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A New Species of Euphorbia from Iran

Nový druh rodu Euphorbia z Íránu

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PONERT J. (1973): A new species of *Euphorbia* from Iran. — Preslia, Praha, 45 : 361—363.

On the basis of his own field studies and herbarium collections, the author describes a new species of *Euphorbia* (*Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa* PONERT) from the southern part of the Elborz Mountains (northern slopes at 8700 feet above-sea-level). Characters separating this species from *Euphorbia decipiens* BOISS. et BUHSE are more rays in the inflorescence, longer and oblanceolate-linear cauline leaves, fruit characters, and pallid foveoles on seed. A. new combination *Euphorbia* sect. *Conicocarpus* (PROCHANOV) PONERT is proposed.

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The new species described here is defined by many-rayed umbel, styles united in the lower part and tomentulose columella. It is referred to the group of Asiatic species with a well developed calyx and whitish seeds.

Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa PONERT, sp. nova

Caulorrhizon lignosum, subsimplex (apud holotypum: caulorrhizon 1 dm longum), verticale, subimmersum, cum caulibus fructiferis 25—32 cm longis et 0,30—0,35 cm in diametro, simplicibus vel infra (probabiliter sub terra) ramosis, 0—2 ramos steriles ferentibus et cum caulibus sterilibus supra (in sicco) fuscis, 1—20 cm longis. Folia alterna. Folia caulium sterilium griseo-viridia oblanceolato-linearia saepe trinervia, ad 4,3 × 0,5 cm magna, sexta parte superiore vel parte quarta superiore latissima, obtusa acuminato-mucronulata, in petiolum brevem, saepe 0,1 cm longum, longe attenuata vel subsessilia. Folia caulium fructiferorum subdecidua, ad 3,3 × 0,5 cm magna, prostypi 1—1,5 (—2) mm lati, folia (vel prostypi) parte media caulium densissima, parte inferiore caulium 2—6 folia per 1 cm longitudinis caulium, parte media caulium 5—13 folia per 1 cm longitudinis caulium, parte superiore caulium infra umbellam 0—3 folia per 1 cm longitudinis caulium. Folia caulium inferiora mediaque foliis caulium sterilium similia, sed folia superiora bracteaeque involucri sessilia cuneato-obovata obtusa acuminato-mucronulata saepe trinervia, 1,0—2,0 × 0,4—0,8 cm magna, parte septima vel quarta superiore latissima. Rami cyathiferi infra umbellam 0—4, alterni, 1—2 cyathia ferentes. Umbella e 14—19 ramis constans. Rami umbellae suberecti, sulcati, bifurcati, 2 cyathia ferentes, axilla furcae sine cyathio et a base umbellae (2,5—)3(—4) cm distans; rami umbellae infra 0,4—0,6 mm in diametro, sed sub axilla furcae ad 0,6—1,3 mm incrassati. Bracteae furcae oppositae, saepe 7-nerves, 0,9—1,1 cm longae et 0,7—0,9 latae, late cuneato-obovato-rhombeae, obtusae, acuminato-mucronulatae. Bracteae cyathii oppositae, ab axilla furcae 1,2—1,5 cm distantes, bracteis furcae similes sed minores. Cyathia monoumbellulata. Involucellum cupuliforme, 0,3 cm longum, squamis laciniato-ciliatis brevius. Nectaria subpurpurea late obcordata, saepe 1,5 mm lata et 1 mm longa, parte distante truncata vel saepius emarginata, saepe undulata. Flos femineus cum pedicello erecto haud tortuoso, 0,6—0,9 cm longo, ideo pedicellus cupullae involucelli longior, flos femineus monochlamydeus, calyce triphyllo. Styli tres, glabri, ad partem tertiam inferiorem connati, a parte quarta superiore bifurcati. Fructus maturus truncato-pyramidale-ovoideus, tenuiter trisulcatus, tenuiter reticulatus, sparse glandulosus cum glandulis inaequalibus saepissime sessilibus, 0,55—0,65 cm longus, stylos saepe 0,25 cm longos ferens, infra cordato-truncatus, parte sexta inferiore latissimus, ibi 0,4—0,45 cm latus supra latissime conicus, sectio cuius triangulariter teres, infra rotundatior supra angulatior. Fructus maturus cum tribus partibus monococcis subdeciduis et columella sine stylis persistenti supra cum 6 emergentiis (tres emergentiae ad 0,2 cm longae, arcuate des-

cendento-patulae, tres emergentiae breviores), columella cum emergentiis breviter tomentosa (supreme densissime tomentella, infime tomentosa). Semina truncatopyramidale-ovoidea trifacialia monosulcata irregulariter foveolata cum faciebus albidis et viridoaureis, nonnumquam infra purpureo punctata. Caruncula fusca truncato-conica supra cum foveola.

Fructus, pedicellus floris feminei, cupula invilucelli, nectaria, bracteae cyathii et cyathiophori pars superior sparse glandulosa cum glandulis inaequalibus saepissime sessilibus.

