Pak. J. Bot., 19(1): 107–110, 1987.

A NEW SPECIES OF *SCROPHULARIA* L. (SCROPHULARIACEAE) FROM PAKISTAN*

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Abstract

Scrophularia rodinii Hamidullah is described from Pakistan.

Scrophularia rodinii Hamidullah sp. nov. (Fig. 1, A-D).

Perennis, solitarii vel caules pauci massa, glabri vel glauci, quadrangulares, 16–30 cm alti, purpurascens et anguste alatus quum juvenis. Folia rosulata vel aliqui caulina, glabra, laminis oblongis-oblongo-elliptica vel lanceolatae, 4–8 cm longa, dentatae vel paulum pinnatifidae, petiolatis, petiolis 2–5 cm longis, anguste alatus. Inflorescentia thyrsoidea, bracteae subulatis, sepala 1.5–2 mm longa, circularia, marginibus anguste scariosis, extra glandolosaglabri. Corolla 4–5 mm longa, rubellus, lobis latere posterioribus atroviolaceis, anterioro pallido. Staminodium clavatum-spathulata, glandulosa. Filamenta fertilia glanduloso-puberulentia, antheris paulum exsertis ab lobis inferioribus. Stylus 3–4 mm longus. Capsula 3 mm longa, sphaeroidea. Semina 0.5–0.7 mm longa.

Perennial, root woody, stem solitary or few in a clump, 16–30 cm tall, glabrous-glaucous, sharply 4–angled, purple and narrowly winged when young. Leaves usually in a basal rosette or few somewhat highly palced, on petioles up to 15 cm long. Leaf blades 4–8 cm long, 2–4 cm wide, glabrous, oblong-oblong-elliptic or lanceolate, dentate-dentate lobed or somewhat pinnatifid, with acute-mucronulate teeth, acute-rounded at apex, truncate at base, cuneately narrowed towards petiole, petiole 2–5 cm long narrowly winged, glabrous. Inflorescence a narrow thyrsus, usually over ½ the height of the plant, peduncles, pedicles and rachis distally more or less glandular-puberulent. Peduncles 3-15 mm long, opposite, subopposite or scattered, each cyme of 4–9 flowers, pedicels 0.5–2 mm long. Bracts 2–5 mm long, subulate. Sepals 1.5–2 mm long, circular, green, with white scarious margin 0.1–0.2 mm wide, externally glandular-glabrous. Corolla 4–5 mm long, reddish, upper lip dark violet purple, lower lobes anteriorly pale. Staminode clavate-spathulate, glandular, less than ½ the width of the base of the upper lip of the corolla. Stamens glandular-puberulent, anthers slightly exerted from the lower lip of the corolla, style 3–4 mm long, filiform, stigma capitate, capsule 3 mm long, globose, mucronate. Seeds 0.5–0.7 mm long, dark-brown, ovoid-oblong.

*A part of M.Phil. Thesis submitted in the Department of Botany, University of Karachi.

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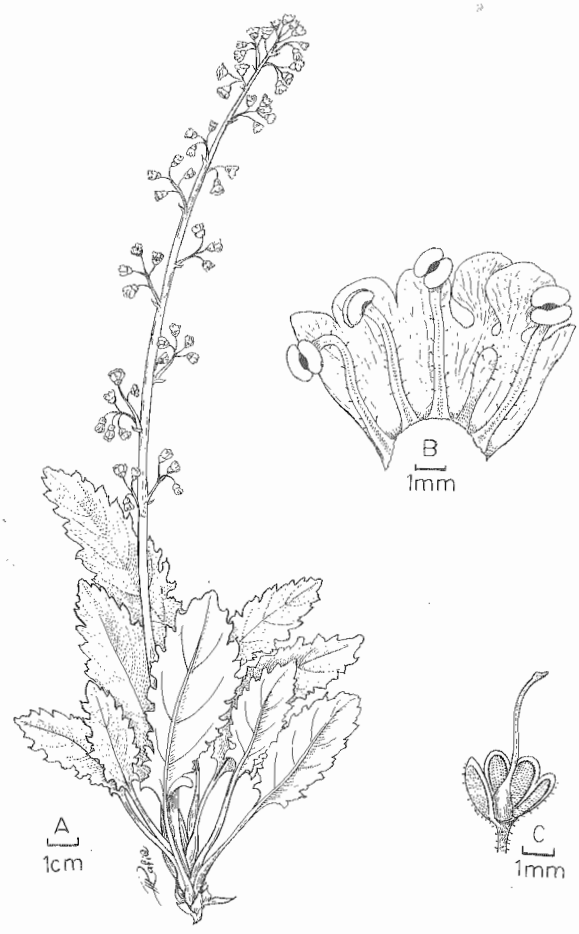

Fig. 1. *Scrophularia rodinii:* A, habit; B, dissected corolla showing stamens and staminode; C, carpel with calyx.

