

***Urochloa panicoides* and a subspecies of *Eragrostis cilianensis*, new to the flora of Iran**  
گزارش جدیدی از جنس *Urochloa* و زیرگونه *Eragrostis cilianensis* subsp. *starosselskyi* برای ایران

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In reviewing of *Poaceae* family specimens in "IRAN" Herbarium, *Urochloa panicoides* belonging to *Panicaceae* tribe and *Eragrostis cilianensis* (All.) Vign.-Lut. ex Janchen subsp. *starosselskyi* (Grossh.) Tzvelev to *Eragrostideae* tribe are reported as new to Iran. The first taxon is a corn field weed in Fars province and the second is rare plant from W. Azerbaijan province.

در بررسی نمونه‌های تیره گندمیان در هرباریوم "IRAN"، *Urochloa panicoides* P. Beauv.، *Panicaceae* به عنوان علف هرز از مزارع ذرت استان فارس و *Eragrostis cilianensis* (All.) Vign.-Lut. ex Janchen و subsp. *starosselskyi* (Grossh.) Tzvelev متعلق به قبیله *Eragrostideae* از آذربایجان غربی مشاهده شدند که برای نخستین بار از ایران گزارش می‌شوند. خصوصیات مورفولوژیکی، پراکنش جغرافیایی در ایران و دنیا و نیز تصاویر مربوطه ارائه شده است. همچنین، نزدیکترین آرایه با آرایه‌های معرفی شده مورد مقایسه قرار گرفته است.

***Urochloa panicoides* P. Beauv.**, Ess. Agrost. 53, t.11/1 (1812)

Annual plant, tufted, 50–70 cm tall. Culm ascendent or often decumbent, branched, rooting in lower nodes, sparsely hairy. Leaves shorter than culm length; sheaths 8–10 cm long, sparsely pubescent or smooth; ligule fringed with hairs; blades 8–12 mm wide, to 20 cm long, abaxial and adaxial sides hairy, keeled, tuberculate or scabrous on margins. Inflorescence paniculate composed of racemes, 12–20 cm long, bearing frequently paired spikelets on rachis; pedicles short and ciliate. Spikelets ellipsoid, 2.5–5.5 × 2–2.2 mm, acute, with two floret; lower glume ovate, 5-nerved, almost half as long as spikelet length, acute, smooth or pubescent on margins; upper glume with seven nerves, pubescent, as long as spikelet. Lower floret sterile; lemma similar to upper glume; palea hyaline. Upper floret fertile; lemma coriaceous, with

transversely rugulose surface, covering only edge of the palea, mucronate; palea coriaceous, obtuse. Caryopsis  $2.2 \times 1.6$  mm, ellipsoid, almost flattened (Fig. 1).

Notes: *Urochloa* P. Beauv. (incl. *Brachiaria* auct.) has about 100 species mainly in the tropics of both hemispheres (Tzvelev 1989); six species occur in Pakistan (Cope 1982). The genus has not been reported from Flora Iranica area. According to Cope (1982), the species has forms with glabrous, pubescent or setosely fringed spikelets which appear to be of no taxonomic importance. In the past decades, on morphological reasons species of the genus *Brachiaria* have been nearly completely transferred to *Urochloa*, except *Brachiaria eruciformis* (Sm.) Griseb. which differs from *Urochloa* species by spikelets disarticulating above the glumes as well smooth and shiny upper lemmas, and thus represents (together with two other species from S. Africa) a genus of its own (Veldkamp 2004), *Moorochloa* Veldk.

Records of the widespread Mediterranean *U. eruciformis* (Sm.) Veldk. are known from Iran (Bor 1970, as *Brachiaria eruciformis*).

Specimen examined: Fars province: Darab, Soltan Abad, Corn field, Aug. 2010, Taheri (55303-IRAN)

General distribution: Cyprus, Palestine, Oman, Yemen, India, Pakistan, E. & S. Africa; introduced to Australia and many other countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, USA) and Iran.

***Eragrostis cilianensis* (All.) Vign.-Lut. ex Janchen** in Mitt. Naturwiss. Ver. Univ. Wien 5(9): 110 (1907)

**subsp. *starosselskyi* (Grossh.) Tzvelev**, Zlaki SSSR: 634 (1976)

Annual plant, individual or loosely tufted, to 60 cm tall; culms erect or ascending. Leaves shorter than culm length; sheaths 4–5 cm long, glabrous; ligule fringed with hairs; blades to 15 cm long, flat or folded, glabrous, margins with a row of glands. Inflorescence a panicle,

13–15 cm length, compact, lobed, cylindrical or oblong, often with glands on pedicels. Spikelets  $7-8 \times 2.5$  mm, 14–16 flowered, elliptic or oblong; glumes subequal, 1.5–1.7 mm long, cymbiform, 1-nerved, often glandular on the keel, acute, caducous; lemma 1.9–2.0 mm long, 3-nerved, often glandular on the keel, towards apex on the keel shortly ciliate, obtuse or emarginated, caducous; palea 1.5 mm long, two-keeled, scabrous on the keel, curved, persistent. Caryopsis  $0.6-0.7 \times 0.4-0.5$  mm, subglobose, reddish-brown (Fig. 2).

