

A new record for the flora of Turkey: *Sorbus caucasica* var. *caucasica* (Rosaceae)

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Sorbus caucasica Zinserl. in Not. Syst. Herb. Hort. Petrop. 4: 142 (1923).

Syn: *Sorbus woronowii* Zinserl. Type: Described from Caucasus.

Sorbus caucasica Zinserl. var. *yaltirikii* Gökşin has been the only known endemic taxon for the flora of Turkey and was found in Pazar (Rize) and Yusufeli (Artvin), Turkey (Gökşin, 1977). However, a few *Sorbus caucasica* individuals collected from Artvin were identified as *S. caucasica* var. *caucasica* using *Flora of the U.S.S.R.* (Tsinzerling, 1971), a new record for the flora of Turkey (Gabrielian, 1972; Güner et al., 2000; Özhatay & Kültür, 2006; Özhatay et al., 2009; Özhatay et al., 2011). This identification was confirmed by comparison with herbarium specimens in ISTO and BATU. The separation of the 2 varieties belonging to *S. caucasica* is given below:

1. Twigs and buds pubescent and underside of leaves densely white-tomentose, pubescent only along midrib above var. **caucasica**

1. Twigs and buds glabrous and underside of leaves coriaceous and glabrous on both sides var. **yaltirikii**

Sorbus caucasica belongs to the subgenus *Aria* (Pers.) G.Beck (Aldasora et al., 2004). *S. caucasica* var. *caucasica* is distributed naturally in the east and south Caucasus (Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia). It is a Euro-Siberian element and is endemic to the Caucasus (Tsinzerling, 1971). In Turkey, it is distributed in the Yusufeli District of Artvin Province; it grows on calcareous rock and in stony habitats at altitudes between 900 and 2000 m. Recently, *Scorzonera ketzkhovellii* Grossh. (Asteraceae) and *Reseda globulosa* Fisch. & C.A.Mey. (Resedaceae) were recorded as new taxa for the flora of Turkey from Yusufeli (Aytaç & Duman, 2010; Hamzaoğlu et al., 2010).

Specimens examined: *Sorbus caucasica* var. *caucasica*: A8 Artvin: Yusufeli, Çevreli village, Çuvar, 40°47'03.5"N, 41°25'43.4"E, 1990 m, 09.vii.2010, ÖE 8731; *Sorbus caucasica* var. *yaltirikii*: A8 Artvin: Yusufeli, Altıparmak, Kelenzhev, 1700 m, 25.viii.1972, Gökşin (ISTO 13155).

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