

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

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Calligonum eriopodum Bunge is recorded from south Khorassan province in Ghaen area. The new record is taxonomically isolated among the known species of Iran.

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Key words. *Calligonum*, *Polygonaceae*, new record, Khorassan, Iran.

گزارش جدید از جنس *Calligonum* L. در ایران

حسن امیرآبادی زاده و غلامرضا حسینی بمرود، کارشناسان مرکز تحقیقات کشاورزی و منابع طبیعی استان خراسان رضوی. علی اصغر معصومی، استاد پژوهش مؤسسه تحقیقات جنگلها و مراتع کشور.

با مشاهده و شناسایی نمونه‌های هرباریوم مرکز تحقیقات کشاورزی و منابع طبیعی استان خراسان رضوی، گونه *C. eriopodum* Bunge شناسایی و در اینجا به عنوان گزارش جدید از استان خراسان جنوبی منطقه زیرکوه قاین برای ایران معرفی می‌گردد. این گونه از نظر صفات تاکسونومی با همه گونه‌های *Calligonum* در ایران تفاوت دارد.

Introduction

During the identification of the unknown materials which were collected in 2010 in Mashhad herbarium, a new record to Iran namely *Calligonum eriopodum* Bunge came to the light.

This new record taxonomically is isolated among the known species of Iran. The fruits of this species sparsely covered with long bristles, these are three times dichotomously branched. In addition, the achenes surface is densely covered with short imbricate scales. These features separate this species from all existing taxa of Iran. *Calligonum eriopodum* has been planted in Mashhad Botanic Garden since three years ago. Herbarium materials are preserved in TARI and the Herbarium of Mashhad.

Calligonum eriopodum Bunge, Mem. Acad. St. Petersbourg sav. Etrang. VII 486 (1851) (Fig. 1).

Shrubs with lax ramification, c. 5 m tall; woody branches shortly flexuous. Stems gray; herbaceous branchlets of the current year gray, articulated, c. 2-3 cm long. Leaves linear, deciduous, 3 mm long; ocrea vaginate, membranaceous. Pedicel 6 mm long, curved, slender, articulated below the middle, sparsely

papilose. Flowers 2, adnate to leaf axil, white. Tepals deflexed in fruiting time. Fruit brownish, setose, elliptic, including the bristles c. 25 mm long and 30 mm wide. Achenes narrowly ellipsoid, c. 12 mm long and 5 mm wide; furrow shortly twisted; bristles c. 15 mm long, in 8 rows, remote, free at the base, flexible, three times dichotomously branched; surface of achene densely covered with short truncate, imbricate scales.

Distribution. *Calligonum eriopodum* widely distributed in Central Asia, Aral Caspian and in Kara Amu desert. This species for the first time was described from Kyzyl Kum desert.

Based on this new collection, distribution pattern of the species extend to south Khorassan, Ghaen area where there are several native species such as *C. paletzianum* Litw., *C. griseum* Eug. Kor. Ex Pavl. and *C. turkestanicum* (Eug. Kor.) Pavl.

Specimen seen: Khorassan: Ghaen, Zir Kuh, Cheshmeh Bid to Chah-Zoghal, N: 33,19; E: 60,29, 690 m, 16.06.1390 (2011), Amirabadi & Hosseini 95787 (TARI).

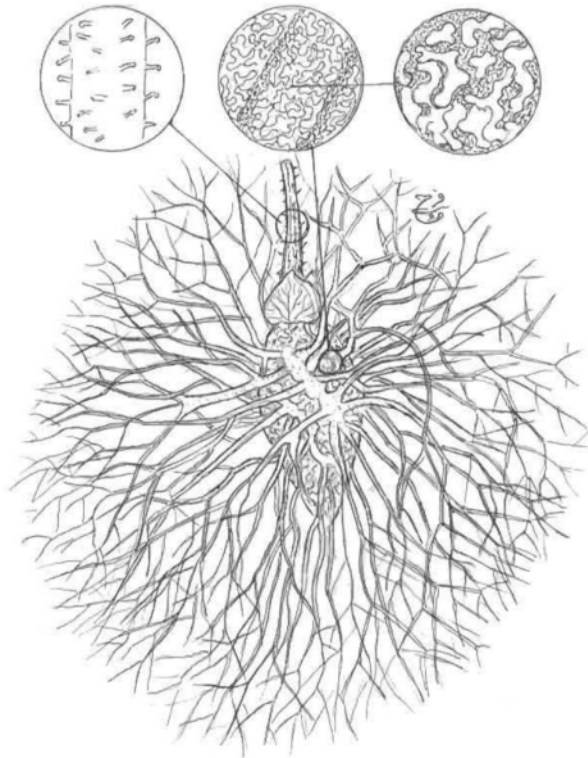


Fig.1. Fruit of *Calligonum eriopodium* ($\times 3.5$); scales on the achene (two right) and papillose pedicel (left).

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