



Pimpinella ibradiensis (Apiaceae), an unusual new species from Turkey

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Abstract

Pimpinella ibradiensis, an unusual new species found in the Toka Yayla (İbradı, Antalya) in southern Anatolia, is described and illustrated. Site conditions, synecology and conservation status of *P. ibradiensis* are considered. In light of the comparison with the other closely related four species, namely *P. nephrophylla*, *P. flabellifolia*, *P. sintenisii* and *P. paucidentata*, its similarity within the genus are discussed. *P. ibradiensis* is easily distinguished from its relatives by its white petals, presence of bracts and bracteoles, larger fruits (4–5.5 × 1–2 mm), and having serrulate basal leaves with 60–95 strongly cartilaginous teeth along margins. The geographical distribution of *P. ibradiensis* and closely related species are mapped and the identification key of those species is updated.

Key words: Antalya, İbradı, Simple-leaved perennial *Pimpinellas*, Southern Anatolia, Taxonomy

Introduction

The genus *Pimpinella* L., (1753: 263) is one of the largest genera of the Apiaceae, comprising 170–180 species worldwide (Pimenov & Leonov 1993, 2004, Khajepiri *et al.* 2010). If the number of species are considered, it mainly occurs in Asia, Africa and Europe, respectively (Tutin 1968, Engstrand 1987, Pimenov & Leonov 2004, Magee *et al.* 2010). In the account for the “Flora of Turkey”, Matthews (1972) recognised 27 taxa belonging to 23 *Pimpinella* species. Since that publication, *Pimpinella isaurica* V. A. Matthews subsp. *sumbuliana* R. S. Göktürk and *P. tunceliana* Yıldırımılı have been newly described, while *P. nephrophylla* Rech. f. & H. Riedl. was firstly recorded for Turkey (Ertekin & Kaya 2005, Göktürk 2008, Yıldırımılı 2010). Afterwards, *P. anthriscoides* Boiss. was assigned to the new genus *Pseudopimpinella* F. Ghahrem, Khajepiri & Mozaff. based on morphological and anatomical differences (Khajepiri *et al.* 2010). This statement was not supported by Zakharova *et al.* (2012) who transferred *Pimpinella anthriscoides* to *Aegopodium* L. based on molecular analysis and morphology. The epithet of *anthriscoides* could not be used in *Aegopodium* since it was already in use for a different Chinese species. Hence, *Aegopodium tribracteolatum* Schmalh. the second oldest available name was approved. Moreover, in that study *P. cruciata* Bornm. & H. Wolff, which had been identified as one of two varieties of *P. anthriscoides* by Matthews in the Flora of Turkey, was also transferred from *Pimpinella* to *Tamamschjanella* Pimenov & Kljuykov (Zakharova *et al.* 2012). Most recently, two names, treated under the genus *Scaligeria* DC. in the Flora of Turkey account (Stevens 1972), were confirmed as *Pimpinella tripartita* Kalen. and *P. lazica* (Boiss.) M. Hiroe (Hand 2011). Finally, *P. affinis* Ledeb. and *P. squamosa* Karjagin were assigned in synonymy of *P. peregrina* L. and *P. nudicaulis* Trautv., respectively (Hand 2011).

In May 2010, during field studies related to the PhD thesis of the first author (Çinbilgel 2012), sterile material of unknown Apiaceae was collected on Toka Yayla in İbradı district of Antalya. Although the basal leaves were very distinct, being coriaceous, suborbicular to orbicular, serrulate with many strongly cartilaginous teeth along margins, this strange plant could not be identified in the field and it had not been previously encountered. The incomplete plants gathered in May 2010 were complemented by additional collections on June 2010 and July 2011 from the same