



A new species of *Hieracium* sect. *Pannosa* (Asteraceae) from Bulgaria

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Abstract

Hieracium crinitopannosum, a new species of presumably hybrid origin between *H. petrovae* and *H. crinitum*, is described from the Rhodopes in southern Bulgaria and illustrated. It is similar to *H. cappadocicum* from Turkey, but differs in the densely and conspicuously serrate-dentate leaves. The new species is triploid ($x=9$) and reproduces apomictically.

Key words: Asteraceae, Balkan Peninsula, biodiversity, Europe, taxonomy

Introduction

In Europe *Hieracium* (Linnaeus 1753: 799) s.str. is dominated by apomictic polyploids (triploids and tetraploids). Sexual diploids are very rare and with some exceptions (e.g. *H. umbellatum* Linnaeus 1753: 804) occur mainly in refugial areas of Southern Europe (Merxmuller 1975). One of the most important areas of this kind is the Balkan Peninsula, where diploid populations and even new diploid species have been discovered recently (Vladimirov 2000, 2003; Vladimirov & Szelaġ 2006; Chrtek *et al.* 2007; Szelaġ *et al.* 2007; Szelaġ 2010; Ilnicki & Szelaġ 2011; Szelaġ & Ilnicki 2011).

The diploid, sexual *Hieracium* species are regularly accompanied by their hybrids. It is often possible to find the second parent species nearby, that makes it substantially easier to identify the hybrid. Such a situation may be seen in the Rhodopes in southern Bulgaria, where *H. petrovae* Vladimirov & Szelaġ (2006: 261), one of the recently described diploid species, occurs. During field studies in the Central Rhodopes we found a large population of the hitherto unknown taxon with the morphological characters intermediate between *H. petrovae* from *H. sect. Pannosa* Zahn (1906: 69) and *H. crinitum* Smith (Sibthorp & Smith 1813: 134) from *H. sect. Italica* Fries (1862: 7, 107). We decided to describe the plants from the Rhodopes as a new species.

Hieracium crinitopannosum Szelaġ & Vladimirov *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1)

Type:—BULGARIA. Central Rhodopes, along the road from Devin town to Mihalkovo village, 625 m, 41°49'41"N, 24°26'55"E, 20 July 2004, Z. Szelaġ & V. Vladimirov (holotype SOM 169412, isotypes KRA, Herb. Hierac. Z. Szelaġ).

Paratypes:—BULGARIA. Central Rhodopes, 5–6 km from Mihalkovo village by the road to Krichim town, 550 m, 41°52'08"N, 24°25'07"E, 10 July 2011, V. Vladimirov (SOM 169413 to 169417, Herb. Hierac. Z. Szelaġ).

Affinity:—*Hieracium crinitopannosum* is similar to *H. cappadocicum* Freyn (1891: 55) described from Turkey, but differs in the densely and conspicuously serrate-dentate leaves (see Szelaġ 2012: 356, *fig.* 6).