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ASTRALGUS GABRIEIIANAE (FABACEAE) – A NEW ENDEMIC SPECIES FROM ARMENIA

A new to science endemic species Astragalus gabrielianae Arevschatian (Subgen. Cercidothrix Bunge, sect. Onobrychoidei DC.) from Yerevan floristic region of Armenia is described and illustrated.


The described species of Astragalus belongs to Subgen. Cercidothrix Bunge, section Onobrychoidei DC., which until recently was represented in Southern Transcaucasia by 13 species (Arevschatian, 2013). The new species was collected for the first time at 1946 in Ararat region of Armenia (Yerevan floristic region). Further collections took place in 1947, 1948, 1949, 1998 nearly in the same place.

Astragalus gabrielianae Arevschatian, sp. nova

Gray subshrubs 10–28 cm lg. Caudex with short branches. Stems represented by vegetative and generative shoots. Vegetative shoots numerous, slender; geniculate, prostrate to ascending, branched, with approximate internodes, densely covered with medifixed appressed white and black or only white hairs 0,5–0,8 mm lg. Stipules 2–4 mm lg., membranous, sparsely covered with black and white hairs or glabrous, at base or up to middle connate, on the free part triangular-lanceolate or triangular. Leaves 1–3(4) cm lg., ovate or oblong-ovate, subsessile or with a petiole less than 1 cm lg.; axis thin, covered with appressed white or with white and a few black hairs. Leaflets in 5–13 pairs, elliptic, oblong-obovate or obovate, obtuse, on both sides densely covered with medifixed or submedifixed appressed white hairs 1–1,5(2) mm lg., and rarely with a few black hairs along the midrib; lower leaflets 2–8 mm lg., 1,5–2 mm wide, upper ones 1,5–5 mm lg., 1–1,5 mm wide. Peduncles 1–4 cm lg., thin, covered with appressed black and white or only white hairs 0,5–1 mm lg. Racemes 8–20 flowered, initially dense, slightly elongating and loosing when fruiting. Bracts lanceolate or triangular lanceolate, 1–3 mm lg., membranous, sparsely covered with black and white hairs, sometimes with small glands at the margins. Pedicels about 1 mm lg. Calyx 6–8 mm lg., tubular-campanulate, covered with appressed or subappressed medifixed black hairs 0,5–1 mm lg., and appressed, subappressed or patent submedifixed or strongly asymmetrical white hairs 0,5–1,5 mm lg.; tube indistinctly verrucose or not; teeth linear, (1,5) 2–4 mm lg., verrucose and ciliate on the margins. Petals light pink-violet; vexillum 9–15 (17) mm lg., blade elliptic, 6 mm wide in the middle, gradually narrowing towards the truncate or slightly emarginate apex and cuneately narrowing at the base; wings 8–10 mm lg., blades auriculate, elliptic, 3,5–4 mm lg., 2 mm wide; claves as long as the blades. Ovary bilocular, with about 10 ovules, sessile, narrowly oblong, densely covered with white hairs; style hairy only at the base, 5–6 mm lg. Legume bilocular, with 1–10 seeds – sessile, 6–9 mm lg. (without rostellum), ovate or oblong ovate, ventrally carinate, dorsally grooved, gradually attenuate into a recurved rostellum 3–4 mm lg., with a long persistent style; valves densely covered with appressed medifixed white hairs 0,5 mm lg., and submedifixed and strongly asymmetrical patent

Photo 1

Holotype of Astragalus gabrielianae
COTONEASTER ASSADII (ROSACEAE), A NEW SPECIES FOR THE FLORA OF THE CAUCASUS

Cotoneaster assadii Khrt., a new species for the flora of the Caucasus has been found. The species occurs in Sevan and Darelegis floristic regions of Armenia.

Cotoneaster assadii, new species, flora of the Caucasus

Affinitas: Differentia a specie proxima Cotoneaster assadii (Rosaceae) ḳρύπνην πυρήναν ෺才知道

Distribution: Northern Iran and Southern Transcaucasia (Armenia). In Armenia the species occurs in Sevan and Darelegis floristic regions.

Investigated specimens:

Armenia, obl. Gagarunkin, єв. вост. побережьє оз. Севан, небоезное ущелье с остаточными лесом напротив д / о «Ласточка», [Армения, Гегаркуниккі регіон, НВ, озеро Севан], малогорье с редким лесом против д / о «Ласточка».

References

Aresvatchian I. G. 2013. The subsgenus Cercidothrix of the genus Astragalus in Southern Transcaucasia // Takhtajania, 2, p. 36 (in Russ.) (Аревщацин И. Г. 2013. Подрод Cercidothrix роду Astragalus (Fabaceae) в Южном Закавказье // Takhtajania, 2, стр. 36)

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Typus: “Iran, Mazanderan, Siahbisheh, S. slopes, 2200 m, Khatamsaz & Assadi 43257”, holotype.

Shrub, 1,5-2,5 m with upright branches; young branches dark cherry coloured, slightly waxy; mature branches grayish-brownish. Leaves ovoid, 2-3 x 1,5-2,5 cm, pubescent on both sides. Inflorescence white pubescent, with 3-10 wide cupulate flowers 8-10 mm in diameter. Petals spreading, milky-white, with undulated margin and bunch of hairs in the base. Stamens 16-20; filaments and anthers white. Fruits oblong-ovate, rarely almost globose, 6-9 x 4-4,5 mm, yellowish-orange, with a thin flesh, sparsely pubescent mainly in upper part. Sepals pubescent outside, navel open. Nutlets 2; hypostyle covering 1/4-1/3 of dorsal side of nutlet; styles remaining at the apex. Fl. VI, Fr. XI. (Fig.1-4).

Open dry stony slopes, open woodlands, 1600-2000 m above sea level.

Distribution: Northern Iran and Southern Transcaucasia (Armenia). In Armenia the species occurs in Sevan and Darelegis floristic regions.

Investigated specimens: