

The Genus *Epilasia* (Bunge) Benth. (Asteraceae). Anew Record for Iraq

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Abstract :

The genus *Epilasia* (Bunge) Benth.(Asteraceae),is described and Illustrated for the first time in Iraq.It has one species, *Epilasia hemilasia* C.B.CLARKE(BUNGE).which was found to be restricted to the EasternAlluvialPlain District(LEA).

Keywords: Asteraceae, species ,new, Iraq

During field trips to As-Sudur ,different plants belong to different Families were collected ,one of them genus *Epilasia* (Asteraceae). Careful analysis using literature (Boissier,1857;Rechinger,1964;Davis,1975; Rechinger&Lack,1977) showed that these specimens belong to the species *Epilasia hemilasia* , which was not record previously,and therefore considered a new record for Iraq ,and it was described here .

Epilasia hemilasia (BUNGE) C.B.CLARK

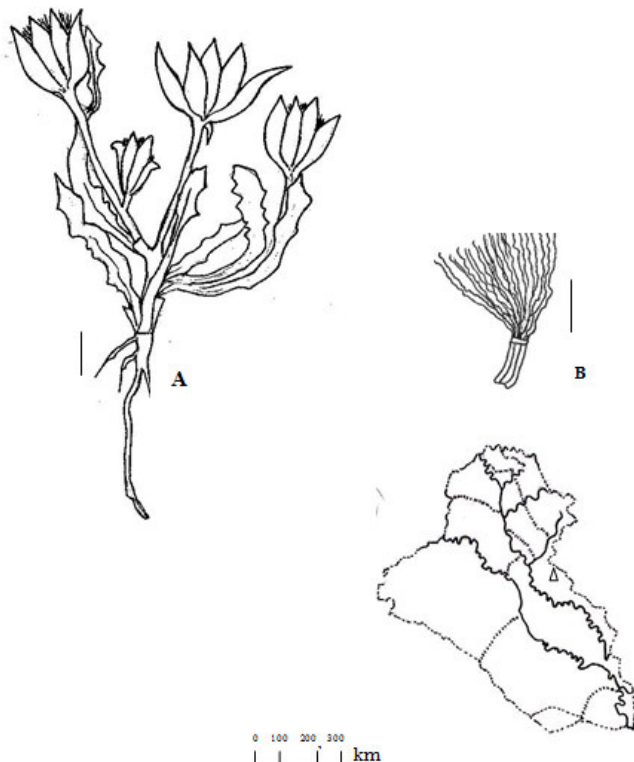
Annualherbwith tap root,4-15 cm high .Stem erect,cylindrical , smooth, Yellowish- green Caulineleave spetiolate,upper sessile ,lanceolate ,entire pinnatifidmargin,apexacute base head truncate ,yellowish –green ,(2-0.8x5.5-1.6) Inflorescence racemose cup-like shaped(1.8-0.6x2.5-1.0)cm,gree nbiserriate ,reflex,oute rphyllaries(8) ,lanceola acum inate ,of hyalin elowe rparts(0.4-0.2x1.2-0.7) cm,innerphyllaries(8) lanceolat acute acute apex (0.6-0.2x2.2-1.0)cm,Florets ligulate,pale yellow,each have five petals ending with five teeth.Calyx wooly –lanate ,white-gray,stamen(5).Fruit elongated,pale brown.

Typus:Asia centralis:Ian Dorya,LEHMANN,G,LE

Distribution:Iraq.Known only from two specimens in As-Sudur

Habitat:sandy soil in 68m alt .

Flowering time:April-July.



Figur (1) , *Epilasia hemilasia* BUNGE C.B.CLARKE A :whole plant, B:Fruit , with distribution map
Scale bar=0.5 cm.

The new record species described here was checked with the works of (Boissier,1857; Rechinger,1964 ;Davis,1975 ;Rechinger&Lack,1977. From the comparison, we noticed that the species *E.hemilasia* is synonym to the species *Scorzonera papposa* DC .from the same tribe :Lactuceae;subtribeScorzonerinae, where (Rechinger,1964)mentioned the specimen (Suterland 80 ,20 km N.Badra (R.12735)under the species *Scorzonera papposa* DC.but in the flora Iranica ,he make the specimen with the same number(Kut al-Imara: Incollibus conglom ,20 Km.N.Badra (RESH,12735)under the species *Epilasia hemilasia*(BUNGE)C.B.CLARKE and mentioned to the species *Scorzonerahemilasia* BUNGE ,*Scorzonera conopleura* BUNGE,*Scorzonera nana* BOISS& BUHSEbut,from previous studied for the genus *Scorzonera* ,all species of *Scorzonera* in Iraq have tuberous roots ,while the genus *Epilasia* with tap root system ,inded the pappus in the later was wooly-lanate but in *Scorzonera* it was plumose .

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