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

Ferula rigidula was described from Western Iran on the basis of a type from Iran: In Persiae saxosis montium Seidkhodzensium [In saxosis montium Seidkhodzensium, 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 Peucedanoides Boissier (1872: 983) or subgenus Peucedanoides (Boissier) Korovin (1947: 9) of Ferula Linnaeus (1753: 246). Synonyms of the species include Ferula rigidula var. caucasica Fischer & Meyer (1842: 42) (homotypic synonym) and Ferula 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 Ferula rigidula seems to consist of two isolated parts. One includes S Transcaucasia (Armenia, Azerbaijan), 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. Peucedanoides, 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 Ferula rigidula. A similar nearby collection is kept in