

## SILENE ODONTOPETALA SUBSP. CONGESTA (CARYOPHYLLACEAE), A NEW RECORD FOR THE FLORA OF IRAN

A. Gholipour & H. Maroofi

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Based on some specimens from Kurdistan province, Iran, *Silene odontopetala* subsp. *congesta* is reported for the first time from Iran. A description, distributional map and an illustration are presented.

Abbas Gholipour (correspondence <abbas.gholipour@gmail.com>), Department of Biology, Payame Noor University, 19395-4697 Tehran, I. R. of Iran. -Hosein Maroofi, Research Center of Agricultural and Natural Resources of Kurdistan province P. O. Box 66169-36311-714, Sanadaj, Iran.

**Key words.** *Silene*, Caryophyllaceae, New record, Kurdistan, Iran.

زیر گونه *Silene odontopetala* subsp. *congesta* گزارشی جدید برای فلور ایران

عباس قلی پور، استادیار گروه زیست‌شناسی دانشگاه پیام نور، تهران.

حسین معروفی، عضو هیئت علمی مرکز تحقیقات کشاورزی و منابع طبیعی استان کردستان.

بر اساس نمونه هایی از استان کردستان، *Silene odontopetala* subsp. *congesta* به عنوان گزارش جدیدی برای فلور ایران

اعلام می‌گردد. شرح زیر گونه، تصویر و نقشه انتشار گونه ارائه می‌شود.

### Introduction

*Silene odontopetala* Fenzl was introduced with three subspecies in Flora Iranica (Melzheimer 1988). *S. odontopetala* subsp. *odontopetala* and subsp. *physocalyx* (Ledeb) Bornm. were reported from Iran. During revision of the genus *Silene* in the herbarium of Research Center of Agricultural and Natural Resources of Kurdistan province some interesting specimens of *S. odontopetala* were found. According to Melzheimer (1988) these specimens were determined as *S. odontopetala* subsp. *congesta* (Boiss.) Melzh. The aim of this paper is to introduce this subspecies from Iran.

***Silene odontopetala* Fenzl subsp. *congesta* (Boiss.) Melzh., Fl. Iranica, 163: 376 (1988). (Fig. 1)**

Type: W.G. Schimper 296!

The diagnostic morphological characteristics of the new subspecies recorded here is as follows: stems 20-32 cm long, sparsely pubescent; basal leaves 16-60 mm long, 2.5-5 mm wide, linear or oblanceolate; cauline leaves 20-30 mm long, 2-5 mm wide, lanceolate, glabrous or sparsely pubescent; inflorescence compound dichasium cyme, congest and many flowered; middle pedicel 5-15 mm long, lateral pedicel 2-6 mm long, pubescent with glandular hairs; bract

ovate, pubescent with glandular hairs; calyx 11.5-18.5 mm long, campanulate; teeth 3-5.5 mm long; antherophore 4-6 mm long; seeds 1.2 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, irregularly triangular, surface with tuberculate sculpture. The plants of this subspecies grows on calcareous cliffs at an altitudes of 1500 to 2800 m. Avroman mountains of Suleymanieh and Sakri Sakran mountains of Arbil in Iraq are the nearest habitats of the subspecies to Iran (Fig. 2).

*Specimens examined:* Iran: Kurdistan, West of Sanandaj, Koohsalan mountains, 2800 m, 09.06.1995, Kaffash 3208; South of Marivan, West of Koohsalan, Kuh-e Takht, 2450 m, 20.07.1997, Kaffash and Shokohi 5132; Marivan to Paveh, Ta-Ta Pass, 2650 m, 04.08.2002, Maarofi and Sheikhi 5663; Marivan to Paveh, Ta-Ta Pass, 2300 m, 01.07.2001, Maroofi and Naseri 732. Iraq: Kurdistan, Mosul, Chiya-e Gara, 1841, TH. Kotschy G-357. Egypt: In monte Sinaico, Stae. Catharinae, 1835, W.G. Schimper ( G-296 ).

