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**Autor:** Al-Shehbaz, Ihsan / Al-Khakani, Mohammed K. / Al-Mayah, Abdul-Ridha A.

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# New or noteworthy taxa for the flora of Iraq

IHSAN A. AL-SHEHBAZ  
MOHAMMED K. AL-KHAKANI  
&  
ABDUL-RIDHA A. AL-MAYAH

## RÉSUMÉ

AL-SHEHBAZ, I. A., AL-KHAKANI, M. K. & A.-R. A. AL-MAYAH (1983). Nouveaux et remarquables taxons pour la flore d'Iraq. *Candollea* 38: 349-358. En anglais, résumé français.

Dans ce travail, une famille, les *Sparganiaceae*, huit genres et vingt-cinq espèces sont ajoutées pour la première fois à la flore d'Iraq. Une sous-espèce nouvelle: *Geranium molle* L. subsp. *sinjaricum* Al-Shehbaz & Al-Khakani subsp. nova est décrite. Plusieurs espèces rares, dont certaines ne sont connues que sur la base du matériel type, sont énumérées et des stations supplémentaires sont indiquées.

## ABSTRACT

AL-SHEHBAZ, I. A., AL-KHAKANI, M. K. & A.-R. A. AL-MAYAH (1983). New or noteworthy taxa for the flora of Iraq. *Candollea* 38: 349-358. In English, French abstract.

In the present paper one family, *Sparganiaceae*, eight genera and twenty-five species are reported for the first time for the flora of Iraq. A new subspecies of *Geranium molle* L., subsp. *sinjaricum* Al-Shehbaz & Al-Khakani subsp. nova, is described. Several rare species, some of which are known only from type collections, are listed with additional citation given.

Several years ago we started a program aimed on the long run to cover the vascular flora of Iraq. A large number of taxa, previously unrecorded or poorly known, was immediately recognized. In the present paper some of these taxa are reported. Recent collections for several rare species, previously known from single collections from Iraq, are also cited.

All the taxa cited below are arranged alphabetically. Abbreviations of the herbaria, where the specimens are deposited, follow the index of HOLMGREN & KEUKEN (1974). The unlisted Sulaimaniya University Herbarium is abbreviated here SUH. First records for species and for genera are indicated by one and two asterisks respectively. Names of collectors cited in the text are abbreviated as follows: A. D. Q. Agnew (AA), Ali H. Al-Musawi (AM), Ali Al-Rawi (AR), Emil Hadac (EH), Erich Weinert (EW), Faisal Kadir (FK), Abdul-Hussein Al-Khayat (HK), Ihsan A. Al-Shehbaz (IS), Majid R. Al-Hilli (MH), Mohammad K. Al-Khakani (MK), O. Anders (OA), R. Wheeler Haines (RH), Abdul-Ridha A. Al-Mayah (RM), Weleed El-Hashimi (WH) and Zehra Chalabi (ZC).

### *Aspidiaceae*

#### **Polystichum setiferum** (Forssk.) Woyнар

Ahmed Awa, April 25, 1971, HK (A); same locality, May 6, 1971, HK (SUH 1319).

The species was once collected from Iraq more than a century ago (BALLARD, 1966).

### *Boraginaceae*

#### **\*\*Lithospermum officinale** L.

Gali Ali Beg, June 14, 1960, EH & AA (BUH 17 265).

All previous records of *Lithospermum* from Iraq (AL-RAWI, 1964; RECHINGER, 1964; ZOHARY, 1946) account for three species that belong to *Buglossoides*.

### *Caryophyllaceae*

#### **\*\*Agrostemma githago** L.

Haj Omran, June 1960, EH (BUH 6526); same locality, June 19, 1952, C. Regel (BUH 6527, 6528); Kholan, June 11, 1960, ZC (BUH 6529).

#### **\*Arenaria gypsophiloides** L.

Helgurd Mt., Nowanda, alt. 2000-2600 m, Aug. 10, 1957, K. H. Rechinger 11 405 (BUH 6542).

**\*Minuartia decipiens** (Fenzl) Bornm.

12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (*BUH 34 815*); 10 km from Sinjar to Kursi, alt. 1000 m, April 5, 1979, MK (*BUH 34 852*); 4 km N.W. of Sinjar, alt. 580 m, April 25, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 34 422*).

