



Phlomoides binaludensis (Phlomideae, Lamiioideae, Lamiaceae), a new species from northeastern Iran

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Abstract

The new species *Phlomoides binaludensis* (Phlomideae, Lamiioideae, Lamiaceae) from Binalud Mountains in the Khorasan province in NE Iran, is here described and illustrated. It belongs to *Phlomoides* section *Filipendula* and resembles *P. labiosiformis* and *P. laciniata* in general morphology, but differs primarily in corolla and calyx size, corolla color and stem indumentum. Notes on the ecology and conservation status of the new species are also given.

Introduction

The genus *Phlomoides* Moench (1794: 403) with about 150–170 species belongs to Lamiaceae, subfamily Lamiioideae, tribe Phlomideae (Scheen *et al.* 2010). As pointed out by Kamelin & Machmedov (1990), the genus has been largely ignored for the last 200 years. The genus was recently re-circumscribed to encompass the members of *Eremostachys* Bunge (1830: 414) along with part of *Phlomis* L. (1753: 178), *Paraeremostachys* Adylov *et al.* (1986: 112) and some mono- or oligotypic genera (Salmaki *et al.* 2012). The distribution area of the genus extends from central Europe to the Russian Far East. The major centers of diversity of *Phlomoides* are Central Asia, the Iranian highlands (including Afghanistan, Iran, W Pakistan, SW Turkmenistan and NE Iraq) and China, with a diversity hotspot in Yunnan and Sichuan, and some few species extending to Mediterranean Europe.

Phlomoides accommodates species with simple or lacinate to pinnatisect leaves; the upper corolla lip not being laterally compressed, non-flattened, arched shape, always hairy or fringed-incised and with woody rhizomes and/or tuberiform lateral roots. They are non-aromatic or lightly aromatic herbs usually in subalpine and alpine vegetation with a few species growing in desert conditions. In Iran, these taxa are floristic components of steppe and mountain vegetation (Hedge 1967).

The most important infrageneric classification of *Phlomoides* has been made by Kamelin & Machmedov (1990) in which two sections [*P. sect. Phlomoides* and *P. sect. Filipendula* Kamelin & Makhmedov (1990: 245)], 21 subsections and 137 species are recognized. *Phlomoides sect. Phlomoides* (ca. 66 species) is characterized by simple leaves, crenate, dentate to entire at margin, and unicolored corolla, whereas *P. sect. Filipendula* (ca. 71 species) is distinguished by pinnatisect leaves (rarely undivided) and bicolored corolla. Considering the general distribution area of *Phlomoides*, the number of species belonging to *P. sect. Phlomoides* decreases from east to west, but *P. sect. Filipendula* shows an opposite tendency in its distribution, dominating the western most part of the distribution area.

Rechinger (1982) reported 41 species of *Eremostachys* from the Iranian highlands, of which 15, including seven endemics, occur in Iran. After *Flora Iranica* (Rechinger 1982), *E. lanata* Jamzad (1987: 112) has been added to this genus in Iran (Jamzad 1987). Due to the inclusion of *Eremostachys* in *Phlomoides* according to molecular phylogenetic studies (Salmaki *et al.* 2012), 17 species of *Phlomoides* are known from Iran (Salmaki *et al.* 2012). However, this treatment received no recognition in Flora of Iran and *Phlomoides* species were sorted into *Eremostachys* and *Phlomis* (Jamzad 2013).

Phlomoides sect. Filipendula is the largest section of *Phlomoides* and represents the most diverse and controversial group (Sennikov & Lazkov 2010) of the genus. It includes stout perennial herbs with tuberous rootstock, lacinate to

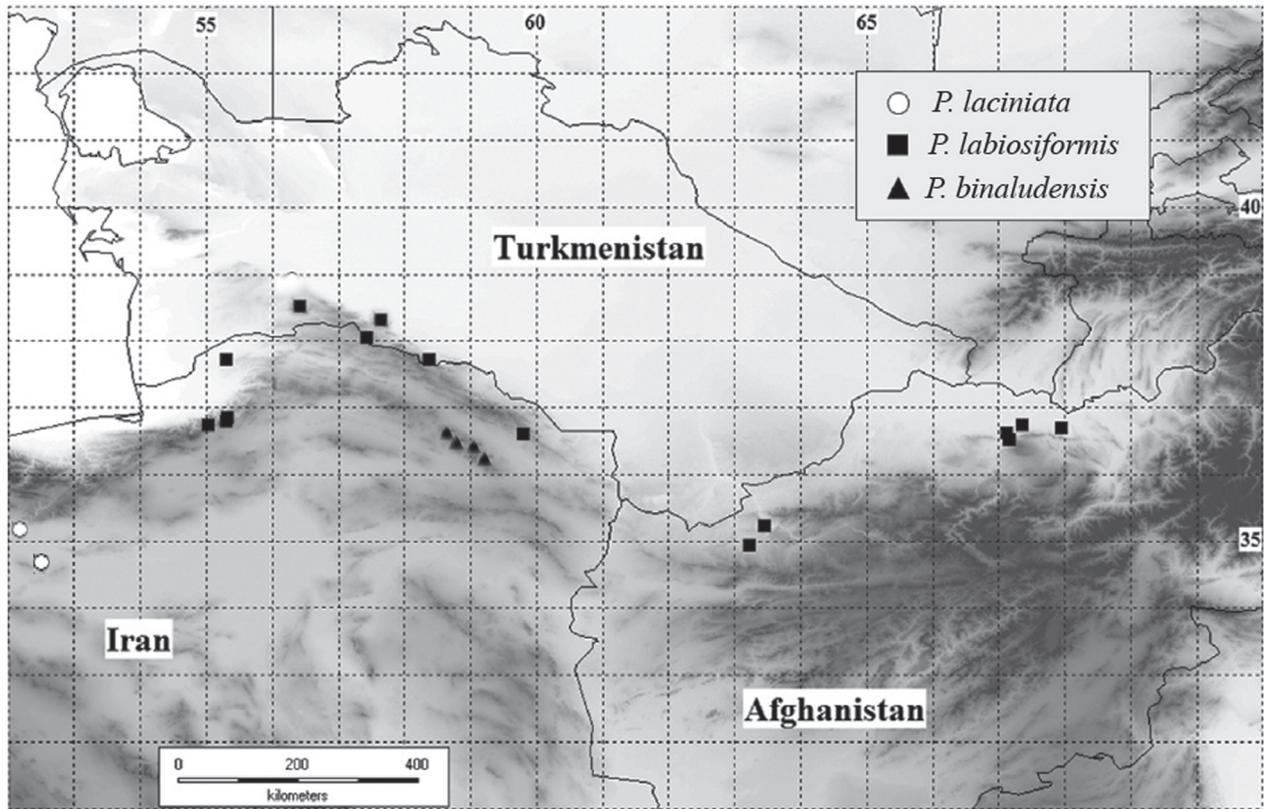


FIGURE 2. Distribution map of *Phlomooides binaludensis*, *P. labiosiformis* and *P. laciniata*.

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