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A New Record for the Flora of Turkey *Amaranthus spinosus* L. (*Amaranthaceae*)

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Abstract : A new species, *Amaranthus spinosus* L. (*Amaranthaceae*), is reported for the first time for the Flora of Turkey. The specimens were collected from a corn field around Kazıklıbucağı village of the Karataş district of Adana province (C5).

Key Words: Flora, Turkey, *Amaranthus spinosus* L., *Amaranthaceae*

Türkiye Florası İçin Yeni Bir Kayıt: *Amaranthus spinosus* L.

Özet : Türkiye florası için yeni bir kayıt olan *Amaranthus spinosus* L. ilk kez rapor edilmektedir. Örnekler Adana'nın (C5) Karataş ilçesi Kazıklıbucağı Köyü mısır tarlasından toplanmıştır.

Anahtar Sözcükler: Flora, Türkiye, *Amaranthus spinosus* L., *Amaranthaceae*

Introduction

A specimen which belongs to the *Amaranthaceae* family was found during weed surveys in summer crops in the Çukurova region of Turkey (Fig. 1).

After checking the Flora of Turkey, we concluded that the specimen was *Amaranthus spinosus* L., previously unknown in Turkey (1,2,3). The materials were collected from a summer crop field in the Çukurova region.

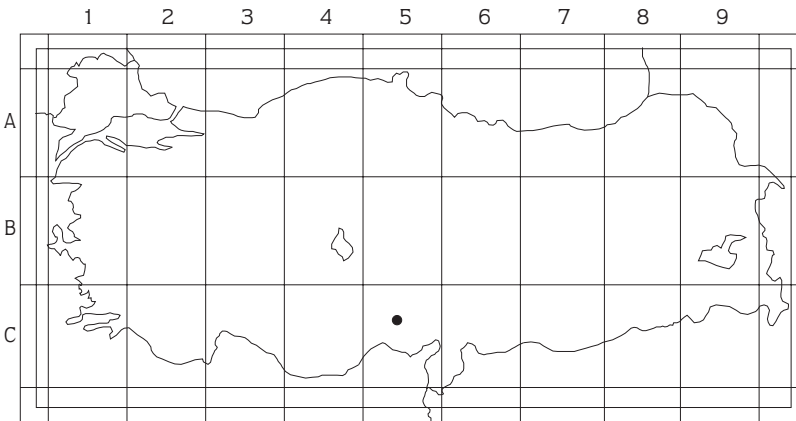


Figure 1. Locality of *A. spinosus* in Çukurova Region in Turkey.

The specimens were collected from Adana Yüreğir Kazıklıbucağı village in a corn field and are kept in the herbarium of the Adana Plant Protection Research Institute.

AMARANTHACEAE

Amaranthus spinosus L., Sp. Pl. 991 (153). (Figure 2)

Erect, monoecious perennial, up to 1 m. Stem mostly reddish-brown, glabrous, branched. Leaves long-petioled, 3-8 x 2-5 cm, rhombic-ovate or rhombic-oblong or oblong lanceolate, tapering on both ends, obtuse, notched and mucronate to awned at apex; leaf axils usually with 2 rather strong spines. Inflorescence terminal and axillary, spike-like, erect, slender and elongated, with remote axillary spikes at base, lower clusters, pistillate, upper staminate. Bracteole longer than or as long as tepal, scarious, ovate weakly spiny-tipped. Staminate flowers with 3, oblong-ovate, obtuse or acute or shortly spiny-tipped tepals. Pistillate flowers with 5, 1-1.5 mm long, white-membranous, acute or shortly spiny-tipped tepals. Fruit as long as tepals, mostly dehiscent, compressed, ellipsoidal, acute or obtuse, with 3 beaks. Seeds about 0.75 mm in diam. Flowering time June - August in Turkey.

C5 Adana; Yüreğir Kazıklıbucağı village, 25 m, in maize field, 9 x 1996, Oya GÖNEN 1063.

A. viridis L. is a similar species to *A. spinosus* but *A. viridis* does not have axillary spines and the inflorescence is a long, thin leafless, terminal pseudo-spike.

Acknowledgements

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Figure 2. General view of *A. spinosus*.
A) Habitus B) Seed and fruit
C) Female flower D) Male flower

former chief researcher of the weed science department of the Adana Plant Protection Research Institute, for his guidance.

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