

Two new species of *Taraxacum* from SW Finland

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Two new species, *Taraxacum desideratum* Sonck and *T. sacrificatum* Sonck (sect. *Vulgaria seu Ruderalia*) from Raisio near Turku, SW Finland, are described. Both species have succumbed under a big shipyard.

Key words: *Taraxacum*, taxonomy

Between the years 1923 and 1927 my family lived at Upalingo, a former manor in Raisio, 8 km from the city of Turku in SW Finland. Sixty years later, in June 1966, I visited the place again in order to collect specimens of *Taraxacum*. I found there, at the foot of a hill called Paveronginmäki, a new species, and on a renewed visit in June 1981 to the same locality, another unknown species of *Taraxacum*.

Taraxacum desideratum Sonck, sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Planta mediocris, 30–40 cm alta. Folia erecta, sat obscure gramineo-viridia, araneosa, 20–30 cm longa, ad 6 cm lata, 4–5-lobata. Lobi laterales sat approximati, oppositi vel raro alternati, triangulares–subdeltoides, patentes, acuti, vulgo integri vel subintegri, petiolis sat angustis, subalatis nervoque mediano levissime purpureo. Lobus terminalis sat parvus–mediocris, sagittatus vel triangularis, acutus–subacutus, in uno latere interdum incisus. Interlobia bene evoluta, vulgo acute laciniato–dentata. Anguli lorum interdum levissime plicatuli. Scapi pallidi, floriferi foliis breviter superantes, sub involucri araneosi, ceterum glabri. Involucrum parvum–mediocre, crassiusculum, basis ovato–

truncata. Squamae exteriores ad 10 mm longae, 2–3 mm latae, supra apicem versus pallide virides, sat anguste albo-marginatae, non-corniculatae. Squamae interiores olivaceae, non-corniculatae. Calathium laete luteum, leviter convexum. Ligulae marginales angustae, subtus stria canescentia notatae. Antherae polliniferae. Stylus luteus, stigmata leviter livescentia. Achenium ignotum.

Holotypus: Fennia. Regio aboënsis, Raisio, Upalingo, 12.VI.1966 C. E. Sonck (H).

Because of the \pm rhomboid shape of the lateral lobes, *Taraxacum desideratum* resembles *T. pulchrifolium* Markl., but the colour of *T. desideratum* is darker green. *Taraxacum pulchrifolium* has a longer shape of involucri, broader outer bracts and more denticles. The terminal lobe of *T. desideratum* has the shape of a broad and regular triangle, whereas both sides of the lobe in *T. pulchrifolium* usually are more or less concave, forming a \pm narrow tongue.

Taraxacum sacrificatum Sonck, sp. nov. (Fig. 2)

Planta mediocris, 20–30 cm alta. Folia olivaceo–lutescenti-viridia, subglabra–paulo araneosa, sat erecta, lanceolata (“palustriformia”), subacuta,



Fig. 1. *Taraxacum desideratum* Sonck.

integra vel paulo breviter dentata, petiolis subangustis–subalatis, ad basim leviter roseo–violaceis. Folia exteriora saepe irregulariter et non confecte paucilobata. Folia intermedia et interiora ca. 0.5–2 cm lata, ad 20 cm longa. Lobus terminalis saepe indistincte determinatus vel hastatus, 3–4 cm longus. Scapi pallidi, glabri–subglabri, floriferi, foliis superantes. Involucrum parvum, olivaceo–viride, ca. 1 cm longum, 0.7 mm latum. Squamae exteriores retroflexae, olivaceae, 2–3 mm latae, ad 8 mm longae, angustissime albomarginatae, non–corniculatae. Squamae interiores non–corniculatae. Calathium laete luteum, ligulae marginales subtus stria canescentia nota-

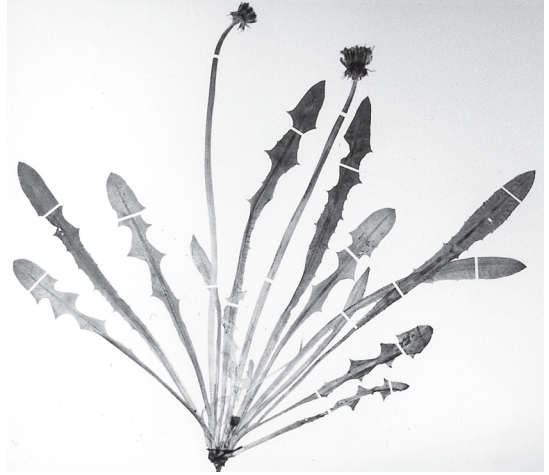


Fig. 2. *Taraxacum sacrificatum* Sonck.

tae. Antherae polliniferae. Stylus et stigmata lutea. Achenium ignotum.

Holotypus: Fennia. Regio aboënsis, Raisio, Upalingo, 22.VI.1981 C. E. Sonck (H).

The leaves of *Taraxacum sacrificatum* are very narrow and pale green, reminding of certain strains of *T. guttatum* H. Lindb. or *T. septentrionale* Dahlst. However, those have a different shape of the head and are apolline species, whereas *T. sacrificatum* produces pollen.

To get achenes I visited Upalingo once again at the end of June 1997. I was shocked: There was nothing left of the original landscape. The entire farm with its main buildings, stable and cowshed as well as the surrounding slopes, parkland and garden had been levelled. The entire area, all the way to the seashore, was covered by the big shipyards of Kvaerner Masa-Yards with its huge industrial buildings. I can only hope that one day someone will find these two species in some new location in the vicinity.

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