**Minuartia meyeri** (Boiss.) Bornm.

12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (*BUH 34 863*).

The single known collection for the species from Iraq was made by HANDEL-MAZZETTI (1912).

**\*Petrorhagia velutina** (Guss.) Ball & Heywood

N. of Jarlik Nasur, above Khabur River, alt. 1000 m, May 3, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*SUH 3234*).

**Telephium imperati** L. subsp. **orientale** (Boiss.) Nyman

N. of Meargan, alt. 1200 m, May 17, 1979, MK (*BUH 35 199*); Ain Kursi, alt. 900-970 m, April 27, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 36 851*).

To our knowledge, this taxon is known from the country from a single collection made by Handel-Mazzetti.

*Compositae***Anacyclus nigellifolium** Boiss. subsp. **orientalis** Grierson

12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (*BUH 36 353, 36 355*); 10 km N. of Sinjar, May 16, 1979, MK (*BUH 36 352, 36 354*); 19 km W. of Sinjar, above Jaddala, alt. 700-800 m, April 26, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 37 159*).

The single known collection for this taxon from Iraq was made by Haussknecht more than a century ago.

**\*Anthemis kotschyana** Boiss.

Azmer, Sulaimaniya, July 1, 1976, HK (*A*).

**Centaurea balsamita** Lam.

12 km N. of Sinjar on road to Kursi, alt. 1250 m, June 19, 1979, MK (*BUH 36 403*).

The species is known from Iraq from the doubtful record of ANTHONY (1935).

**\**Centaurea spectabilis* (Fisch. & Mey.) Schultz**

12 km from Sinjar to Kursi, alt. 1300 m, April 25, 1978, IS, MH & EW (BUH 36 417).

***Cousinia handelii* Bornm.**

S. of Bara, May 2, 1979, MK (BUH 36 445).

The other known collection for the species from Iraq is that of Handel-Mazzetti.

***Jurinea mesopotamica* Hand.-Mazz.**

15 km E. of Sinjar, MK (BUH 36 514).

The species is known from two collections, one from Syria and the other from Turkey, in addition to the type collection from Jabal Sinjar, Iraq. HANDEL-MAZZETTI (1913) cited these three collections he made 71 years ago in his original description of the species. Since then, the species has never been collected from any of these three countries.

*Cruciferae****Alyssum lepidoto-stellatum* (Hauskn. & Bornm.) Dudley**

4 km N.W. of Sinjar, alt. 700 m, April 4, 1979, MK (BUH 35 011); 30 km W. of Sinjar, alt. 550-750 m, March 8, 1979, MK (BUH 35 012); Kizilkhan, March 18, 1961, AA, EH & WH (BUH 8545).

The single collection known from Iraq was collected in 1867 (HAUSKNECHT, 1897).

***Alyssum sinjarensis* Boiss. & Hauskn.**

3 km N.E. of Sinjar, alt. 500-900 m, May 16, 1979, MK (BUH 35 010).

The species is known only from the type collection which was made by Hausknecht more than 114 years ago.

*Cucurbitaceae***\*\**Ecballium elaterium* (L.) A. Rich.**

Above Kuṛsi, alt. 800 m, March 21, 1979, MK (BUH 37 176).

*Geraniaceae***Geranium molle** L. subsp. **sinjaricum** Al-Shehbaz & Al-Khakani subsp. **nova**

Herba perennis, radice palari crassa. Caules pluri, decumbentes, usque ad 15 cm longa. Sepalis 3-4 × 1-2 mm. Petalis 2-2.5 × 1-1.5 mm, obcordato-oblongis, basi ciliolatis.

*Holotype*: Iraq, Sinjar Mt., Gulley of Dair Aasy, May 7, 1975, I. Al-Shehbaz, A. Al-Mayah and F. Sharifi (*BUH 30 568*).

The new subspecies differs from subsp. *molle* and subsp. *brutium* (Gasp.) Davis in being a perennial with a very thick obconical base and in having much shorter petals.

*Gramineae***Alopecurus apiatus** Ovcz.

Jabal Hirgana, 5 km E. of Penjwin, May 10, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*SUH 2693*).

