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A new monotypic section in *Prangos* Lindl. (Umbelliferae) and the correct name for its species

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ABSTRACT

PIMENOV, M. G. & E. V. KLJUYKOV (1997). A new monotypic section in *Prangos* Lindl. (Umbelliferae) and the correct name for its species. *Candollea* 52: 109-111. In English, English and French abstracts.

The identity of *Prangos platychlaena* Boiss. ex Tchih. and *Ferulago longistylis* Boiss. is demonstrated, and the new combination *Prangos longistylis* (Boiss.) Pimenov & Kljuykov is proposed for this Turkish species. As it occupies an isolated position within the genus, a new monotypic sect. *Bracteatae* is described for it.

RÉSUMÉ

PIMENOV, M. G. & E. V. KLJUYKOV (1997). Une nouvelle section monotypique de *Prangos* Lindl. (Umbelliferae) et le nom correct de son espèce. *Candollea* 52: 109-111. En anglais, résumés anglais et français.

L'identité de *Prangos platychlaena* Boiss. ex Tchih. et de *Ferulago longistylis* Boiss. est démontrée. La nouvelle combinaison *Prangos longistylis* (Boiss.) Pimenov & Kljuykov est proposée pour cette espèce turque. Elle occupe une position isolée dans le genre ce qui conduit à décrire une section nouvelle, sect. *Bracteatae*.

KEY-WORDS: Taxonomy – Angiosperms – UMBELLIFERAE – *Prangos* – *Ferulago* – Turkey.

Prangos platychlaena was described in 1860 (TCHIHATCHEFF, 1860) with a type specimen collected by Tchihatcheff “in Armenia [turcica], prope pagum Kale, haud procul a m. Mille Lacuum”, i.e. in the mountains now named Bingol Da. When we checked the collections of the Museum national d'histoire naturelle of Paris P, we noticed that this name does not have priority, because the same taxon was described 16 years earlier (BOISSIER, 1844) under the name *Ferulago longistylis* Boiss. The *locus classicus* of *F. longistylis* is approximately in the same region of Eastern Anatolia (“In Cappadocia ad Ephratem”). We studied the authentic (isotype) material (Aucher 3739) in P and found it identical with *P. platychlaena* in all available characters. Both *P. platychlaena* and *F. longistylis* are robust plants (up to 150 cm tall) with thick sulcate corymbose-branching stems; their leaves are large, multi (5)-pinnatisect, having long linear-filiform terminal lobes up to 50 mm long.; upper stem leaves are reduced to inflate sheaths. The large, deflexe bracteas and bracteoles are also very characteristic for both compared taxa. The carpological characters appeared to be also similar (see below). Type specimens of *F. longistylis* are rather imperfect because they have been collected by P. Aucher-Eloy in flowering condition

and with very immature fruits. In "Flora Orientalis", BOISSIER (1872) wrote that "affinitas ob fructus ignotos dubia...". After a century, PESMEN (1972) referred to *F. longistylis* another specimen (*Karamanoglu 66-42* from Caglayan, villajet Ersincan) being in fruiting condition, and described the fruit structure as being typical of *Ferulago*. Therefore BERNARDI (1979) regarded *F. longistylis* within the genus and even treated it as a synonym of *F. asparagifolia*. However, *F. longistylis* is clearly distinguishable from *F. asparagifolia*, recently collected by us in its *locus classicus* near Izmir (Smirna), in some easily observable characters – general leaf dissection, longer terminal leaf lobes, angled robust stem, non-inflated nodes. The areas of both species are quite different; *F. asparagifolia* is widely distributed in Aegean Turkey only, as well as in some East Mediterranean islands. Unfortunately, we had no possibility of reinvestigating the Karamanoglu specimen, but we suppose that it could actually be referred to any other *Ferulago* species. Although the type specimen of *F. longistylis* studied has no developed fruits, the anatomical checking of its ovaries and very young fruits showed the presence of a character, special to *Prangos* and its closest relatives and never cited for *Ferulago*: it is vascular elements being scattered in mesocarp and not forming vascular bundles typical of an overwhelming majority of the other genera of the *Umbelliferae*. This peculiarity is a further evidence for identification of *F. longistylis* and *Prangos platychlaena* as synonyms for the same species.

This species belongs to *Prangos* and for a priority matter, we propose the new combination:

***Prangos longistylis* (Boiss.) Pimenov & Kljuykov, comb. nova**

≡ *Ferulago longistylis* Boiss. in Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. ser. 3, 1: 321. 1844.

Holotypus: "In Cappadocia ad Ephratem", 1837, *Aucher 3739* (G!, iso- P!).

= *Prangos platychlaena* Boiss. ex Tchich., *Asie Min., Bot.* 1: 457. 1860.

Holotypus: "Armenia: prope pagum Kale, haud procul a m. Mille Lacuum (Bingoeldagh), alt. 1900-2000 m", 1858, *Tchihatcheff 896* (P!).

The species is distributed in Turkey (Giresun, Gumuschane, Sivas, Tunceli, Erzincan, Malatya, Elazig, Erzurum, Mus, Bitlis and Van), Iraq (Kurdistan), and Iran (Azerbaijan).

The morphological divergence of *P. longistylis* from other species of the genus has already been noted (under the name *P. platychlaena*) by *Prangos* monographers (HERRNSTADT & HEYN, 1972, 1977). They emphasized that the species possesses some characters unusual for the genus - large persistent bracts and bracteoles, inflated leaf sheaths, and multiradiate umbels. However, Herrstadt & Heyn placed *P. platychlaena* within sect. *Intactae* being in their interpretation the largest one in the genus. In our previous classification (PIMENOV & TIKHOMIROV, 1983), the species was separated into a special monotypic subsection *Platychlaenae* Pimenov & V. N. Tikhom., which was regarded as a part of the large type section of the genus, the latter section being typified by *P. ferulacea*, but not by *P. pabularia*, as in the system of Herrstadt & Heyn. Following the latter authors who considered all species of their sect. *Intactae* as usually lacking calyx teeth, we also described *P. platychlaena* and subsect. *Platychlaenae* with "dentes calycini obsoleti".

Now, after a personal acquaintance with the species in nature (Kop Pass), we consider its difference from the type section of *Prangos* (*P. ferulacea* and its closest relatives) being more than subsectional. While studying our own and other herbarium collections, we observed well developed calyx teeth in *P. platychlaena*, which is an additional evidence of deeper divergence of this species within *Prangos*. Taken into account, this character, together with peculiarities of bracts, bracteoles and leaf sheaths, forms the basic argument for a higher rank.

Sect. *Bracteatae* Pimenov & Kljuykov, **sect. nova**

Folia radicalia caulinaque vaginis inflatis; involucri involucellique foliis latis, ovato-acuminatis (6-10 mm et 3-5 mm congruenter); dentes calycini evoluti; fructus ellipsoidei mericarpiis emammillatis, vittis cyclicis in strato mesocarpii interno instructis.

Typus sectionis: *P. longistylis* (Boiss.) Pimenov & Kljuykov

Sect. *Bracteatae* contains only its type species.

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