

A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS CALLIGONUM L. (POLYGONACEAE) FROM IRAN

A. A. Maassoumi & H. Batooli

Received 01.08.2009. Accepted for publications 02.12.2009

Maassoumi, A. A. & H. Batooli 2009 12 30: A new species of the Genus *Calligonum* L. (*Polygonaceae*) from Iran.- *Iran. J. Bot.* 15 (2): 153-153. Tehran.

Calligonum spinosetosum is described as a new species from Esfahan province, northern deserts of Aran & Bidgol. The new species is distinguishable from all other Iranian species by having spiny dichotomous ca. 6 mm long fruiting bristles.

Ali Asghar Maassoumi (correspondence), Research Institute of Forests & Rangelands, P. O. Box. 13185-116, Tehran, Iran. -Hossien Batooli, Research Center of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Esfahan province, Herbarium of Kashan Botanical Garden, P. O. Box. 487, Kashan, Iran.

Key words. *Calligonum*, *Polygonaceae*, new species, Kashan, Iran.

Calligonum L.

گونه *Calligonum spinosetosum* به عنوان گونه بومی و جدید از استان اصفهان، بیابانهای شمال آران و بیدگل نامگذاری و معرفی می‌گردد. این گونه با همه گونه های ایرانی با داشتن تارهای میوه سوزنی، دوشاخه با حدود ۶ میلی متر طول متمایز می‌گردد.

Introduction

In a floristic study on desert plants of Aran and N. Bidgol in Kashan area, a new species of the genus *Calligonum* L. was found. This species is gathered in high altitude on the alluvial soils of Aran and Bidgol. The type specimens are preserved in TARI and the herbarium of Kashan Botanical Garden.

Calligonum spinosetosum Maassoumi & Batooli, sp. nov.

Species nova ab aliis speciebus Iranicae setis spinosis dichotomis ca. 6 mm longis insignis.

Typus. Esfahan, Kashan, Sefid-ab to Siah Kuh, 1200 m, 10.6.2009, Batooli, s. n. (holotypus TARI, Isotypus Kashan Herbarium).

Shrub with lax ramification, ca. 100-130 cm high; woody branches spreading, shortly flexuous, gray or brownish; herbaceous branchlets of current year gray to green, articulated, ca. 2-4 cm. long. Leaves linear, readily deciduous, 3-4 mm long, adnate to the ocrea; ocrea vaginate, membranaceous. Pedicel 1.5 mm long, curved, slender, articulated below the middle. Flowers 2, adnate to the leaf axil, white. Tepals deflexed in fruiting time, ovate, ca. 4 mm long. Fruits yellowish gray, broadly winged with hard spiny setae at the margin, elliptic, including the bristles ca. 20 mm long and 17 mm wide. Achenes narrowly to broadly ellipsoid, ca. 10-12 mm long and 5 mm wide, with

straight or shortly twisted furrows, always bearing 4 wings; wings ca. 2-3 mm wide, obscurely with transverse nerves, glabrous on the surface, with setiferous margins; main wing flattened at the margin and divided into two lateral subsidiary wings and then appearing biseriate bristles; subsidiary wings strict, wide and with spiniform bristles ca. 6 mm long. Spiny bristles remote, stiff, simple or dichotomously branched, broadly flattened at the base, always jointed at the base to each others, smooth.

Acknowledgement

The authors wish to thank Miss. Z. Batooli the artist in Kashan University of Medical Sciences and Health Services for drawing the illustration.

References

- Rechinger, K. H. & Schiman-Czeika, H. 1968. Polygonaceae in K. H. Rechinger Flora Iranica no. 56. – Graz.

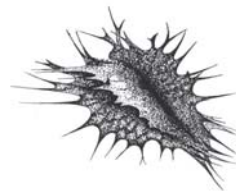


Fig. 1. Fruit of *Calligonum spinosetosum*.

