

## ***Verbascum samniticum* Ten. (Scrophulariaceae): A New Record for the Flora of Turkey**

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**Abstract:** *Verbascum samniticum* Ten. (Scrophulariaceae) is recorded for the first time for the flora of Turkey with the specimen collected from A1(E) Kırklareli. A description of the species and descriptive illustrations are given based on the collected specimen. Its relationship with *V. phlomoides* L. is discussed.

**Key Words:** New record, Scrophulariaceae, Turkey, *Verbascum*

### ***Verbascum samniticum* Ten. (Scrophulariaceae): Türkiye İçin Yeni Bir Kayıt**

**Özet:** *Verbascum samniticum* Ten (Scrophulariaceae) türü Türkiye'den (A1(E) Kırklareli) ilk defa kaydedilmiştir. Türün tanımı, lokalitesi ile tanıttıcı özellikleri verilmiştir. *V. phlomoides* L. ile ilişkisi tartışılmıştır.

**Anahtar Sözcükler:** Scrophulariaceae, Türkiye, *Verbascum*, yeni kayıt

### **Introduction**

The genus *Verbascum* L. (Scrophulariaceae) includes about 360 species (Heywood, 1993). In *Flora Europaea* (Ferguson, 1972) *Verbascum* is represented by 99 species and in the flora of the Balkans (Polunin, 1987) by 70 species. According to recent reports, *Verbascum* comprises 238 species in Turkey (more than 190 of them are endemic (Kaynak et al., 2006). *V. gypsicola* Vural & Aydoğdu (Vural & Aydogdu, 1993), *V. tuna-ekimii* Karaveliogulları, Duran & Hamzaoglu (Karaveliogulları et al., 2004), *V. yurtkurianum* Kaynak, Daşkın & Yılmaz (Kaynak et al., 2006), and *V. lindae* Parolly & Kit Tan (Parolly & Tan, 2007) were added to the flora of Turkey. Furthermore, *V. roripifolium* (Halácsy) I. K. Ferguson and *V. ovalifolium* Donn ex Sims subsp. *thracicum* (Velen.) Murb. were added to the flora of European Turkey (Dane & Yılmaz, 2005).

In addition, there have been many other systematic studies about *Verbascum* (Sutorý, 2001, 2004; Karaveliogulları et al., 2006, 2008).

During our ongoing efforts to further study the flora of European Turkey, some interesting *Verbascum* specimens drew our attention. They were determined to be *Verbascum samniticum* Ten. (Ferguson, 1972). After examination of various bibliographical references (Webb, 1966; Huber-Morath, 1978; Davis et al., 1988; Alpınar, 1993; Güner et al., 2000; Dane & Dalgıç, 2001; Özhatay, 2006) it became clear that this species is a new record for the flora of Turkey.

### **Results**

*Verbascum samniticum* Ten., Fl. Nap. 3: 219 (1824-1829). Synonym: *V. phlomoides* L. subsp. *sartorii* (Boiss. & Heldr.) Nyman. Figure 1-3.

Biennial; stem 60-150 cm, sparsely tomentose, usually more or less glabrescent. Basal leaves 15-30 × 4-10 cm, obovate-oblong, greenish above, grey tomentose beneath, rugose, crenate or slightly lobed, subsessile or shortly petiolate. Inflorescence lax, with a few suberect

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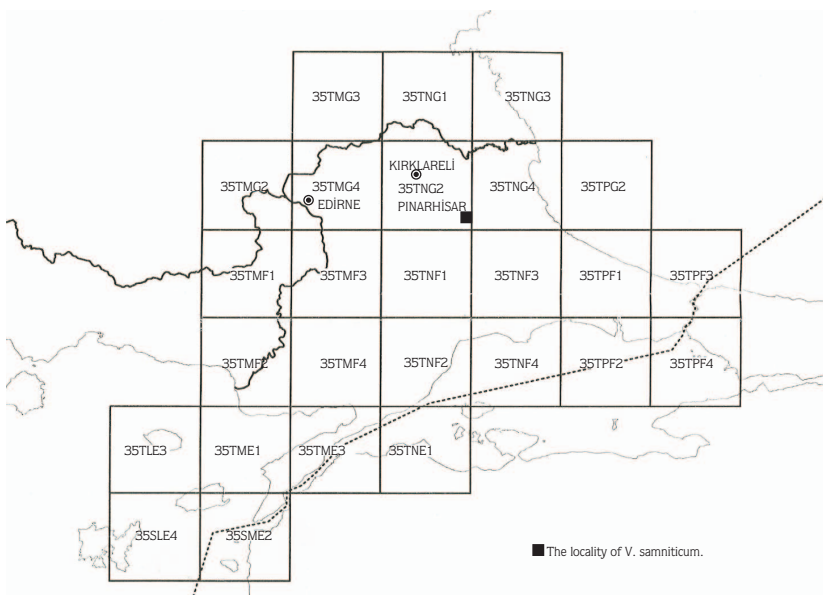


Figure 1. The locality of *V. samniticum* in European Turkey.



