

A NEW SPECIES OF AMYGDALUS (ROSACEAE) FROM IRAN

M. Khatmsaz

Khatmsaz, M. 1985 12 31: A new species of *Amygdalus* (Rosaceae) from Iran. — *Iran. Journ. Bot.* 3(1): 77–80, Tehran.

Amygdalus reticulata Runemark ex Khatmsaz sp. nov. is described from the prov. Fars of Iran. Its closest relative supposed to be *A. haussknechtii*, which is distinguished from it mainly in fruit and leaf characters. Differences of the new species from one of the other affinities namely *A. elaeagnifolia* subsp. *leiocarpa* are also considered.

Mahboubeh Khatmsaz, Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands, P. O. Box 13–116, Tehran, Iran.

گونه جدیدی از جنس بادام (*Amygdalus* (Rosaceae) در ایران
از: محبوبه خاتمساز .
گونه جدید *Amygdalus reticulata* از استان فارس شرح داده میشود .
نزدیکترین گونه به گونه جدید *A. haussknechtii* تشخیص داده میشود که
از لحاظ مشخصات میوه و برگ با آن اختلاف دارد . علاوه بر این اختلافات گونه
جدید با گونه نزدیک دیگری بنام *A. elaeagnifolia* subsp. *leiocarpa*
مورد توجه قرار میگیرد .

Introduction

Revising herbarium specimens of some *Rosaceae* genera including *Amygdalus*, *Cotoneaster*, *Crataegus* in the herbarium of Research Institute of Forests and Rangelands (TARI), one specimen of the genus *Amygdalus* was found which had already been named *A. reticulata* Runemark sp. nov. but had not been described. Close examination of the specimen comparing it with its close affinities proved it to be a true new species which is described. The specific name *reticulata* was proposed by professor H. Runemark (previous botanical advisor of Botanical Institute of Iran) is kept for the new species.

Amygdalus reticulata Runemark ex Khatamsaz, sp. nov.

(Subgenus *Amygdalus*)

Frutex ca. 2 m altus, subspinescens, totus glaber. Rami juveniles purpuracentes, demum griseo-brunnei, lucidi. Folia 5–10 x 3–5 mm, elliptica, ovato-lanceolata vel obovata, apice acuta vel obtusa vel rotundata, margine integra vel crenulata vel indistincte glandulososerrata, coriacea, supra distincte subtus minus distincte reticulata, breviter petiolata vel subsessilia. Flores ignoti. Drupae ca. 16 x 10 mm, compressae, ellipsoido-ovoidae, glabrae. Pedicellis crassis, 2–4

mm longis. Putamina compressa, flavescenti-brunnea, ellipsoido-ovoida, obtusa, superne foveolata, inferne reticulato-sulcata.

Typus. Iran, prov. Fars, Bamu Protected Region, Darreh-chap, 1650–1900 m, 3.5. 1975, N. slope, limestone, Wendelbo & Foroughi 17577 (holotypus TARI).

Shrub ca. 2m high, subspinescent. Young branches purplish, then greyish brown, glossy. Leaves 5–10 x 3–5 mm, elliptic to ovate-lanceolate or obovate, acute to obtuse or rotundate, entire or crenulate to indistinctly glandulose-serrate at margin, coriaceous, distinctly reticulate above but less distinct below, shortly petiolate or subsessile. Flowers unknown. Drupe ca. 16 x 10 mm, compressed, ellipsoid-ovoid, glabrous. Pedicels thick, 2–4 mm long. Kernel compressed, yellowish-brown, ellipsoid-ovoid, obtuse, pitted above, reticulately grooved below.

Diagnose. The new species is distinguished by markedly reticulate leaves, especially on the upper side and also kernel character. It is most closely related to *A. haussknechtii* (C. K. Schneider) Bornm. but differs from it in having much smaller leaves ca. 5–10 x 3–5 mm, smaller drupes ca. 16 x 10 mm and distinctly sulcate and pitted kernels. In *A. haussknechtii*, leaves up to 50 x 15 mm, drupes 25 x 18 mm and kernels



Fig.1. *Amygdalus reticulata* (x 0.57). — A. Leaf (nat. size). — B. Kernel (x 2).

sparsely pitted. Moreover the reticulation on the upper side of the leaves in the new species is much more obvious.

The other affinity of the new species should be *A. elaeagnifolia* subsp. *leiocarpa*

(Boiss.) Browicz but differs from the new species in having leaves which are not reticulate, bigger drupes 20 x 10–12 mm and indistinctly sulcate or pitted kernels.