

## ***Cousinia zagrica* (Asteraceae) a new species from west of Iran**

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### **Abstract:**

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*Cousinia zagrica* is described and illustrated. This new species occurs in a small area in west of Iran. *Cousinia zagrica* is placed in sect. *Cynaroideae* Bunge by its appendiculate bracts and decurrent leaves.

### **Zusammenfassung:**

*Cousinia zagrica* wird beschrieben und illustriert. Die neue Art kommt in einem kleinen Areal im Westen Irans vor. Sie ist aufgrund der appendikulaten Hüllblätter und der herablaufenden Blätter in die Sektion *Cynaroideae* Bunge zu stellen.

***Cousinia zagrica* Attar, Ghahreman & Assadi, spec. nov.**

Typus: Iran, Azarbaijan: West of Urmieh, Mavana, Hakki Mountains, West of the Darreh Rash village, 2100–2700 m, 31.7.1995, Mozaffarian 74871 (Iran, holotype, TARI).

*Cousinia zagrica* differt a *Cousinia eriocephala* Boiss. & Hausskn. floribus ± 140 (nec 80–130), corollis ± 24 mm longis (nec 25–30 mm), receptaculi setis scabris (nec laevis), phyllis applanatis et reflexis (nec carinatis et erectis); differt a *Cousinia vanensis* Hub.- Mor. floribus ± 140 (nec 65–90), foliis plus quam 8 segmentis (nec usque 8).

Planta perennis monocarpica, usque ad 60 cm alta. Caulis a medio ramosus, cano-arachnoides-tomentosus, distincte striatus, araneosus. Folia utrinque canescenti-araneosa, dentato-spinosa; spinis lateralibus et terminalibus usque ad 5 mm longis; folia basalia oblongo-lanceolata, pinnatifida-pinnatisecta; segmentis utrinque 8, acutis, triangularibus, inferioribus brevibus; folia caulina oblongo-lanceolata, indivisa, interrupte decurrentia; folia summa reducta. Capitula singula, terminalia, spinis inclusis 5 cm diametro, absque spinis 2,5 cm; involucrum ovatum, 2 cm longum, araneoso-tomentosum, superne constrictum, phylla ± 100, plurumque inferiora purpurea; phylla exteriora 4 mm longa; appendix 15–17 mm longa, 7 mm lata, ovata, integra, acuminata, basi rotundata, plana, reflexa; phylla intermedia 10 mm longa; appendix triangularis, acuminata, integra, plana, reflexa vel patula; phylla interiora 10 × 3 mm, rhombica acuta, erecta; phylla intima 30 mm longa, acuta, erecta, paulo prominentia. Receptaculi setae scabrae. Flora ± 140; corolla rosea, ± 24 mm longa, limbo tubum circiter aequante; laciniis 5–7 mm longis; filamenta 5 mm longa; antherarum tubus roseus, glaber. Achaenia matura non visa.

Monocarpic perennial plant, up to 60 cm high, branched from the middle, totally tomentose-arachnoid-canescens. Stems distinctly striate, densely persistent arachnoid. Leaves tomentose-arachnoid on both surfaces, dentate and spiny at the margin; terminal and lateral spines up to 5 mm long; basal leaves oblong-lanceolate, pinnatifid-pinnatisect; segments more than 8 on each side, acute, triangular, lower segments smaller; stem leaves oblong-lanceolate, undivided, interrupted decurrent; upper leaves small. Capitulum including spines 5 cm in diam., without spines 2.5 cm; involucre ovate, 2 cm long, densely tomentose-arachnoid, constricted above,  $\pm$  100 bracteate; bracts often purplish in lower half; outer bracts 4 mm long; appendages 15–17 mm long, 7 mm broad, ovate, almost entire at the margin, acuminate, almost rounded at the base, flat, reflexed; median bracts 10 mm long; appendages 15 mm long, 5 mm broad, triangular, acuminate, entire at the margin, flat, reflexed or sometimes spreading; inner bracts 10 mm long, 3 mm broad, rhombic, acute, erect; innermost bracts 30 mm long, acute, erect, slightly exserted. Receptacle bristles up to 20 mm long, scabrous. Flowers  $\pm$  140; corolla pink,  $\pm$  24 mm long, limb equalling the tube; lobes 5–7 mm long; filaments 5 mm long; anther tube glabrous, pink. Mature achene unknown.

