

TARAXACUM AURANTIACUM (ASTERACEAE), A NEW RECORD FOR THE FLORA OF IRAN

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Taraxacum aurantiacum Dahlst that has been collected from Azerbaijan and Hamadan provinces is reported as a new species from Iran.

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Key words. *Taraxacum*, *Lactuceae*, *Asteraceae*, new record, taxonomy, Iran.

گزارش گونه *Taraxacum aurantiacum* Dahlst برای اولین بار از ایران

عفت جعفری و مصطفی اسدی

گونه *Taraxacum aurantiacum* که از استان‌های همدان و آذربایجان غربی جمع‌آوری شده‌است برای اولین بار از ایران گزارش می‌گردد.

Introduction

The genus *Taraxacum* belongs to *Crepidinae* subtribe, *Lactuceae* tribe and *Asteraceae* family. This taxon includes 2000 species which distribute all over the world. According to Flora Iranica (Van Soest 1978) there are 11 sections with 54 species, 2 subspecies and 6 forms in the different regions of Iran among them 9 species are endemic. *Taraxacum* generally grows in sites such as mountains, steppe, at river sides, margin of lakes, field edges, margin of garden, and road sides. The genus distributes in north, north-western, west, center and north eastern of Iran and also in Afghanistan, Asia minor, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Turkmenistan, Europe (south eastern part), western Asia, central Asia, Siberia (west part), Caucasus, Anatolia, India, Greece, Armenia and Cyprus. In this search we recognized *Taraxacum aurantiacum* as a new record for the flora of Iran. It was previously recorded only from Afghanistan in Flora Iranica (Van Soest 1976).

The specimens was collected from Azerbaijan and Hamadan Provinces. The feature of new record is explained here.

Taraxacum aurantiacum Dahlst

Azerbaijan: Khoy, Girnoran, 2800 m, Haydari, Falahi and Alizadeh 2063; Hamadan: ca 70 km from Bijar to

Hamadan, before the village Ghahrod, 1800 m, Assadi 61018.

Perennial, subglabrous, 17- 29 cm high. Leaves entire, sublobate or obovate. Scape often with hairs. Involucre oblong, brown-green, outer phyllaries triangular, brown with pink strips, white margin and cornet. Floret yellow in dried condition. Achene light green or cream with green strips, 4- 4.5 mm long, with short and sharp tubercles in upper half, without pyramid form; beak 1.2- 1.5 mm long; Pappus 4-5 mm long; often dirty white.

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Fig. 1. *Taraxacum aurantiacum* (x1); achene (X8).