

***Teucrium chasmophyticum* Rech. f. (Lamiaceae): A New Record for the Flora of Turkey**

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Abstract: An interesting chasmophytic *Teucrium* specimen was collected from Siirt, SE Turkey. It was identified according to the Flora of Turkey as *T. paederotoides* but with some doubt about certain characters. It was identified as *T. chasmophyticum* without any doubt from Flora Iranica. Because of some indistinct points between these 2 taxa, the recently described taxon was re-evaluated. The type specimen of the taxon was examined at W herbarium and its revised description is given here. A photograph of the type specimen and the Turkish material taken from the field is supplied along with a map.

Key Words: *Lamiaceae*, *Teucrium*, Turkey, Flora

***Teucrium chasmophyticum* Rech. f. (Lamiaceae): Türkiye Florası İçin Yeni Bir Kayıt**

Özet: *Teucrium* cinsine ait ilginç bir kaya bitkisi Türkiye'den (Siirt) toplanmıştır. Örnekler Türkiye Florası'ndan *T. paederotoides* olarak adlandırılmıştır, ancak bazı özelliklerin uymadığı görülmüştür. Aynı örnekler Flora Iranica'dan *T. chasmophyticum* olarak tanımlanmış ve türün betimine uyduğu görülmüştür. Bununla birlikte iki türün birbirine çok yakın olduğu ve sonra tanımlanan türün bazı sorunlara sahip olduğu görülerek tartışılmıştır. *T. chasmophyticum*'un tip örneği Viyana (W) herbaryumunda incelenmiş ve türün yeniden gözden geçirilmiş bir betimi hazırlanmıştır. Tip örneğinin ve Türkiye'den toplanmış örneğin arazide çekilmiş fotoğrafları harita ile birlikte verilmiştir.

Anahtar Sözcükler: *Lamiaceae*, *Teucrium*, Türkiye, Flora

Introduction

An interesting *Teucrium* specimen was observed on rock crevices around one of the villages of Eruh (Siirt) in eastern Turkey. Because of the unusual habit of the specimen it was photographed and the other rock surfaces were examined to see whether there were more specimens. Further studies on the specimen inferred that it is closely allied to *T. paederotoides* Boiss. & Haussk. given by Ekim in the Flora of Turkey (1982). There were some discrepancies (e.g., viscid indumentum and petal colour) between the description and the specimens; hence it was compared with the *Teucrium* account in Flora Iranica (Rechinger, 1982). The specimens were identified as *T. chasmophyticum* Rech. f., described from N. Iraq by Rechinger (1982). The type specimen of the species was

deposited at Vienna herbarium and it was examined for more reliable identification. Comparisons of the specimens collected from Turkey and type specimen of the taxon showed that they were identical and it is regarded as a new record for the Turkish flora. In addition, further studies on the literature of *T. paederotoides*, *T. chasmophyticum* and the Turkish material have led to some doubts about the recently described species.

The genus *Teucrium* is represented by 27 species in Turkey (Ekim, 1982). Two new species have been mentioned by Duman in the second supplement to the Flora of Turkey (Güner et al., 2000) and the total number has reached 30 species by adding the new records.

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Teucrium chasmophyticum Rech. f., *Pl. Syst. Evol.* 134: 287 (1980).

Icon.: Tab. 25: in *Flora Iranica*, Lfg. 151.

Type: Iraq: Mosul: Jabal Khantur prope Sharanish N. Zakho, in fissures rupium calc., 1200 m, Rech. 12083 (W!).

Dwarf, slender, slightly suffruticose at base, green, greyish-puberulous and covered with sessile glandular hair all over, glandular hispidulose at inflorescence. Flowering stems up to 6 cm long, slender, flexuous, simple, densely foliate; inflorescence terminal, dense, spicate, developing up to 2-3 cm. All leaves petiolate, petiole length of lower leaves 1-2(-3) mm; lamina 6-13 × 5-9 mm, ovate, widely rotundate at base, slightly acute at apex; median leaves elliptic, widely rotundate-cuneate, apex obtuse, broadest at middle, upper leaves broadly lanceolate, subequal on both sides, attenuate, acutish, shortly petiolate, all leaves with sessile glandular all over and hispid-pubescent on the nerves, nerves fine, clearly distinct below. Inflorescence glandular-hispidulose; verticillasters biflowered, many, densely congested. Bracts lanceolate, acute to acuminate, slightly longer than calyx. Calyx length ± 3-5 mm, glandular hispid, bilabiate, tube shorter than teeth; teeth distinctly acute, upper 3 teeth triangular-lanceolate, lower ones narrow lanceolate. Corolla longer than calyx, cream-white, pale. Nutlet 0.6-0.7 × 0.5-0.6 mm with sessile glands.

