

Cousinia aligudarzensis (Asteraceae), a New Species of Section *Cynaroides* Bunge from Iran

Farideh Attar and Ahmad Ghahreman

Central Herbarium, Department of Botany, Faculty of Science, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran.
fattar@khayam.ut.ac.ir

ABSTRACT. *Cousinia aligudarzensis* Attar & Ghahreman (Asteraceae), a new species of section *Cynaroides* Bunge (as "*Cynaroideae*") is described and illustrated. The distinguishing characters of section *Cynaroides* and those separating the new species from its nearest relative are discussed.

Key words: Asteraceae, *Cousinia*, Iran, section *Cynaroides*.

The genus *Cousinia* Cassini (Asteraceae) includes over 670 species in 53 sections distributed primarily in the arid areas of the Irano-Turanian region (Attar, 2000). It is represented in Iran by some 240 species (190 endemic) and is the second largest Iranian genus after *Astragalus* L. (Ghahreman & Attar, 1999). Several new species have recently been described from Iran (Attar & Ghahreman, 2000, 2002; Attar et al., 2000, 2001a, b, 2002; Ghahreman et al., 1999; Mehregan et al., 2003), and we believe that the genus has been inadequately surveyed for the Irano-Turanian region. Most species of *Cousinia* have a highly restricted distribution, and numerous taxa are known only from the type collection or from a limited number of gatherings.

The new species described below, *Cousinia aligudarzensis* Attar & Ghahreman, was discovered by the authors in 2001 during fieldwork in Luristan Province in Iran. It was found in a small patch or small community and can therefore be potentially identified as endangered.

Cousinia aligudarzensis Attar & Ghahreman, sp. nov. TYPE: Iran, Luristan: 10 km on rd. to Khomeyn City from 3-way intersection at Aligudarz, ca. 1500 m, 21 July 2001, F. Attar & A. Ghahreman 27613 (holotype, TUH; isotype, TUH). Figure 1.

Herba biennis pluricaulis, omnino appressa araneoso-tomentosa, canescens; caulis usque 30 cm altus, dense foliatus, incomplete spinoso-alatus, alis cuneato-attenuatis. Folia coriacea, sessilia, pinnatifida vel lobata, lobis triangularibus in spinam terminalem tenuem usque ad 3 mm longam excurrentia. Capitulae usque ad 5.5 cm

diam., 120 ad 150-florae; phyllaria patentia, 70 ad 75, coriacea, appendiculata; phyllaria exteriora 16.5–22 mm longa, appendice 10–14 × 7–9 mm, triangularia, reflexa, margine multispinosa; phyllaria intermedia 24–29 mm longa, appendice 7–17 × 5–9 mm, triangularia, lateraliter utrinque spinis 2 brevioribus praedita; phyllaria interiora 25–27 mm longa, appendice 4–6 × 2.5–4.5 mm, rhombica, apice in spinam erectam excurrente; phyllaria intima straminea, prominentia, lanceolata, sensim-attenuata. Corolla rosea, ca. 22 mm longa, laciniis 3–4 mm longis. Achenia ca. 5 × 2 mm, obpyramidalia, longitudinaliter striata, rugosa, exteriora curvata, interiora recta.

Biennial, multistemmed herb, totally appressed arachnoid tomentose, canescent, rarely glabrescent and green; stems up to 30 cm tall, few branched, densely leafy, incompletely winged; wings spiny, cuneate-attenuate. Leaves ca. 15 × 4 cm, coriaceous, sessile, pinnatifid or lobed; lobes triangular, terminating into a spine ca. 3 mm; venation pinnate-reticulate, prominent on both surfaces; basal leaves lanceolate, pinnatifid, 10–30 cm; cauline leaves cuneate at the base, reduced gradually upward. Heads terminal, solitary, to 5.5 cm diam., 120- to 150-flowered; phyllaries spreading, 70 to 75, coriaceous, constricted distally, appendiculate; outer phyllaries 16.5–22 mm, with an appendage 10–14 × 7–9 mm, triangular, with numerous spines on each side, reflexed; median phyllaries 24–29 mm, with an appendage 7–17 × 5–9 mm, triangular, with 2 small spines on each side, spreading to erect; inner phyllaries 25–27 mm, with an appendage 4–6 × 2.5–4.5 mm, rhomboid, terminating to a straight spine; innermost phyllaries stramineous, acute, prominent, lanceolate, gradually attenuate; receptacle bristles smooth, rarely indistinctly scabridulate, longer than the cypselae. Corolla pink, brown when dry, ca. 22 mm, tube about as long as the limb, lobes 3–4 mm; anther tube purple, glabrous. Achenes ca. 5 × 2 mm, obpyramidal, attenuate toward base, blackish brown, longitudinally striate, pallid-maculate, rugose, denticulate above, outer ones curved, inner ones straight; pappus scabrous, caducous.

Cousinia aligudarzensis is most closely related to *C. lactiflora* Rechinger f. The new species is readily



Attar, Farideh and Qahramān, Aḥmad. 2007. "Cousinia aligudarzensis (Asteraceae), a New Species of Section Cynaroides Bunge from Iran." *Novon a journal of botanical nomenclature from the Missouri Botanical Garden* 17, 145–145.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/41805>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/121746>

Holding Institution

Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

Sponsored by

Missouri Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.