

# A NEW RECORD AND INTERESTING SPECIES OF CYPERACEAE FAMILY FROM IRAN

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*Cyperus pannonicus* as a new record for the flora of Iran and *Eleocharis argyrolepis* as its second collection from W. Azerbaijan province are reported. Morphological characters, habitat, geographical distribution in the world and Iran are also presented.

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Keywords. *Cyperus*, *Eleocharis*, new record, Iran.

گزارش گونه‌های جدید و جالب از تیره اوپارسلام برای ایران

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طی جمع‌آوری نمونه‌های گیاهی متعلق به تیره *Cyperaceae* از استان آذربایجان غربی، گونه *Cyperus pannonicus* به‌عنوان گونه جدید و گونه *Eleocharis argyrolepis* بعنوان جمع‌آوری مجدد از ایران شرح داده می‌شوند. همچنین پراکنش جغرافیایی، رویشگاه و صفات متمایزکننده گونه‌ها ارائه می‌گردد.

## Introduction

The author has been studying *Cyperaceae* family in Iran since 2000. In the expedition to W. Azerbaijan province, *Cyperus pannonicus* as a new record from Iran and *Eleocharis argyrolepis* as a new collecting species are reported.

### *Cyperus pannonicus* Jacq.

Azerbaijan: N. of Oromiyeh Lake, Bandar-Sharafkhaneh, Amini Rad & Eskandari 35812.

Perennial, tufted. Stem base ascending. Leaves shorter than stem. Inflorescence capitate, terminal; bracts 2-3, foliose. Spikes ovoid, some curved; glumes 2- 2.5 mm, back and apex rounded. Stamens 3. Stigma 2. Nut lenticular, brown. (Fig. 1)

The diagnostic characters between this species and two other species (*C. laevigatus* L. and *C. distachyos* All.) from subgen. *Juncellus* are presented in Table 1.

In Flora Iranica, this species has been reported from Talish and Turcomonia (obviously, the author of Flora Iranica has not seen the specimen but he had reported it according to Grossh. and Egorova), therefore, it is the first report from Iran (see Kukkonen 1998).

This species grows in salty soil near the sea shore.

*General distribution.* Europe, Turkey, Talish, Turcomonia, Uzbekistan to Kirghizia and Iran.

### *Eleocharis argyrolepis* Kierulff

Azerbaijan: 12 km from Makou to Tabriz, 1020 m, Amini Rad & Torabi 50609.

Perennial, tufted. Rhizome creeping. Spikes 10-20 x 3-5 mm, ovoid. Perianth bristles 4, equal or longer than nut. Nut 1.2-1.5 x 0.9-1.1 mm, brown, stylopodium 0.5-0.7 x 0.7-0.9 mm, yellow, deeply distinguish from nut (Fig. 2).

Kukkonen (1972) collected this specimen from Iran in the expedition to West-Central Asia. Revising the herbaria (IRAN and TARI herbaria), no specimen was found, while author collected it from the same place after about 33 years.

This species is morphologically similar to *E. palustris* (L.) Roemer & Schultes subsp. *palustris* in the same size and inflorescence form; but important differences are as follows, in *E. argyrolepis*, stem is strongly nerved, glume margins are widely scarious and stylopodium is wider than long.

*Habitat.* in salt marshes and marshlands.

*General distribution.* Afghanistan, Pakistan, Caucasus, Turcomonia, Uzbekistan, Kirghizia, Tadjikistan and Iran.

Table 1. The diagnostic characters between species of *Cyperus* subgen. *Juncellus*

Species	<i>C. pannonicus</i>	<i>C. laevigatus</i>	<i>C. distachyos</i>
Plant	tufted	Stem in rows	Stem in rows
Stem	decumbent	erect	erect
Rhizome	short	creeping	creeping
Inflorescence	capitate	pseudo-lateral	pseudo-lateral
Bracts	2-3	1 or 2	1 or 2
The lowest bract	With basal part expanded	basal part not expanded	basal part not expanded
Spike number	6-12	6-20	2-6
Nut size	1.7-1.9 mm	1.3-1.5 mm	1.4-1.7 mm

