

Centaurea marashica (Asteraceae), a new species from Turkey

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Centaurea marashica E. Uzunhisarcıklı, M. Tekşen and E. Doğan *sp. nova* (sect. *Pseudoseridia*, Asteraceae) is described from South Anatolia, Turkey, and illustrated. It is morphologically similar to *C. cheirolepidoides* and *C. isaurica*, from which it differs mainly in the characters of leaves, appendages and pappus.

Key words: *Centaurea*, new species, taxonomy

Turkey is one of the main centres of diversity for the genus *Centaurea* (Wagenitz 1986). In *Flora of Turkey and The East Aegean Islands*, 172 species (plus six imperfectly known ones) of *Centaurea* were accepted (Wagenitz 1975). Since then, eight new species have been described from Turkey (Davis *et al.* 1988, Wagenitz & Hellwig 1996, Wagenitz *et al.* 1998, Güner 2000, Duran & Duman 2002, Türkoğlu *et al.* 2003) and one has been added as a new record for Turkey (Davis *et al.* 1988). In this paper, we describe a new species, after which the total number of *Centaurea* species known from Turkey rises to 189. In addition *C. isaurica*, which has been treated as a “species imperfectly known”, is reported from the type locality and elsewhere. So, the flower, achene and pappus characters which were reported as unknown in *Flora of Turkey* have been clarified by Ertuğrul *et al.* (2004). *Centaurea cheirolepidoides*, which was previously known only from the type locality, has recently been found in different localities (Duman *et al.* 2000).

The specimens of the new species were collected in Göksun district, in the northwest of Kahramanmaraş province. These were compared with many specimens of *C. cheirolepidoides* (GAZI: H. Duman 6714, Z. Aytaç 7831; HUB: no: 30562) and *C. isaurica* (GAZI: H. Duman 5586; KNYA: O. Tugay 1625, 2180, 2835, 2935, Ertuğrul 2311).

Centaurea marashica E. Uzunhisarcıklı, M. Tekşen & E. Doğan, *sp. nova* (Figs. 1 and 2)

Affinis C. isauricae, sed differt foliis inferioribus angustis lanceolatis (non lyratis), spinulis appendicum 2–5 mm (non 5–10 mm), pappo scabro (non barbellato); affinis *C. cheirolepidoide*, differt spinulis foliis mediis et superioribus 2.5–6 mm (non 0.5–2 mm), ciliis appendicum 2–4 mm (non 1–1.5 mm), pappo brunneo (non niveo-luteo).

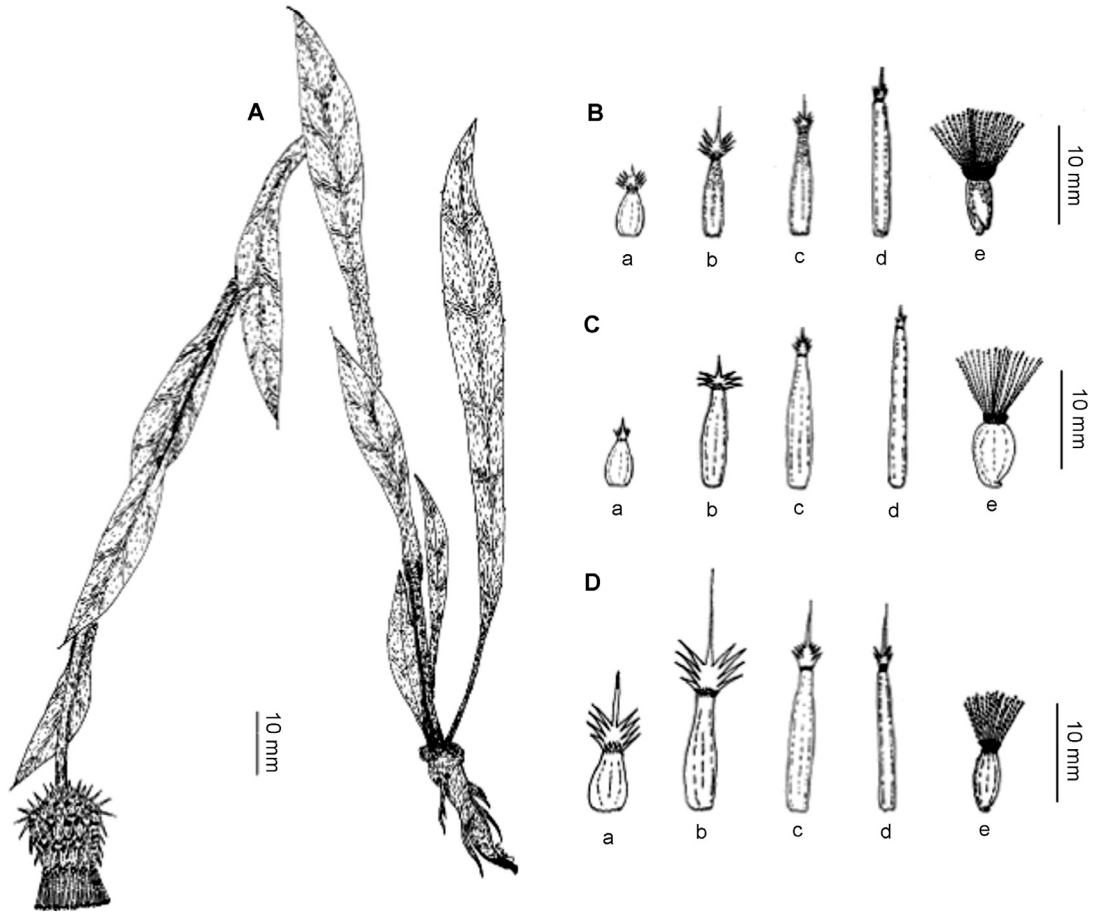


Fig. 1. — **A:** *Centaurea marashica*, habit (from holotype). — **B:** *Centaurea marashica*. — **C:** *C. cheirolepidoides*. — **D:** *C. isaurica*. (a) Outer phyllaries; (b–c) median phyllaries; (d) inner phyllaries; (e) achenes.

