CAREX PAMIRICA (CYPERACEAE), A NEW RECORD FROM WETLAND FLORA OF IRAN

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Carex pamirica is reported for the first time for the flora of Iran. The species has been collected from wetlands of west Elburz Mts. in Gilan province. Main characters of the species and its geographical distribution are presented.

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Key words. Carex pamirica, Cyperaceae, new record, Iran, wetland.

Introduction

During intensive ecological and floral studies of wetlands in Elburz Mountains, some interesting herbarium specimens were collected. One of the specimens was recognized as a new record for the genus Carex in Iran. The specimen has been carefully examined using Flora Iranica (Kukkonen 1998) and is preserved in TARI.

Carex pamirica (O. Fedtsch.) O. & B. Fedtsch. ex B. Fedtsch. -Fig. 1.

Material examined. Gilan: Loushan, Ca 10 km from Kelishum village toward Holoush Kuh area, Kamrani, 2070 m, 3902-TUH.

Table 1. Comparison of two Carex species.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characters</th>
<th>Carex pamirica</th>
<th>Carex rostrata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>leaf</td>
<td>c. 4-5 mm</td>
<td>2-4 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ligule</td>
<td>1 mm</td>
<td>0.2 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beak</td>
<td>0.7 – 1.1 mm</td>
<td>1.5 – 2 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nut</td>
<td>c. 2-2.2 mm</td>
<td>c. 1.7 – 1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carex pamirica was reported in Flora Iranica area from Central Asia in Tian Shan Mts. to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Kashmir (Kukkonen 1998). It is similar to C. rostrata Stokes that is compared with in table 1. Carex pamirica grows in clay soils with pH = 6.8 containing 5.6 % CaCo3. It grows with the other species such as Hippuurs vulgaris L. and Utricularia sp.

Reference

Carex pamirica

Fig. 1. Carex pamirica (x0.56); details (x 8.5).