C9 Siirt: Eruh, above Gölgekonak village, *Quercus brantii* opening, limestone crevices, 37° 45' 079" K, 42°

08' 114" D, 930 m, 19. vi. 2005. AAD 12119-I. Al-Shehbaz & M. Menke.

Discussion

T. chasmophyticum has been published as a new species by the following diagnostic characters from *T. paederotoides* by Rechinger (1980): densely glandular indumentum, all leaves distinctly petiolate, entire or rarely crenate, nearly indistinct nerves and floral bracts not overtopping calyces. The type material of *T. chasmophyticum* is only a single specimen (Figure 1) and there is no note related to the isotypus or other materials related to the new taxa. Furthermore, I have not seen any more material in W herbarium related to this taxon after the type material. On the other hand, there is no note or sign for the examination of the type material of *T. paederotoides* by Rechinger in his original publication (Rechinger, 1980).

The diagnostic characters given by Rechinger are rather subjective. Hence it is difficult to distinguish the specimen from its close relatives based on the qualities and quantities of only a single specimen. These diagnostic characters have been examined in the Turkish materials and field notes and both of the materials belong to the same taxon. Following an evaluation of all the materials collected from Iraq and Turkey, the description of the taxon has been improved by the terminology and insufficient structures, such as indumentum, petal colours and nutlets.

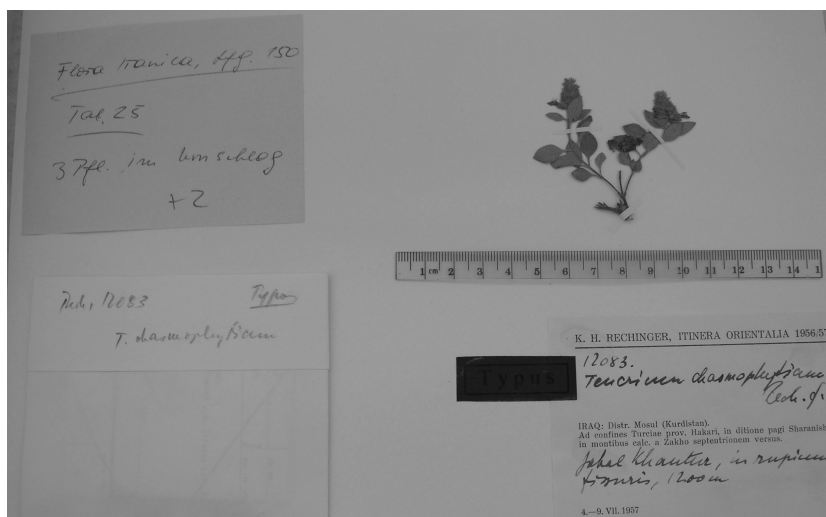


Figure 1. Type specimen of *Teucrium chasmophyticum*.

I did not have an opportunity to examine the type materials of *T. paederotoides* for a comparison with the type material of *T. chasmophyticum* and the Turkish material. In consideration of the habitats, all of them grow close together on limestone crevices, and so they show similar morphological characters. It seems that the latter taxon is a synonym or infraspecific taxon of the former. However, the final taxonomic decision should be made after an examination of all the type materials and other collections from different localities.

The colours of the corolla are given as pink for *T. paederotoides* by Ekim (1982) and "pallida" for *T. chasmophyticum* by Rechinger. The second is not a real

name of any colour, and so I cannot make any guess about the exact colour of the taxon. According to my photographs and field notes the colour of the Turkish material is cream-white (Figure 2), but it turned pale pinkish after it had been dried.

The species is known as only a single specimen of the type gathering and the second location around Gölgelikonak village of Eruh-Siirt (Figure 3). The Turkish population of the taxon is found on the rock crevices of the area and it is not under considerable threat. In consideration of both localities, I propose the "CR" category (IUCN, 2001) for this chasmophytic taxon. The specimens of the taxon are kept at HUB.



Figure 2. A view of *Teucrium chasmophyticum* on the limestone crevices.



Figure 3. Distribution of *Teucrium chasmophyticum* from type locality (★) and Turkey (■).

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