A single collection is known for the species from Iraq (BOR, 1968).

**Bromus commutatus** Schrad.

Mawet, alt. 900 m, May 9, 1979, IS & Y. Faris (*SUH 716*). BOR (1968) stated that the species is known from a single gathering from Iraq.

**Ctenopsis pectinella** (Del.) de Not.

Baiji sand dunes stabilization station, March 28, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 34 218*); Baiji, March 24, 1964, MH (*BUH 24 922*); 16 km S.W. of Baiji, March 21, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 33 682, 33 683*).

The species was previously known from a single collection (BOR, 1968).

**\*Festuca ovina** L.

S. of Bara, May 2, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 185*).

Although a description for the species was given by BOR (1968), the species has never been collected from Iraq.

**\*\*Leersia hexandra** Swartz

Garaf extension, May 21, 1957, A. K. Khudairi (*BUH 1886*).

**Milium vernale** M. B.

Jabal Hirgana, 5 km E. of Penjwin, May 10, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*SUH 2689*); Dara Wirgan, 16 km N. of Penjwin, May 11, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*SUH 2512*).

A single record is known for the species from Iraq (BOR, 1968).

**Rhizocephalus orientalis** Boiss.

12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 185*); Ain Kursi, April 18, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 187*).

This monotypic genus is assumed to occur in Iraq based on a single doubtful collection made by Aucher-Eloy (BOR, 1968).

**\*\*Sporobolus arabicus** Boiss.

15 km N.E. of Safwan, March 30, 1973, EW & AM (*BUH 28 500*).

**\*Stipa pulcherrima** C. Koch

S. of Bara, May 2, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 184*); 15 km W. of Sinjar, June 17, 1979, MK (*BUH 35 557, 35 558*).

No collections were cited by BOR (1968) but he gave a description for the species and predicted its occurrence in Iraq.

**Trisetaria cavanillesii** (Trin.) Maire

1.5 km W. of Hatra, March 23, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 33 929*); N. of Hatra, March 20, 1962, L. Stein (*BUH 1837*).

One of the very rare species in Iraq previously known from a single collection (BOR, 1968).

*Juglandaceae***\*\*Pterocarya fraxinifolia** (Poir.) Spach

Ain Kursi, alt. 700 m, June 19, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 179, 37 180*); Kursi valley, alt. 650 m, Aug. 7, 1979, AM & MK (*BUH 37 181*).

Although AL-RAWI (1964) and ZOHARY (1946) claimed the occurrence of the genus in Iraq, they depended on NABELEK (1929) whose collection was certainly made from Turkey and not from Iraq.

*Labiatae***\*Ziziphora acutifolia** Montb. & Auch.

12 km N. of Sinjar on road to Kursi, alt. 1250 m, June 19, 1979, MK (BUH 36 803); 3 km N.E. of Sinjar, May 16, 1979, MK (BUH 36 804).

*Leguminosae***Astragalus lepidanthus** Boiss.

S. of Bara, May 2, 1979, MK (BUH 37 177, 37 178).

TOWNSEND (1974) doubted if the species really occurs in Iraq. The two doubtful specimens he cited may have been collected from Syria or Turkey.

**Cicer pinnatifidum** Jaub. & Spach

Between Kursi and Bara, May 3, 1979, MK (BUH 35 638); Ain Kursi, May 15, 1979, MK (BUH 35 639); 7 km E. of Sury, ca. 46 km E. of Amadiya, alt. 680 m, May 17, 1978, IS, MH & EW (SUH 3390).

A specimen collected by Haussknecht more than a century ago (TOWNSEND, 1974) is the single known record for the species from Iraq.

**\*Lathyrus tuberosus** L.

Between Chouman and Darband, IS & RM (BUH 30 294); Kholan, ZC (BUH 11 343); 10-20 km from Darband to Haj Omran, ZC (BUH 11 342).

**\*Lens ervoides** (Brign.) Grande var. **ervoides**

N. of Meargan, alt. 1200 m, May 17, 1979, MK (BUH 35 683).

**Psoralea jaubertiana** Fenzl

Above Bara, April 6, 1979, MK (BUH 37 038).

TOWNSEND (1974) cited two specimens collected by Kotschy and Nabelek nearly 140 and 70 years ago respectively, but he believed, as we do, that they may have been collected from Syria or Turkey as well.