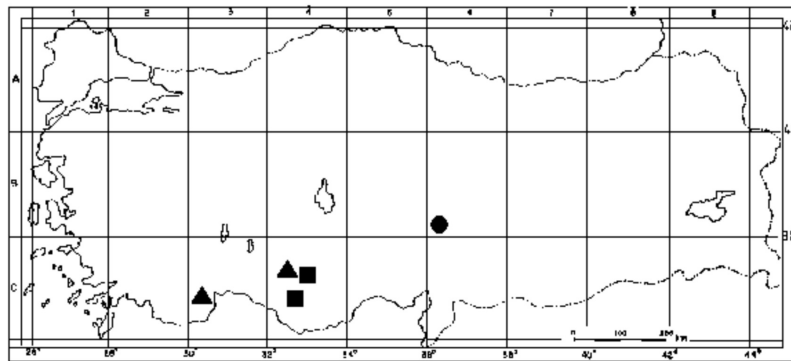


Fig. 2. Geographic distribution of *Centaurea marashica* (●), *C. cheirolepidoides* (▲), and *C. isaurica* (■).

HOLOTYPE: Turkey. B6 Kahramanmaraş: Göksun, Armut Mountain, Kartallık Kayası, 1700 m, rocky slopes, 23.VII.2003 M. E. Uzunhisarcıklı 1901 & M. Tekşen, E. Doğan (GAZI; isotypes ANK, HUB).

Perennial herb with a woody rootstock.

Stems erect, striate, floccose-tomentose, 45–65 cm long and 3–5 mm diameter, usually simple, sometimes 1–3 one-headed branches in upper part. Basal leaves floccose-tomentose, narrowly lanceolate, petiolate, petiole up to 25–30 mm,

Table 1. A morphological comparison of *Centaurea marashica* with *C. cheirolepidoides* and *C. isaurica*.

Character	<i>C. marashica</i>	<i>C. cheirolepidoides</i>	<i>C. isaurica</i>
Lower stem leaves	narrowly lanceolate, margin sparsely toothed	lanceolate, with one pair of coarse teeth in lower part	lyrate, with a lanceolate terminal segment and 2–4 pairs of lanceolate lateral segments
Median and upper leaves			
Length of decurrent	2.5–5 cm	2–4 cm	0.4–1 cm
Spinule of median and upper leaves	2.5–6 mm	0.5–2 mm	2–4 mm
Appendage			
Lower	3–5 × 3.5–6 mm	1–2 × 0.5–2 mm	6–7 × 4–6 mm
Median	3.5–6.5 × 5–8 mm	1–3 × 1–3 mm	7–12 × 7–8 mm
Inner	2–4 × 1.5–2 mm	0.5–1 × 0.2–1 mm	6 × 1.5–2 mm
Spinule	2–5 mm	1–2 mm	5–10 mm
Cilia	2–4 mm	1–1.5 mm	3–5 mm
Colour	straw-coloured and brown at base	blackish-brown	straw-coloured
Pappus	scabrous	scabrous	barbellate
Colour	brownish	whitish-yellow	whitish-yellow
Outer series	6–7 mm	7–8 mm	3–5 mm

margins sparsely toothed (0.5–1 mm), acute, attenuate, 15–23 × 0.4–1.5 cm (incl. petiole); median and upper leaves floccose-tomentose, elliptic-lanceolate, distinctly decurrent, 2.5–5 cm, margins entire, acute, 2–17 × 0.8–3 cm, median and upper leaves with 2.5–6 mm long spinule; leaves decreasing to capitula. Capitula 1–3 and solitary at end of branches, involucre globose or nearly cylindrical, 15–22 × 10–24 mm. Phyllaries imbricate, glabrous. Lower phyllaries ovate, 4–5 × 3 mm, appendage 3–5 × 3.5–6 mm; median phyllaries lanceolate, 12–14 × 4–5 mm, margins with 1 mm wide hyaline-membranous edge, appendage 3.5–6.5 × 5–8 mm; inner phyllaries linear-lanceolate, 14–15 × 3 mm, margins with 1 mm wide hyaline-membranous edge, appendage 2–4 × 1.5–2 mm. Appendages not totally concealing basal part of phyllaries, not decurrent, triangular, straw-coloured and brown at base, with 3–5 cilia on each side, cilia 2–4 mm long, ending in a slender, 2–5 mm long spinule. Florets yellow, marginal not radiant; corolla-tube glabrous, 11–12 mm long, lobes 4–5 × 0.5 mm, linear, with 5 brown stripes along corolla-tube; filaments 5–6 mm long, glabrous; anthers 3–4 × 1–1.5 mm; style 10–11 mm long. Achenes oblong, straw-coloured, glabrous, 4–5 × 1.5–2 mm; pappus biseriate, inner series 1.5–2 mm long, outer series 6–7 mm long, scabrous, brownish. Flowering June to August.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT ECOLOGY: Endemic in the transition territory of South Anatolia, Irano-Turanian element. Occurs on rocky slopes at 1600–1800 m. This species grows with *Aethionema coridifolium*, *Campanula stricta* var. *stricta*, *Cicerbita mulgedioides*, *Helichrysum arenarium* subsp. *aucheri*, and *Hesperis pendula*.

Centaurea marashica is morphologically close to *C. cheirolepidoides* and *C. isaurica*. The three species are compared in Table 1.

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