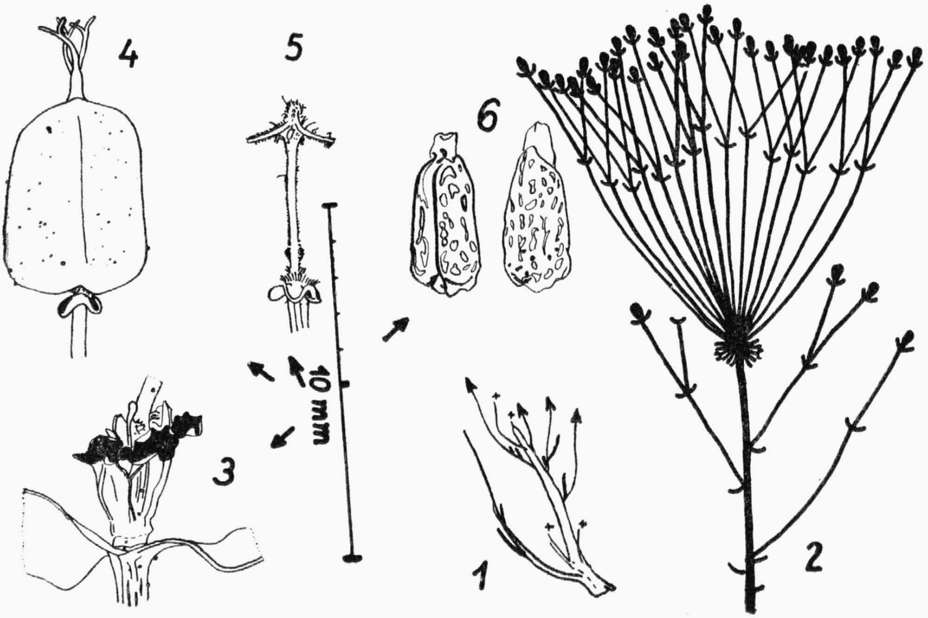

Fig. 1.—6. — *Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa* PONERT (holotypus): 1. Schema ramificationis plantae partis inferioris: caulorrhizon lignosum × cum caulibus fructiferis ↑ sterilibus | et reliquiis caulium emortuorum †. — 2. Schema inflorescentiarum. — 3. Involucellum cyathii. — 4. Fructus maturus. — 5. Columella fructus persistens. — 6. Seminis facies omnes. — Del. J. PONERT.

Holotypus: Jiří Ponert, Iter Iranicum, Pakistanicum Afghanistanicumque 1970: 38408/64. Iran. Montes Elborz, pars meridionalis, inter oppida Gachsar et Marzan-abad, declive boreale argillosum, 2650 m super mare. 25. VII. 1970 Jiří Ponert legit. Typus in herbario Horti botanici Batumensis conservatur.

Affinitas et differentia specifica: *Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa* PONERT habitu et semine albido foveolis in sulcos longitudinales irregulariter nonnumquam coalitis *Euphorbiae decipienti* BOISS. et BUHSE similis, a qua umbellae radiis 14—19, foliis caulium oblanceolato-linearibus, foliis umbellaribus acuminato-mucronulatis, semine foveolis pallidis et fructus characteribus multis differt.

Concerning the placement of the new species in the system of the genus, neither BOISSIER (1879), nor later RECHINGER et SCHIMAN-CZEIKA (1964), in their analysis of the genus *Euphorbia* and delimitation of infrageneric taxonomic categories (e.g. sections), paid attention to the presence of the calyx on female flowers of some perennial species with whitish seeds. Infra-

generic classification proposed by PROCHANOV (1949) seems to be more appropriate — as to the new species *Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa* PONERT must be taken in account *Euphorbia* sect. *Murtekias* RAFIN. emend. PROCHANOV subsect. *Conicocarpae* PROCHANOV. The rank of subsection, however, is not sufficiently high, and plants of the genus *Euphorbia* (which are perennial with following distinguishing characters: leaves usually 3-nerved alternate dense, cyathium-glands often up to 1 mm long, female flowers with developed calyx, whitish seeds irregularily foveolate or worm-formly rugous) ought to be treated as a separate section, *Euphorbia* sect. *Conicocarpus* (PROCHANOV) PONERT. Thus the new species *Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa* PONERT is referred to *Euphorbia* sect. *Conicocarpus* (PROCHANOV) PONERT.

Euphorbia sect. *Conicocarpus* (PROCHANOV) PONERT comb. nova

Basionym: *Tithymalus* sect. *Conicocarpus* PROCHANOV, Obzor. moloč. Sred. Azii, 155, 1933.
Plantae perennes. Folia saepe trinervia, caulina alterna densa, sed inaequaliter, nonnumquam parte media caulium densissima. Nectaria saepe ad 1 mm longa. Infra fructum calyx persistens. Semina albida sculpta, saepe irregulariter foveolata vel vermiculariter rugosa, cum caruncula.

Souhrn

Na základě terénního studia a vlastních sběrů autor popisuje a vyobrazuje nový druh rodu *Euphorbia*, jmenovitě druh *Euphorbia sparsiglandulosa* PONERT, rostoucí v severoíránském pohoří Elborz ve vegetačním stupni subalpínských stepí. Od podobného druhu *E. decipiens* BOISS. et BUHSE se druh *Euphorbisa sparsiglandulosa* PONERT liší víceramenným lichookolíkem, delšími obkopinatě čárkovitými listy lodyžními, listeny lichookolíku osténkatě zašpičatělými, světlými jamkami na povrchu semene, velikostí a oděním plodů, srostlou a nesrostlou částí čnělek. Autor navrhuje novou kombinaci *Euphorbia* sect. *Conicocarpus* (PROCHANOV) PONERT.

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