

PARONYCHIA LORDEGANICA (CARYOPHYLLACEAE: PARONYCHIOIDEAE) A NEW SPECIES FROM IRAN, BAKHTIARI

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Received: 20.10.2007. Accepted for publication: 12.03.2008.

Dinarvand, M. 2008 06 30: *Paronychia lordeganica* (Caryophyllaceae: Paronychioideae) a new species from Iran, Bakhtiari – Iran. *J. Bot.* 14 (1): 10-12. Tehran.

For the preparation of Flora of Iran *Caryophyllaceae: Paronychioideae*, the herbarium specimens in the herbarium of Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands (TARI) were identified. Among them a specimen that has been collected from Lordegan, Chahar Mahale Bakhtiari is named *P. lordeganica* and described as a new species from Iran. This species is compared with *P. caespitosa* Stapf from Iran and *P. boissieri* Rouy and *P. mesopotamica* Chaudhri from the other countries as the closest relatives.

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Key words. *Paronychia lordeganica*, Caryophyllaceae, Paronychioideae, new species, Iran.

معرفی گونه جدید *Paronychia lordeganica* متعلق به تیره میخک زیر تیره Paronychioideae از ایران
مهري دیناروند،

طی مطالعه فلور زیر تیره Paronychioideae از تیره میخک و شناسایی نمونه‌های مربوط به جنس *Paronychia* در هرباریوم موسسه تحقیقات جنگلها و مراتع، گونه *Paronychia lordeganica* به عنوان گونه جدیدی برای دنیا از منطقه لردگان چهارمحال بختیاری معرفی می‌شود. این گونه با گونه‌های نزدیک خود، *P. caespitosa* در ایران و *P. boissieri*, *P. mesopotamica* از سایر کشورها مقایسه می‌شود.

Introduction

Paronychia Miller has 109 species in the world (Chaudhri 1968) and based on the Flora Iranica there are 5 species in Iran (Rechinger 1980). In order to prepare Flora of Iran *Caryophyllaceae: Paronychioideae* (Assadi 1986), the specimens of the genus *Paronychia* in the herbarium of Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands (TARI) were identified and *P. lordeganica* was identified as a new species. This species is similar to *P. boissieri* Rouy endemic of Turkey, *P. mesopotamica* Chaudhri from Iraq and Syria and *P. caespitosa* Stapf endemic of Iran (Chaudhri 1968). In Flora of Turkey the species *P. imbricata* Boiss. & Hausskn. reported from Gaziantep but it was regarded as a synonym of *P. boissieri* by Chaudhri (Davis 1967).

***Paronychia lordeganica* Dinarvand & Assadi, sp. nov.**
Type. Iran: Chahar Mahale Bakhtiari, Lordegan, Doushalvary, 1600 m, Mozaffarian, 62104 (holotypus TARI).

Herba perennis, humilis, lignoso caespitosa, saepe pallida vel flavescenti-viridis. Caules 4-7 cm longi, ramosissimi, cylindracei, breviter retrose pilosi. Folia 1.5-4 mm longa, 0.7-1 mm lata, oblonga vel cylindracea carnosae, raro oblanceolatae, obtusae, imbricatae, per nodo 4-seriatae, velutino-pubescentia; internodium superiorum raro adest, 1-1.5 mm longum. Stipulae 2.5-3 mm longae, lanceolatae, acutae, saepe quam folia sublongiores, interdum ciliatae. Florum glomeruli terminales et laterales usque ad 5 mm diametro. Bractee membranaceae, 1-2 mm longae et 1.5-2 mm latae, oblique ovatae usque oblongae, serrulatae, apice attenuatae, flores partim tantum occultantes. Sepala 2 mm longa, oblonga, obtusa, aequalia vel subinaequalia, erecta, raro conniventia, pubescentia. Petala 0.7-0.8 mm longa, filiformia. Stamina 5, 0.5-0.8 mm longa; antherae oblongae. Ovarium 0.5 mm longum, ovoideum vel conicum, styli bini, 0.5 mm longi.

A small perennial herb, tufted, yellowish-green. Stems 4-7 cm long, much branched from the base, cylindrical, with retrose hairs, rarely with 1-1.5 mm internod at the apex. Leaves 1.5-4 mm long and 0.7-1 wide, oblong or