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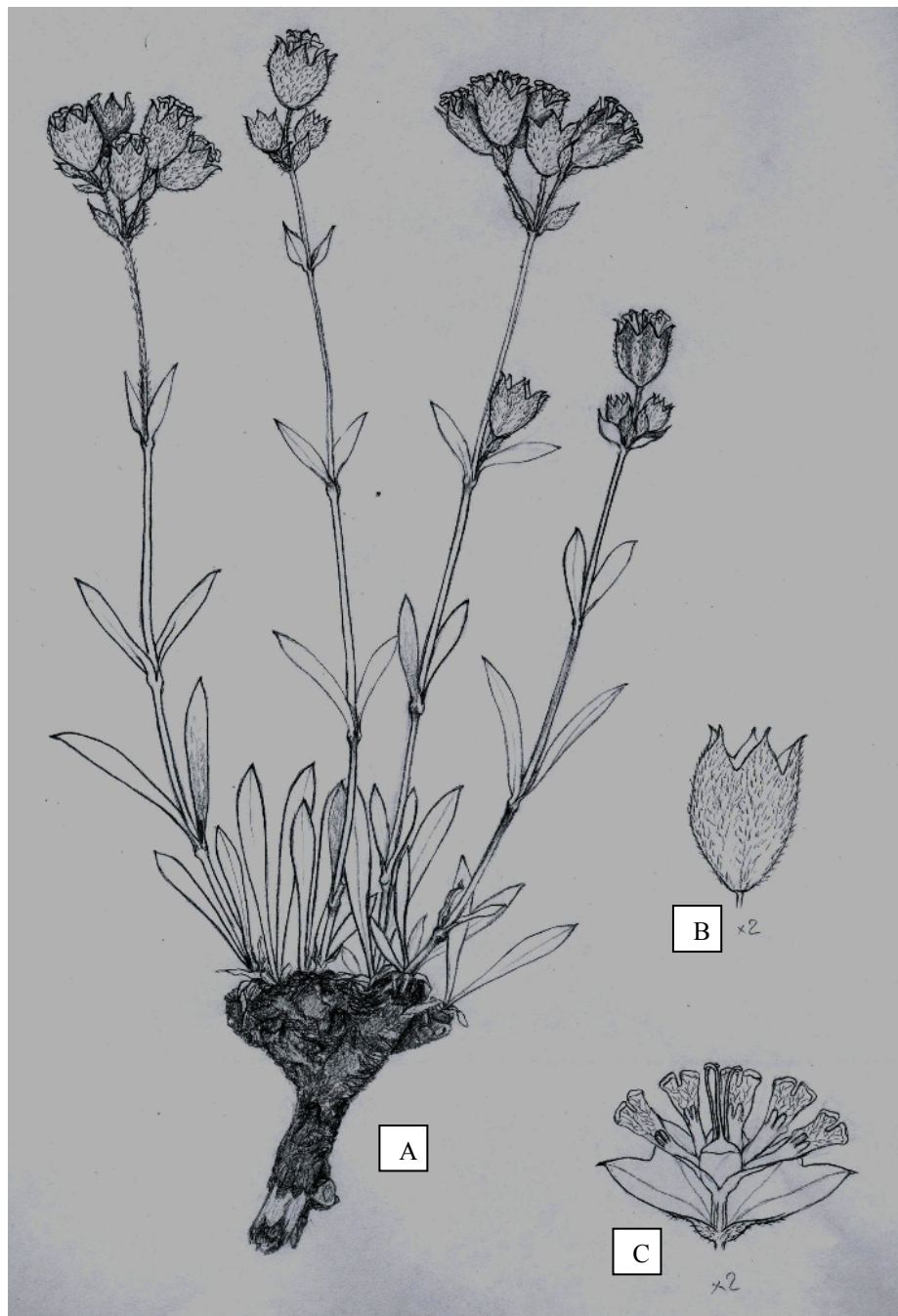


Fig. 1. *Silene odontopetala* subsp. *congesta*. A, habit ( $\times 0.7$ ); B, calyx ( $\times 2$ ); C, flower in longitudinal section ( $\times 2$ ).

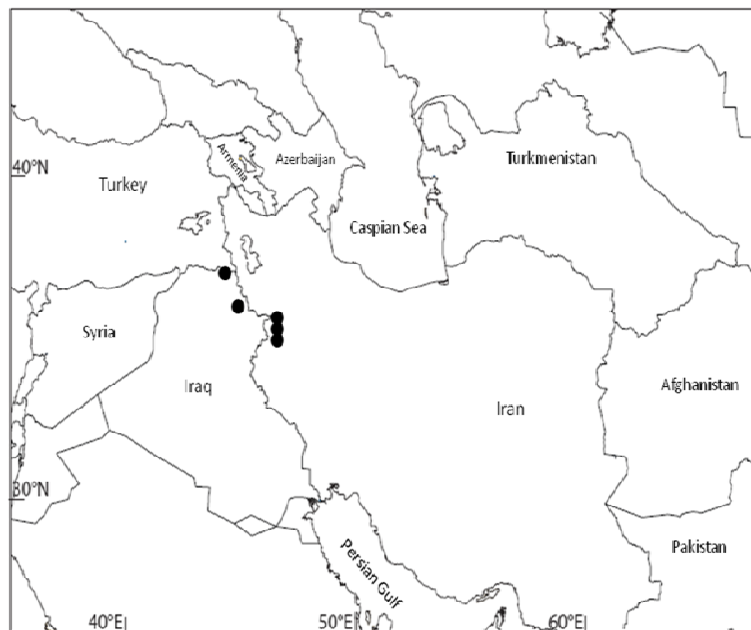


Fig. 2. Distribution of *Silene odontopetala* subsp. *congesta* in Iran and Iraq.