Tulipa gumusanica (Liliaceae), a new species from Turkey

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Received 8 August 2001, accepted 29 November 2001


Tulipa gumusanica Terzioğlu (Liliaceae) is described as a species new to science and illustrated in line drawings. It occurs in the Vilayet Gümüşhane region of Turkey. The chief characters of T. gumusanica are pure yellow stamens and anthers and distinctly undulate leaves.

Key words: Liliaceae, new species, taxonomy, Tulipa

Introduction

The genus Tulipa L. (Liliaceae) contains 40 (Stork 1984) or more than 100 (Hali 1940) species depending on which species concept is applied. It is distributed in the temperate regions of N Africa, Asia and Europe, with the majority of species occurring in Central Asia (Xingi & Mor-dak 2000), where the centre of diversity is in the Pamir Alai and Tien Shan mountain ranges (Hoog 1973). The genus has historically been subdivided into two subgenera, Tulipa and Eriostemones Boiss., which are clearly distinguished by morphological characteristics (Raamsdonk & de Vries 1992). Section Tulipa (Leiostemones Boiss.) is mainly found in the primary gene centre in central Asia and section Eriostemones migrated from the primary as well as from the secondary gene centre (Caucasus) westwards into western Europe (Raamsdonk & de Vries 1995).

Fifteen species of Tulipa have so far been recorded from Turkey, of which six belong to section Eriostemones and nine to section Tulipa (Marais 1984, Persson 2000). In this paper, a new species belonging to section Tulipa is described. It was collected on Zigana Mountain in Vilayet Gümüşhane and at present is known only from this locality.
Perennial, bulb ovoid, 1.5–3 cm in diameter; tunics papery, reddish-brown, inside thinly hairy especially at base, hairs straight. Stem, including peduncle, up to 45 cm long, glabrous. Leaves 4–5(–6), 5–20 × 1–3 cm, glaucous, recurved and distinctly undulate, broadly lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, gradually decreasing in size upwards, ciliate on margin. Flowers solitary, golden yellow, without blotch. Outer perianth segments 2.5–5 × 0.9–2.3 cm, ovate to obovate-elliptic; inner segments 2–3.5 × 0.6–2 cm, obovate-spathulate to oblanceolate. Filaments yellow, 4.5–9 mm, as long as or shorter than anthers; anthers yellow, 5–12 mm, pollen yellow. Ovary glaucous, hardly narrowed below the sessile stigma. Capsule 1.5–4.5 × 1.3–2.5 cm, ovoid to ellipsoid, apiculate, shortly stipitate.

_Tulipa gumusanica_ differs from all the taxa hitherto described in _Tulipa_ sect. _Tulipa_ in having fully yellow filaments. Because of its ciliate, undulate and recurved leaves, it shows close similarity to _T. armena_ Boiss., but differs from it in having 4–5(–6) leaves, yellow filaments, and consistently pure golden-yellow flowers. _Tulipa armena_ shows wide variations in flower colour, with the yellow-flowered forms being similar in appearance to _T. gumusanica_. Specimens of _T. armena_ with four leaves, black filaments and yellow flowers are found in the close vicinity of _T. gumusanica_.

**Acknowledgements**

We thank Dr. R.I. Milne (St. Andrews, UK) and Dr. G. Gottschlich (Tübingen, Germany) for critically reading and commenting on the manuscript, and to Forestry Engineer T. Birtürk for assistance during the field studies.
References