**\*Vicia cypria** Kotschy ex Unger & Kotschy

Rashid, OA (BAG 35 989, MOS); above Ain Kursi, IS & RM (BUH 33 401); Ain Kursi, alt. 900-970 m, April 27, 1978, IS, MH & EW (A, BUH 36 871); 12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (BUH 35 815, 35 814); 4 km N.E. of Sinjar, April 17, 1978, MK (BUH 35 813).

**\*Vicia hyrcanica** Fisch. & Mey.

Haj Omran, IS & RM (*BUH 30 088*); between Haj Omran and Kudo Mt., IS & RM (*BUH 30 081*).

**Vicia lathyroides** L.

Bamerni, IS & RM (*BUH 28 982*); Plingan, ca. 17 km N.W. of Rania, AR, Nuri & Kass (*BAG 28 672*); Balcha, 7 km W. of Tawela, AR (*BAG 22 377*); above Ain Kursi, IS & RM (*BUH 33 402*); Ain Kursi, May 15, 1979, MK (*BUH 35 821*).

A single doubtful collection was cited by TOWNSEND (1974).

**\*Vicia lutea** L.

10 km E. of Chemchemical, Kass (*BAG 18 612A*).

**Vicia mollis** Boiss. & Hausskn.

12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (*BUH 35 825*); 2 km E. of Kursi, May 2, 1979, MK (*BUH 35 826, 35 827*).

This very rare species is previously known from a single collection (TOWNSEND, 1974).

*Scrophulariaceae***\*Linaria antilibanotica** Rech. f.

12 km N. of Sinjar, alt. 1250 m, June 19, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 393*); Rashid, alt. 1000 m, May 30, 1968, OA (*BUH 37 394*); Kursi, alt. 800 m, May 12, 1968, OA 2048 (*MOS*).

**\*Linaria grandiflora** Desf.

10 km N. of Sinjar, May 16, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 215*); Rashid, alt. 1000 m, May 29, 1968, OA 2123 (*MOS*).

*Solanaceae***\*\*Physalis alkekengi** L.

Tajika-Sarsang way, Aug. 22, 1967, H. Daoud, M. Shaikh and K. Wani (*BUH 18 870, 18 871*); near Chaklawa, Aug. 28, 1962, F. Barkley (*BUH 18 868*); Kerda Jal, July 19, 1960, WH (*BUH 18 873, 18 869*); Biara valley, alt. 1100 m, Sept. 25, 1978, IS, MK & K. Ibrahim (*BUH 34 334, 34 335*).

*Sparganiaceae***\*\*Sparganium erectum** L. subsp. **oocarpum** (Čelak.) Cook

10 km W. of Sheikh Saddiq, Oct. 24, 1960, RH, EH, AA & WH (*BUH 415, K*); Saraw, Oct. 24, 1960, WH (*BUH*); between Said Saddiq and Halabcha, Oct. 24, 1960, AA, EH & RH 1998 (*BUH 414, K*).

**Sparganium erectum** L. subsp. **neglectum** (Beeby) Schinz & Thell.

Sah Rta, June 18, 1961, FK (*BUH 413*); near Harir, June 18, 1961, AA, RH, EH & FK (*BUH 416*).

*Umbelliferae***\*Bupleurum rotundifolium** L.

Dokan road, April 22, 1977, HK (*A*).

*Valerianaceae***\*Valerianella discoidea** (L.) Lois.

12 km N.W. of Sinjar, May 1, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 194*); Kizilkhan, MK (*BUH 37 191*); 2 km E. of Kursi, May 2, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 190*); Ain Tabba, April 20, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 192*); above Ain Jaddala, April 19, 1979, MK (*BUH 37 188*); 4 km N.W. of Sinjar, April 25, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 36 882*); 1.5 km N. of Sinjar, April 27, 1978, IS, MH & EW (*BUH 36 960*).

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Addresses of the authors: I. Al-S.: Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, 22 Divinity Av., Cambridge, Mass. 02138, U.S.A.

M. Al-K.: Department of biology, College of science, University of Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq.

A.-R. Al-M.: Department of biology, College of science, University of Basrah, Basrah, Iraq.