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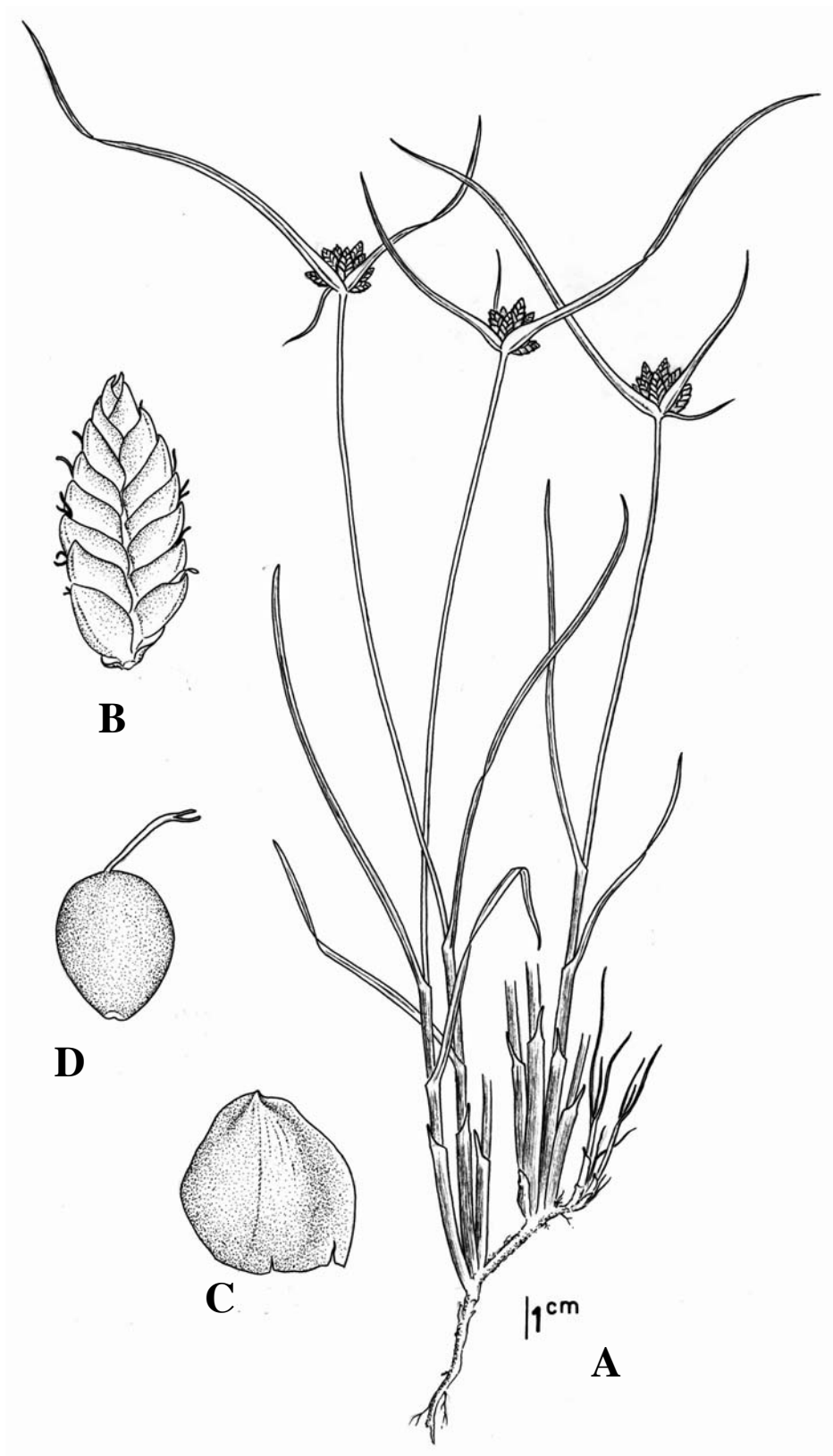


Fig. 1. *Cyperus pannonicus*. A. habit, B. spike x 7, C. glume x 14, D. nut x 14.