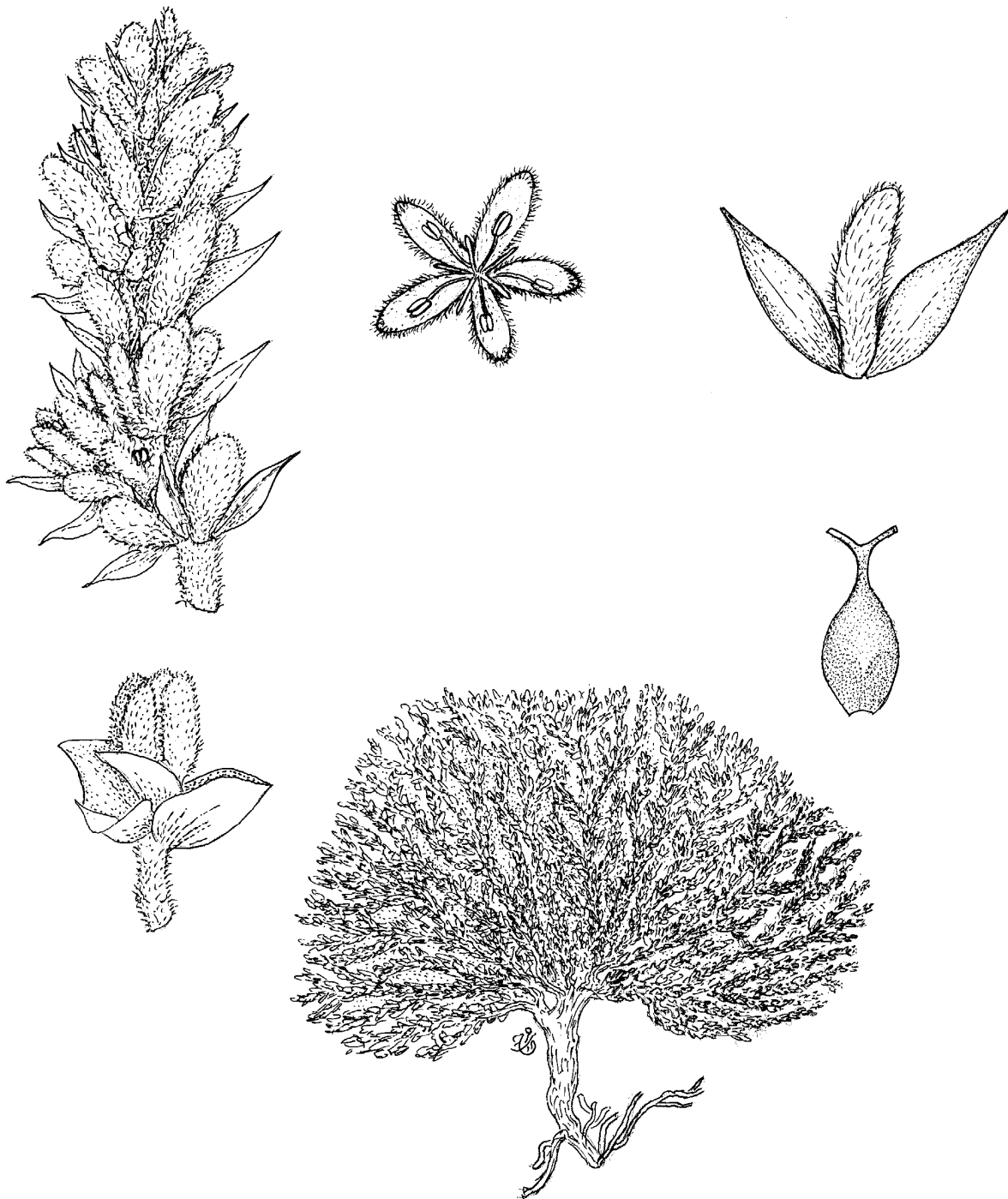


Fig. 1. *Paronychia lordeganica*. Habit. (x1); a branch, flower, and leaf with stipules (x 10); ovary (x30).

Table 1: Morphological comparison of *Paronychia boissieri*, *P. mesopotamica*, *P. caespitosa* and *P. lordeganica*.

Characters	<i>P. boissieri</i>	<i>P. mesopotamica</i>	<i>P. caespitosa</i>	<i>P. lordeganica</i>
Glomerules	terminal, 5mm in diam.	terminal, (7) 10-15 mm in diam.	terminal or lateral, 5 mm in diam.	terminal or lateral, less than 5 mm in diam.
Internodes	very short	2-4 mm long	2-4 mm long	hidden in between imbricate leaves or very short
Leaf shape	linear oblong to subcylindrical	oblong or oblanceolate-spathulate	oblanceolate-oblong to oblanceolate-spathulate	oblong or fleshy cylindrical, rarely oblanceolate
Leaf size (mm)	2.2-5 l x 0.5	2.5-5 l x 1.25-1.75	3-4 l x 1-1.5	1.5-4 l x 0.7-1
Leaf indumentum	minutely pubescent	velvety-pubescent	scabrous-pubescent	velvety
Stipules	somewhat exceeding the leaves	3-5 mm long, exceeding the leaves	shorter than the leaves	2.5-3 mm long, often exceeding the leaves

fleshy cylindrical, rarely oblanceolate, obtuse, closely imbricate, 4 ranked on nodes, velutinous. Stipules 2.5-3 mm long, lanceolate, acute, often exceeding the leaves and ciliate. Glomerules terminal or lateral, less than 5 mm in diam. Bracts membranaceous, 1-2 mm long and 1.5-2 mm wide, oblique ovate to oblong, serrulate, attenuate at the top, somewhat exceeding the flowers. Sepals 2 mm long, oblong, obtuse, equal or subequal, erect or rarely recurved, pubescent. Petals 0.7-0.8 mm long, filiform. Stamens 5, 0.5-0.8 mm long. Anthers oblong. Ovary 0.5-1 mm long, ovoid or conical; styles 2, 0.5 mm long.

The new species is compared with its closest relatives, *P. boissieri*, *P. mesopotamica* and *P. caespitosa* in table 1.

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