Figure 2. Herbarium material of *V. samniticum*: a. Inflorescence; b. Cauline leaves.

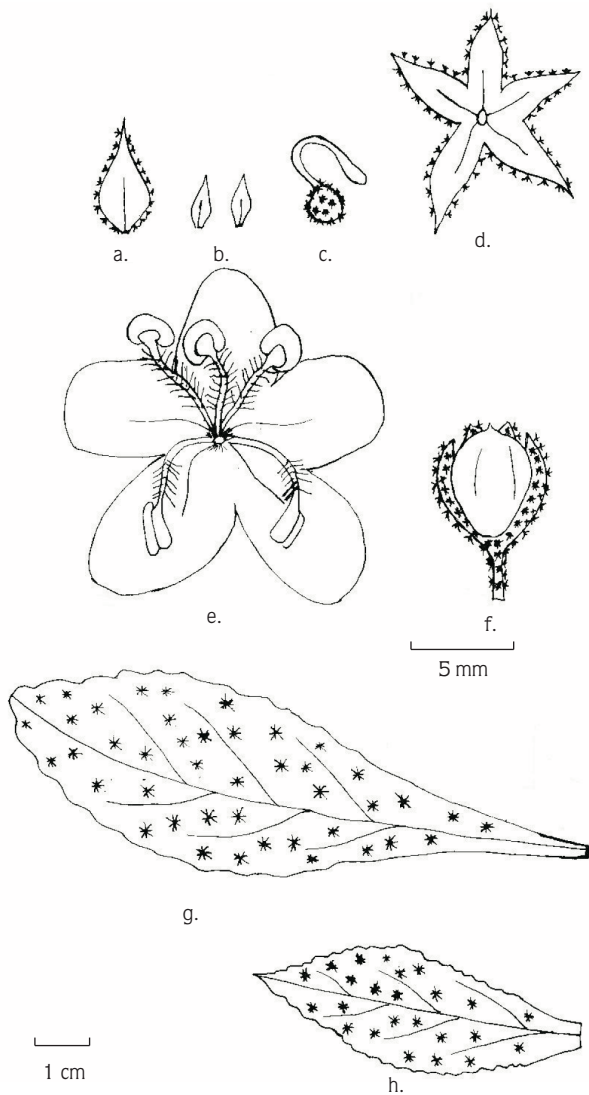


Figure 3. Drawings of *V. samniticum*: a. Bract; b. Bracteoles; c. Gynoecium; d. Calyx; e. Corolla; f. Capsule enclosed by calyx; (a-f) (Scale bar: 5 mm); g. Basal leaf (g-h); h. Cauline leaf (Scale bar: 1 cm).

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branches, forming a narrow panicle. Bracts 10-12 mm, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, persistently and harshly yellowish-grey-tomentose; longer pedicels 4-6(-8) mm. Calyx 6-9 mm, persistently tomentose. Corolla 25-40 mm in diameter. Stamens 5, the lower with decurrent anthers; filament hairs white. Capsule 5-6 mm, ovoid-globose.

General distribution: W. part of Balkan peninsula (Al, Gr, Ju); C. Italy. (Ferguson, 1972).

Distribution in European Turkey: A1(E) Kırklareli: Pınarhisar: Kaynarca village, roadside, (41°43'54N, 27°13'29E, 194 m), 27. 06. 2002, G. Yılmaz (EDTU 9498)!, det. G. Yılmaz, con. F. Dane.

*V. samniticum* has a very limited distribution area. It was found only in Kırklareli. Thus, it is reasonable to consider *V. samniticum* as vulnerable.

## Discussion

*V. samniticum* is allied to *V. phlomoides*, which occurs naturalised in a wide range of distribution including West, Central, and South Europe but not the North. *V. samniticum* is also located in Greece (Ferguson, 1972). For that reason, its distribution in European Turkey is not surprising.

*V. samniticum* is closely related to *V. phlomoides* but differs by having filament hairs on the stamens with decurrent anthers, shorter pedicel, and globose capsule.

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