

1-1-2002

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DÖNMEZ, ALİ ARSLAN (2002) "Perilla: a New Genus for Turkey," *Turkish Journal of Botany*. Vol. 26: No. 4, Article 9. Available at: <https://journals.tubitak.gov.tr/botany/vol26/iss4/9>

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Perilla: a New Genus for Turkey

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Received: 19.09.2001

Accepted: 08.02.2002

Abstract: *Perilla frutescens* (L.) Britton (*Labiatae*), recently collected in Artvin, is a new record for the flora of Turkey. An illustration and description are given.

Key Words: *Perilla*, *Labiatae*, Turkey

Perilla: Türkiye İçin Yeni Bir Cins

Özet: *Perilla frutescens* (L.) Britton (*Lamiaceae*), Artvin'den toplanmış ve Türkiye florası için yeni kayıttır. Türün betimi ve çizimi verilmiştir.

Anahtar Sözcükler: *Perilla*, *Labiatae*, Türkiye

Introduction

Perilla L. is a genus which is possibly monotypic and mainly found in E Asia (Shu, 1994). *Perilla frutescens* (L.) Britton is widely distributed and cultivated in the Far East, but is also found in NW Iran (Hedge & King, 1982) and the Caucasus (Gorshkova, 1977).

During a botanical trip to NE Turkey, an unrecognized specimen of *Labiatae* was collected. It was later identified from the Flora Iranica account (Hedge & King, 1982) and Flora URSS (Gorshkova, 1977) as *Perilla frutescens*.

In the Flora China (Shu, 1994), *P. frutescens* is divided into three varieties: *P. frutescens* var. *frutescens*, var. *purpurescens* (Hayata) H.W.Li, and var. *crispa* (Benth.) W.Deane ex C.Bailey. The Turkish specimen belongs to var. *frutescens*. The description of the species is given here according to the Flora China (Shu, 1994).

Perilla frutescens (L.) Britton, Mem. Torrey Bot. Club 5: 277. 1894. (Figure 1).

Erect herb. Stems 0.3-2 m tall, green or purple, finely pilose or densely villous. Petiole 3-5 cm; leaf blade broadly ovate to orbicular, 4.5-13 x 2.8-10 cm, green, purplish, or purple-black, pilose or adaxially pilose,

abaxially adpressed villous, base rounded to broadly cuneate, margin narrowly to coarsely serrate, apex short acuminate or mucronate. Verticillasters 1.5-15 cm, densely villous; bracts ca. 4 x 4 mm, shortly acuminate, glandular. Pedicel up to 4.5 mm in fruiting calyx, densely villous. Calyx ca. 3 mm, erect, base villous, yellow glandular, lower lip longer than upper lip; fruiting calyx 4-11 mm, base villous or pilose, glandular, corolla (1.5-)3-4 mm, slightly puberulent, tube 2-2.5 mm. Nutlets grey-brown or tawny, 1-1.5(-2) mm in diam. *Flowering*; Aug-Nov., *Fruiting*; Aug-Dec.

Type: not indicated.

Turkey/A9 Artvin: Hopa, 1 km from Sugören village on Hopa road, roadside, c. 10 m, 29 ix 2000, A.A.Dönmez 8125. HUB, E. slide no: AD 2650.

Discussion

P. frutescens var. *frutescens* is cultivated in SE Europe, E Ukraine, Asia and N America as an ornamental and for its aromatic oil; it is locally naturalized in these regions (Richardson, 1972; Shu, 1994). A specimen collected from Iran-Gilan was presumably naturalized or



Figure 1. *Perilla frutescens* a: habit, b: calyx, c: corolla, d: nutlet.

introduced (Hedge & King, 1982). The Artvin specimen was possibly introduced by man and may become naturalized.

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Acknowledgements

The author thanks Ian C. Hedge (Edinburgh, Scotland) for checking the identification and Gülnur Ekşi for the illustration.

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