

Gagea daqingshanensis (Liliaceae), a new species from Inner Mongolia, China

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Received 10 Apr. 2005, revised version received 9 June 2005, accepted 16 June 2005

Zhao, L.-Q. & Yang, J. 2006: *Gagea daqingshanensis* (Liliaceae), a new species from Inner Mongolia, China. — *Ann. Bot. Fennici* 43: 223–224.

Gagea daqingshanensis L.Q. Zhao & J. Yang *sp. nova* (Liliaceae) is described from Inner Mongolia, China. It appears most closely related to *G. albertii* and *G. pauciflora*. The distinguishing characters are given in a key to the three species.

Key words: *Gagea*, Liliaceae, new species, taxonomy

There are about 70 species of *Gagea* (Liliaceae) in the world. They are chiefly distributed in Europe, the Mediterranean region and the temperate region of Asia; there are about 20 species in China. In April 2004 the author collected specimens of *Gagea*, which after careful study turned out to represent a hitherto undescribed species.

***Gagea daqingshanensis* Y.Q. Zhao & J. Yang, *sp. nova* (Fig. 1)**

G. alberti affinis, sed differt plantis glabratiss vel subglabratiss, involucris 2 et involucellis 1, staminibus 6–7 mm longis, antheris ca. 2.5 mm longis.

HOLOTYPE: China. Inner Mongolia, Hohhot, Daqingshan Mt., on grassland, 4.IV.2004 Li-Qing Zhao 04-016 (HIMC).

Perennial herb. Bulb ovoid, fulvous or brunescent, 3–5 mm in diameter, with several small bulbuls at base, tunic extending above bulb, lacerate, 1–3.5 cm long. Stem ca. 10 cm tall, glabrous or subglabrous. Basal leaf 1, filiform,

tubular-angular, ca. 11 cm long, 0.6–1 mm wide; cauline leaves 3, alternate, linear or narrowly lanceolate, 1–3 cm long, 1–1.5 mm wide, sparsely pilous at margins near base. Involucres 2, linear, ca. 9 mm long; involucel 1, linear, ca. 7 mm, sparsely pilous at margins near base. Flower solitary; pedicel ca. 1.5 cm long; tepals 6, oblong-lanceolate, yellowish-green, outer three herbaceous with narrowly membranous margins, 3–5 nerves, ca. 12 mm long; inner three membranous, 3-nerved, ca. 10 mm long. Stamens 6, 6–7 mm long; anthers oblong, ca. 2.5 mm long. Ovary ca. 3 mm long, style ca. 3 mm long, stigma 3-lobed. Fruit not seen. Flowering from April to May.

Gagea daqingshanensis is at present known only from the specimen cited in this paper. It resembles *G. albertii* and *G. pauciflora*, but can be distinguished with the following key:

1. Bulb without adhering bulbuls at base; stigma usually 3-partite *G. pauciflora*
1. Bulb with adhering bulbuls at base; stigma usually 3-lobed 2.
2. Plant without involucres and involucel; densely pubescent in lower part *G. albertii*

2. Plant with 2 involucre and 1 involucel; glabrous or subglabrous *G. daqingshanensis*

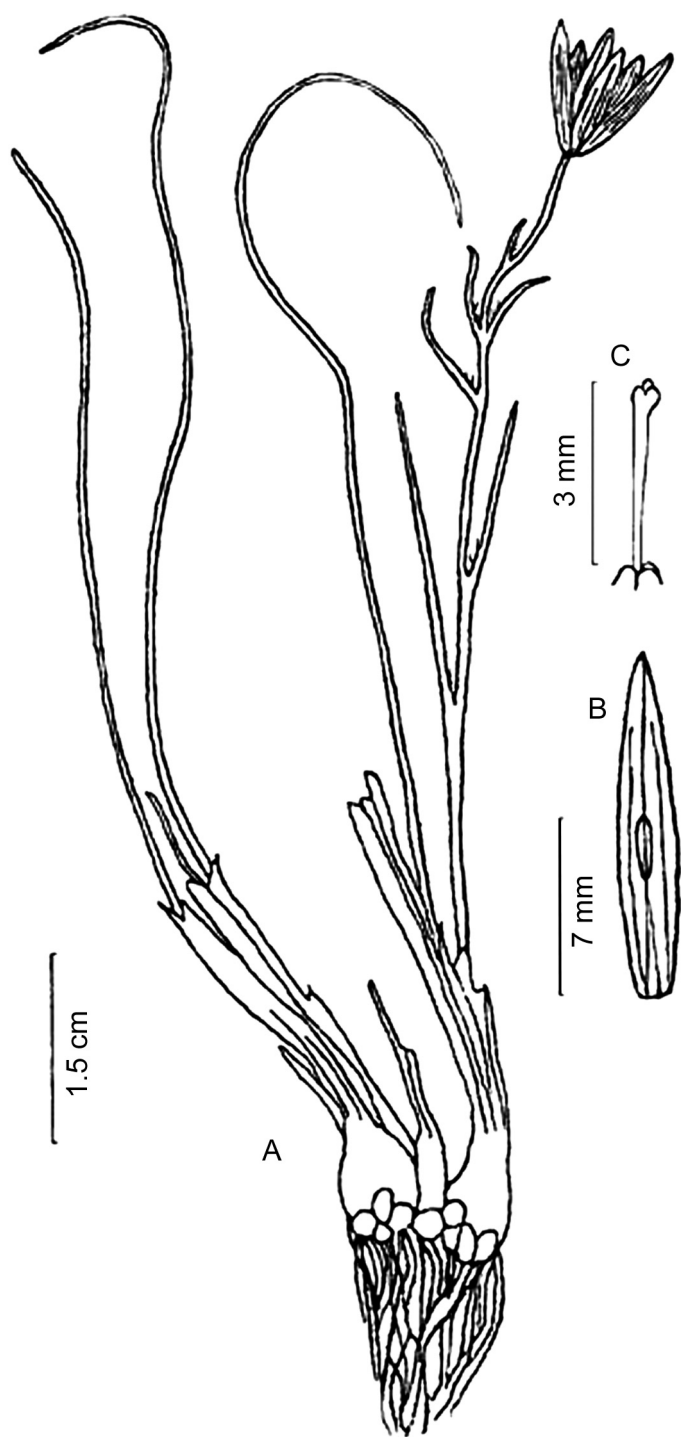


Fig. 1. *Gagea daqingshanensis* (from holotype, drawn by Cao Yuan). — **A:** Plant. — **B:** Tepal and stamen. — **C:** Style and stigma.