Holotype: Khyber Pass: Dry rocky area, 19.3.1952, *R.J. Rodin* 5253 (K!). Isotype (RAW).

Specimens studied: Khyber Agency: Khyber Pass, *R.J. Rodin* 5253 (K, RAW); Torkham, *S.A. Khan* s.n. 28 March 1964 (PPFI); Torkham-Landikotal, *S.A. Khan* s.n. 28 March 1964 (PPFI); Torkham-Landikotal, *S.A. Khan* s.n. 29 March 1964 (PPFI); on way to Torkham, *S.A. Khan* s.n. 17 March 1967 (PPFI) Landikotal-Torkham, *S.A. Khan* s.n. 12 June 1964 (PPFI); Khyber Pass, *S.A. Khan* s.n. 12 June 1964 (PPFI); Khyber Pass, *R.R. Stewart* s.n. (RAW); Ali Masjeed, Khyber Pass *Collector unknown* 325 (KUH); Peshawar, Warsack *G. Taylor* 15 (BM).

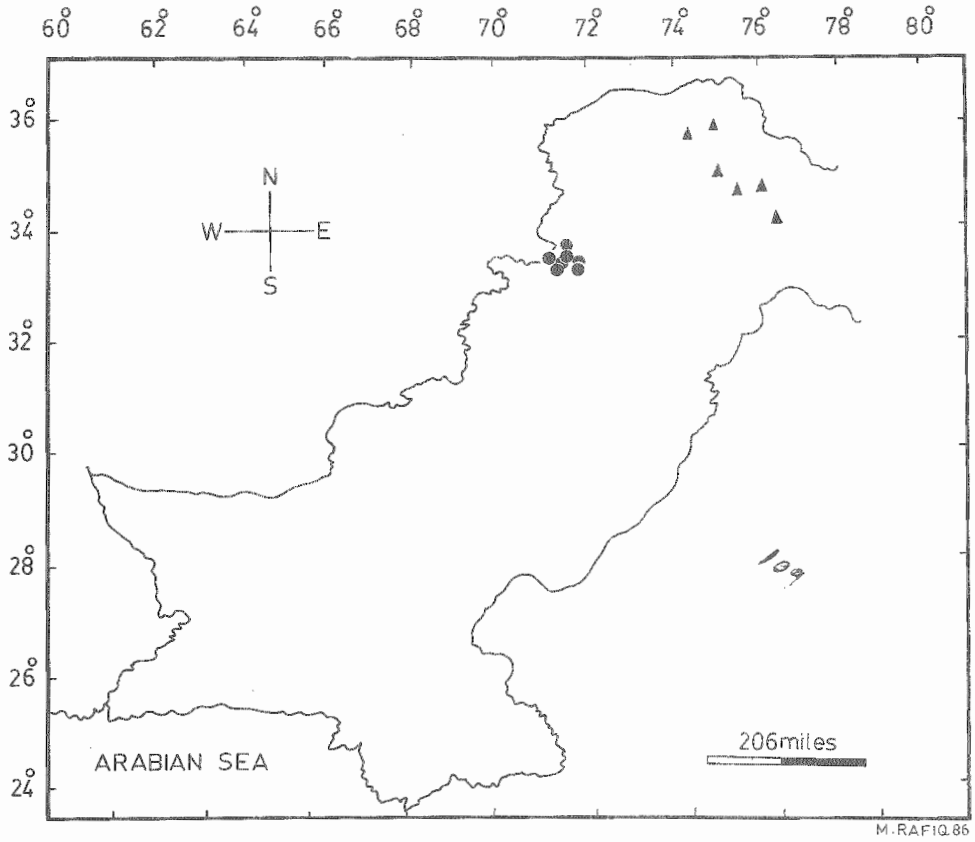

Fig. 2. Distribution of *Scrophularia rodinii* (●) and *S. nudata* (▲) in Pakistan.

Distribution: Endemic to Pakistan: (Khyber Agency, Peshawar, Fig. 2).

Scrophularia rodinii Hamidullah is related to *S. nudata* Penn., in having lower leaves in rosette form, narrow scarious margin of the sepal and clavate-spathulate staminode, but it differs in having sharply 4-angled, winged stem, acute-mucronulate leaf teeth and glandular sepals and staminode. *S. nudata* Penn., is distributed in Gilgit-Astor, Ladakh and Baltistan, while *S. rodinii* Himidullah is mainly distributed in Peshawar and Khyber Agency (Fig. 2).

Locally roots of this species are soaked in water and used as tea for the control of fever.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Professors S. I. Ali and M. Qaiser Department of Botany, University of Karachi for their helpful suggestions and encouragement. My thanks are due to the authorities of the following herbaria for the loan of specimens: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; British Museum (Natural History); National Herbarium (Stewart Collection) Islamabad; Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar and Karachi University Herbarium.

(Received for publication 20 January, 1987)