

A NEW RECORD, GALATELLA LITVINOVII (ASTERACEAE) FROM IRAN, N KHORASSAN PROVINCE

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For the genus *Galatella* Cass. only one species (*G. punctata*) was reported from NW Iran (Eastern Azerbaijan province) in Flora Iranica treatment based on three specimens. *Galatella litvinovii* Novopokr. is recorded here from Iran (N. Khorassan province) for the first time. The species was formerly endemic for the Central Asia (Turkmenistan and Kirgizstan).

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Key words. *Galatella*, *G. litvinovii*, Iran, Khorassan province, new record.

مرجانه آیدانی، محمدرضا جوهرچی و فرخ قهرمانی نژاد

گزارش جدید گونه *Galatella litvinovii* از ایران، استان خراسان شمالی

برای جنس *Galatella* Cass. تنها یک گونه (*G. punctata*) بر اساس ۳ نمونه در شمال غرب ایران (استان آذربایجان شرقی) در فلور ایرانیکا گزارش شده است. در این مقاله گونه *Galatella litvinovii* Novopokr. برای اولین بار از ایران (شمال استان خراسان) گزارش می شود. این گونه قبلاً انحصاری آسیای مرکزی (ترکمنستان و قرقیزستان) بوده است.

Introduction

The genus *Galatella* Cass., with a distribution range from South and Central Europe to considerable parts of Asia (Shishkin 1959) consists only one species in Flora Iranica treatment (Grierson & Rechinger 1982), *G. punctata* (Waldst. & Kit.) Nees, distributed in W Iran. This species was recorded only from three localities in eastern Azerbaijan province, Iran. The species is widely distributed from Central Europe to W Iran.

During studies on the flora of Darkesh area and around it, in N. Khorassan province we found some specimens of the genus *Galatella* that were different from *G. punctata*. The specimens belong to *Galatella litvinovii* Novopokr. This species was distributed exclusively in Central Asia, Turkmenistan and Kirgizstan (Shishkin 1959). Therefore our specimens increase range of distribution of Iran.

Galatella litvinovii Novopokr. in Tr. Bot. Inst. AN SSSR, ser. 1, 7 (1948) 130. Fig. 1, 2.

Specimens seen. Iran, Khorassan province: Bojnord, between Darkesh and Havar, 1500 m, 28.09.2004, Joharchi & Aydani 35738 (FUMH, FAR).

Perennial, 30-100 cm high. Stem solitary or numerous, erect. Leaves oblong to linear-lanceolate, to 8 cm long. Heads in slightly loose, rarely rather dense, with 14-20 florets, 8-10 mm long. Involucres obconical; bracts light-yellowish-green with darker greenish middle nerve, dorsally subglabrous. Ligulate florets 4-8 in number. Achene 3-4 mm long. Pappus 6-7 mm long.

An identification key of the genus *Galatella* in Iran

1. The inner most involucre bracts attenuate-acuminate at apex, pappus 6-7 mm long, ligulate florets light pinkish-violet (NE. Iran)..... ***Galatella litvinovii***
+ The inner most involucre bracts blunt or obtuse at apex, pappus 4.5-6 mm long, ligulate florets pinkish-violet (NW. Iran) ***Galatella punctata***

References

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Fig. 1. *Galatella litvinovii*.