spikelets laterally compressed, with 2-3 florets. Glumes unequal, lanceolate, acuminate, with 5-7 distinct scabrid veins. Lowest lemma terminating to an aristate point c. 2.5 mm; callus hairs to 1.5 mm long,



Fig. 1. *Ventenata dubia* (X0.87); details from below to top are glumes, lemmas, palea, spikelet (x6).

dense. Upper lemma terminating in 2 setae to 2-3 mm long, awned from back; awn ca. 9-17 mm long, geniculate and twisted. Anther 1.2-1.5 mm.

Flowering & Fruiting: May-July.

General distribution. C. Europe, Atlantic Europe (southern part), Mediterranean area (except E), Crimea, Caucasus, S. Russia.

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