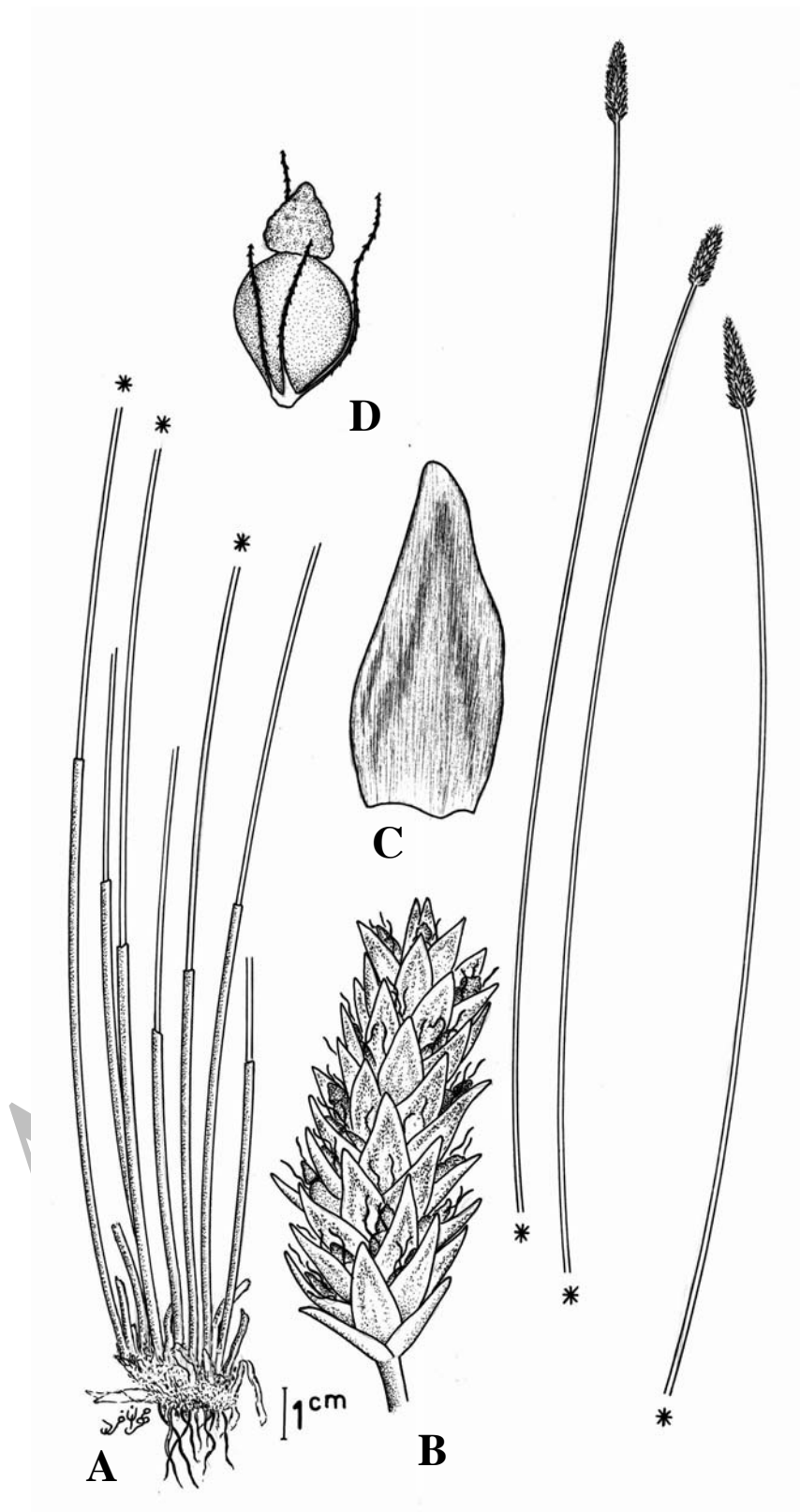


Fig. 2. *Eleocharis argyrolepis*. A. habit, B. spike x 5.5, C. glume x 15, D. nut x 15.