



Ferula divaricata (Umbelliferae), a new species from Central Anatolia, Turkey

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Abstract

A new species, *Ferula divaricata* from Central Anatolia, is described and illustrated. The new species is closely related to *F. rigidula* and *F. parva* but differs in characters of stem, nodes, leaf dissection and pubescence, sheath and terminal segment shape and size.

Key words: Apiaceae, description, *Ferula*, taxonomy

Introduction

Recently Sağıroğlu & Duman (2006) clarified the morphology, diagnostics and biogeography of a rare Central Anatolian species, *Ferula parva* Freyn & Bornmüller (in Freyn 1892: 121). They regarded *F. rigidula* DeCandolle (1830: 172) as the closest relative, and discussed diagnostic characters of the two species (3–4-pinnate leaves in *F. parva* vs. 5–6-pinnate leaves in *F. rigidula* and ovate sheaths in *F. parva* vs. cylindrical-oblong sheaths in *F. rigidula*, among others) and their separate distribution in Central Anatolia. In particular, Sağıroğlu & Duman listed and mapped known localities of *F. rigidula* in Ankara, Kütahya, and Isparta vilayets. We confirm the distinctness of the two species, after checking our own collection of *F. parva* near Hadim in Konya vilayet. There were some uncertainties, however, on the identity of *F. rigidula* from Central Anatolia.

Ferula rigidula was described from Western Iran on the basis of a type from Iran: In Persiae saxosis montium Seidkhodzenseium [In saxosis montium Seidkhodzenseium, distr. Khoi, prov. Aderbeizan], 23 June 1828. *A.J.Szovits* 496 (holotype G-DC!, isotypes G-BOIS!, LE!, M! S!, US). The species belongs to section *Peucedanooides* Boissier (1872: 983) or subgenus *Peucedanooides* (Boissier) Korovin (1947: 9) of *Ferula* Linnaeus (1753: 246). Synonyms of the species include *F. rigidula* var. *caucasica* Fischer & Meyer (1842: 42) (homotypic synonym) and *F. laeta* Woronow (1933: 219) (heterotypic synonym), both of Caucasian origin, as well as *Peucedanum rupestre* Boiss. & Balansa (in Boissier 1859: 85), described from the vicinity of Kayseri in Central Anatolia (In praeruptis rupium verticalium ad pagum Talasse prope Caesaream Cappadociae, alt. 1270 m, June–July 1856, *B.Balansa* 1011 (GOET, US). The last name is illegitimate, being a later homonym of *Peucedanum rupestre* Hoffmanns. ex Sprengel (1820: 512).

In general, the geographical distribution of *F. rigidula* seems to consist of two isolated parts. One includes S Transcaucasia (Armenia, Azerbaizhan), W Iran (W Azarbayjan, E Azarbayjan, Zanjan), and East Anatolian vilayets of Turkey (Erzincan, Erzurum, Kars, Malatya, Elazığ, Van). The type collection originates from this area. The other part of the distribution comprises the Central Anatolian provinces of Ankara, Kirikkale, Çankiri, Sivas, Kütahya, Isparta, Konya, Niğde, and Kayseri.

In 2008 we collected a species of *Ferula*, belonging to sect. *Peucedanooides*, in the vilayet of Eskişehir (Sivrihisar Dağları, Kaymaz, road turn to Beylikova) on dry stony slopes. According to the Flora of Turkey (Peşmen 1972) the gathering could be determined only as *F. rigidula*. A similar nearby collection is kept in