Cerasus hefengensis (Rosaceae), a new species from SW Hubei, China

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Cerasus hefengensis X.R. Wang & C.B. Shang *sp. nova* (Rosaceae) from SW Hubei, China, is described and illustrated. It is compared with a morphologically similar species.

Key words: Rosaceae, Cerasus, new species, taxonomy

During the investigation of genus *Cerasus* of Rosaceae in April 1996, in Hefeng County, Hubei Province, China, we found a species which clearly differed from other species of this genus. After morphological study, literature research, and examination of many specimens, we concluded that it represented a new species.

Cerasus hefengensis X.R. Wang & C.B. Shang, *sp. nova* (Fig. 1)

Affinis C. conradinei, sed foliis subtus pilosis, margine inaequaliter serratis, bracteis lanceolatis, floribus 5–10, floribus et foliis simultaneis vel praecoceis, stylis basi villosis differt.

TYPE: China. Hefeng County, Hubei Province, China. Altitude 800–1000 m, roadside on edge of forest, 11.IV.1996 *Wang Xian-Rong 96069* (holotype NF) and *Wang Xian-Rong 96093* (paratype NF).

Arborescent, 5–7 m high. Young branches red-brown, glabrous or pilose. Young leaves purple-red, elliptic or oblong, 12–16 cm long, 3–6 cm wide, tip acuminate, base sub-orbicular, mar-

gins irregularly obtuse duplicate-serrate, glands at tip of teeth, lower surface densely tomentose, lateral veins 8-12 pairs; petiole 0.7-1.2 cm long, glands 2 at tip, glabrous. Stipule linear or lobes plumose, or with gland in margin of serrations. Inflorescences umbellate or sub-umbellate, 5–10-flowered; flowers opening before or nearly at same time as leaves; peduncule gross, 1–3 cm long, glabrous. Bracts 2-3, lanceolate, 6-12 mm long, 2–3 mm wide, serrate with glandular tips. Pedicle 1.5-2.2 cm long, glabrous. Calyx tube campanulate, 4-6 mm long, 2-3 mm wide, lobes triangular, 2–3 mm long, erect, entire, glabrous. Corolla deep pink, petals elliptic, bifid at tip, 1.2-1.5 cm long, 0.6-1 cm wide, longer than staminae. Staminae 28-32. Style 1.0-1.4 cm long, tomentose near base. Fruit elliptic, black. Flowering March-April, fruiting May-June.

Cerasus hefengensis resembles *C. conradinae* by having elliptic leaves, umbellate or subumbellate inflorescences and a campanulate calyx tube. However, there are many differences from the latter. *Cerasus hefengensis* has leaves tomentose in the lower surface, irregular serration in the margins, and flowers 5–10, flowering

Table 1. Comparison of Cerasus hefengensis with C.



Fig. 1. *Cerasus hefengensis* (from holotype, drawn by Shijing Zhang). — **A**: Flowering branch. — **B**: Longitudinal section of a flower. — **C**: Branch with leaves.

Features	C. hefengensis	C. conradinae
Leaves	lower surface densely tomentose, serration irregular	glabrous, serration regular
Bracts	lanceolate	fan-shaped
Inflorescences	5–10 flowers	3–5 flowers
Corolla	deep pink	white or pink
Flowering time	before or after leaves open	before leaves open
Style Fruit	tomentose at base black	glabrous red

before or after leaves open, styles tomentose near the base, and black fruits (Table 1).

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