Geographic distribution: *Cousinia zagrica* is endemic to west of Iran which grows on the slope of dry stony mountains.

Flowers and fruiting time: July–August.

#### Taxonomic remark:

*Cousinia zagrica* is distinguished from other species by its habit and flat reflexed bracts. This species is allied to *Cousinia eriocephala* Boiss. & Hausskn. (RECHINGER 1972, 1979) from west of Iran and *C. vanensis* Hub.-Mor. (HUBER-MORATH 1975) from east of Anatoli, it differs from *C. eriocephala* in length of corolla, receptacle bristles, number of flowers, its cordate base of upper leaves; it also differs from *C. vanensis* in number of flowers and segments of the basal leaves.

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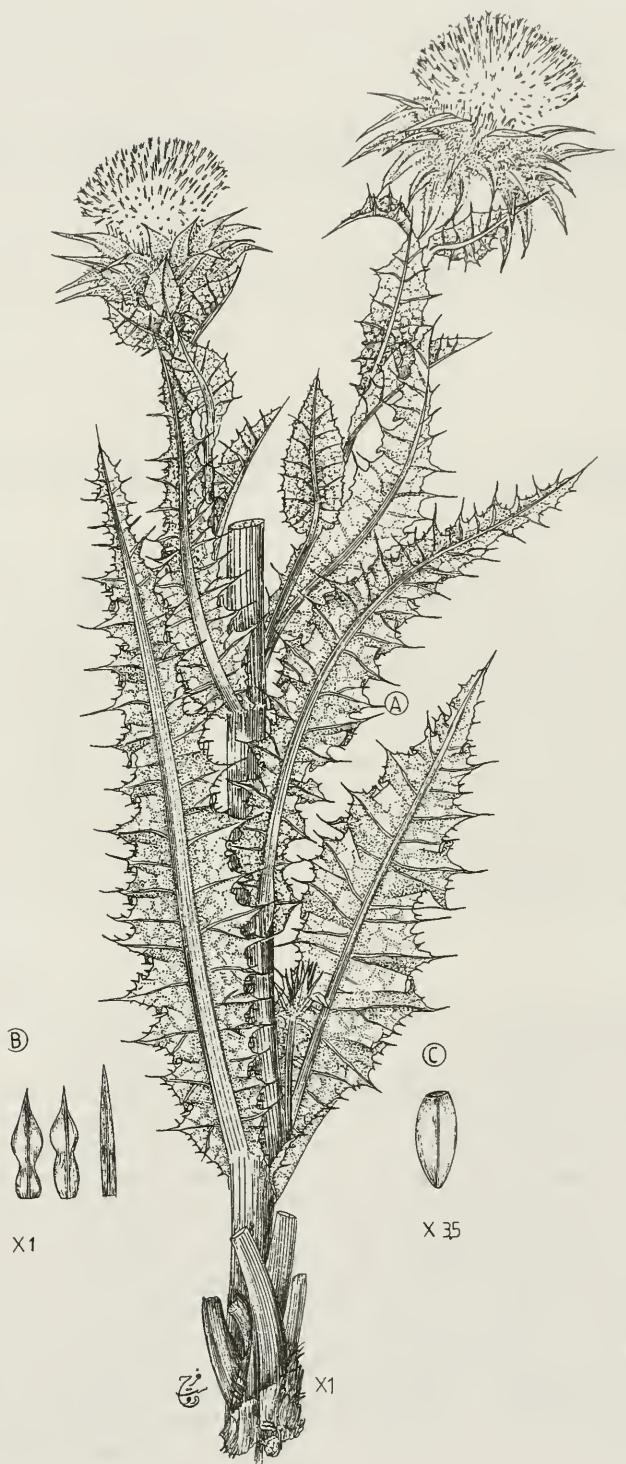


Abb. 1: *Cousinia zagrica*. A. Habit, B. Bracts, C. Achene. Scale bar = 5 cm.

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