

A New Record From Turkey: *Ranunculus bulbiferus* Boiss. et Hoh.

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Abstract : *Ranunculus bulbiferus* Boiss. & Hoh. (*Ranunculaceae*) is recorded for the first time (B9 Van) for the flora of Turkey.

Key Words: *Ranunculus*, new record, Turkey, *Ranunculaceae*

Türkiye İçin Yeni Bir Kayıt: *Ranunculus bulbiferus* Boiss. & Hoh.

Özet : *Ranunculus bulbiferus* Boiss. & Hoh. (*Ranunculaceae*) türü Türkiye' den (B9 Van) ilk defa kaydedilmiştir.

Anahtar Sözcükler: *Ranunculus*, yeni kayıt, Türkiye, *Ranunculaceae*

Introduction

During floristic investigations, the author collected some interesting *Ranunculus* specimens from Erek mountain (Van - East Anatolia). Among them was a species which could not be identified using the account in the Flora of Turkey vol. 1 (Davis, 1965). Eventually, using the generic account in the Flora of Iraq (Townsend, 1980), the specimens were identified as *Ranunculus bulbiferus* Boiss. & Hohen. (Figure 1). It was a new record for the Flora of Turkey. The record is not surprising since the species also grows at high altitudes on Algurd Dag in nearby north Iraq.

Ranunculus bulbiferus Boiss. & Hoh. in Boiss., Diagn. Ser. 1,8: 3 (1849); Fl. Orient. 1: 26 (1967); Bornm. In Beih. Bot. Centralbl. 28 (2): 94 (1911); Zoh. In Dep. Agr. Iraq Bull. 31: 59 (1950); Blakelock in Kew Bull. 9: 480 (1954); Rawi in Dep. Agr. Iraq. Tech. Bull. 14: 20 (1964).

Glabrous perennial, 6-14 cm, root system of stout, oblong or fusiform tubers (2-7 cm) and fibrous roots, short stock with silky scales. Stem, slender, striate, unbranched or branched above; branches 1-flowered.

Basal leaves with petiole to c. 9 cm long; lamina pedately tripartite or trisect; segments divided into obtuse, ovate or oblong lobes; stem leaves with a conspicuous, round bulbil 2 – 2.5 mm diam. in dilated basal sheath of petiole. Sepals broadly oblong to ovate, obtuse, 4-6 mm, glabrous, spreading, greenish - yellow. Petals obovate, retuse at apex or not, claved, 6-8.5 mm. Fruiting head orbicular-ovate, 4-5 mm. Mature achenes compressed laterally, semiorbicular without tubercles, glabrous, 3-4 x 2.5-3 mm. Fl. & Fr. 5-7. High rocky mountain slopes, by snow, on limestone and basalt, 2000-3100 m.

Turkey. East Anatolia, B9 Van Erek mountain southeast of Çoravanis village, around Çilehane region, 2000-2200 m, 15 v 2000, L. Behçet 6242; same place, 27 v 2000, L. Behçet B 6254.

The herbarium specimens are deposited at VANF.

Discussion

Ranunculus bulbiferus is distributed in N Iraq, N & NW Iran and SE Turkey. It is similar to the geographically distant W Turkey and Cyprus *R. cadmicus* Boiss., but



Figure 1. *Ranunculus bulbiferus*: a & b- habit, c- mature achene (Behçet 6242).

differs in its stem leaves with one or two conspicuous round bulbils 2-3 mm diam. in the dilated basal sheath of the petiole, achenes 3-3.5 x 2.8-3 mm (not c. 2 mm).

In the Flora of Iraq (2), it is reported that the length of *R. bulbilliferus* is 6 – 10 cm, its petiole of basal leaves is up to 4 cm and the form of its basal leaf lamina varies

from peltate to flabellate. However, the length is up to 14 cm, the petiole 9 cm and the lamina is formed as pedately tripartite or trisect in our specimens.

Total species of *Ranunculus* L. in Turkey reaches 86 with the addition of *R. bulbilliferus*.

References

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