Notes: This species was described by Grossheim (1923) as *Eragrostis starosselskyi* from Georgia (Tzvelev 1976), hitherto not reported from Iran. The description given rests on the Iranian specimen, and indicates strongly congested, not open, panicles as the most important diagnostic character against subsp. *cilianensis*. *Eragrostis cilianensis* subsp. *starosselskyi* is scatteredly distributed within the Old World area of subsp. *cilianensis* (Tzvelev 1976).

Specimen examined: W. Azerbaijan province: Uromieh (55350-IRAN)

General distribution: Turkey & Caucasus region to Central Asia, China and Japan. Introduced to many countries as adventive plants.

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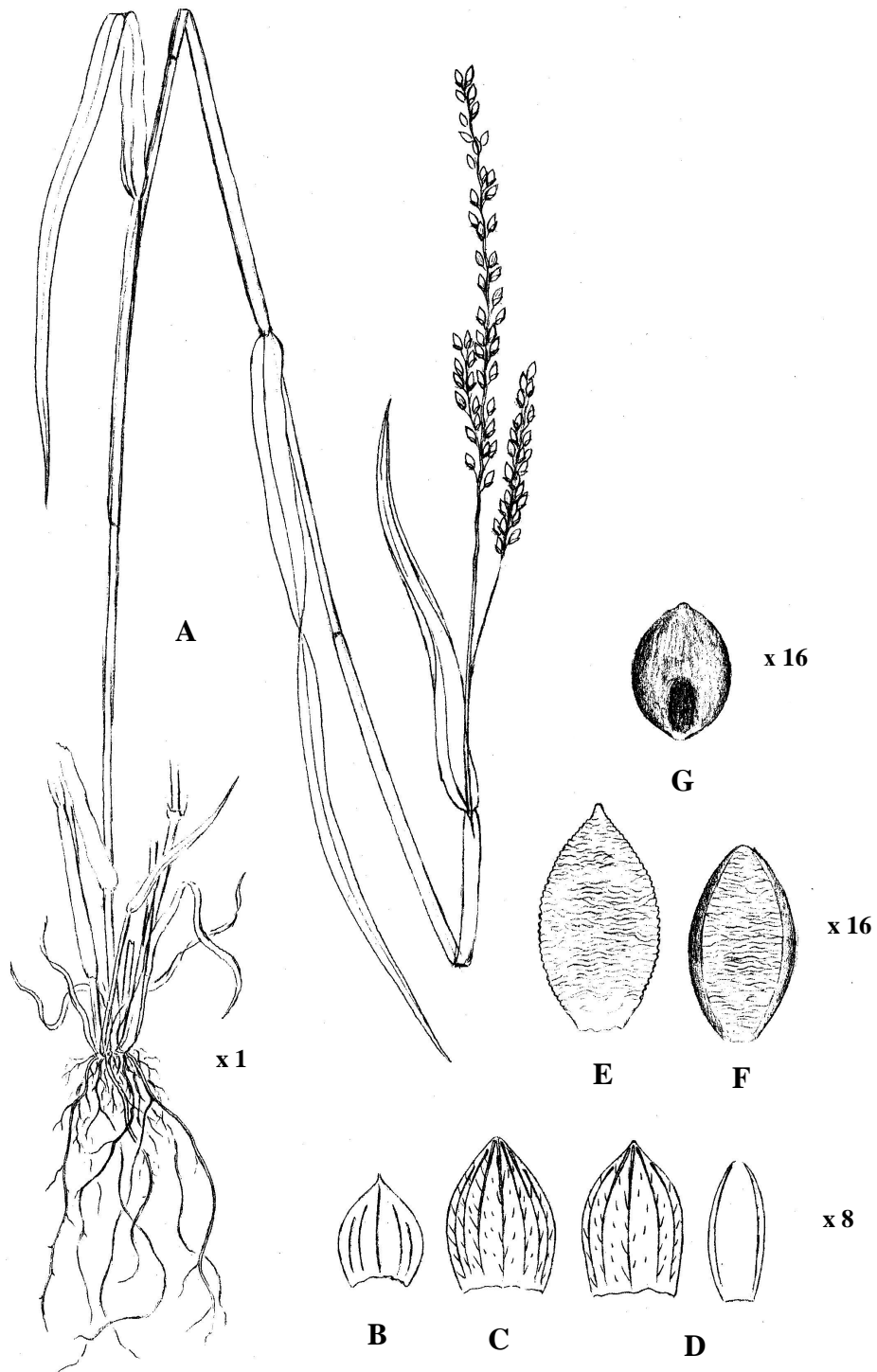


Fig. 7. *Urochloa panicoides*: A. Habit, B. Lower glume, C. Upper glume, D. Lower flower (lemma and palea), E. Fertile lemma, F. Palea, G. Grain.

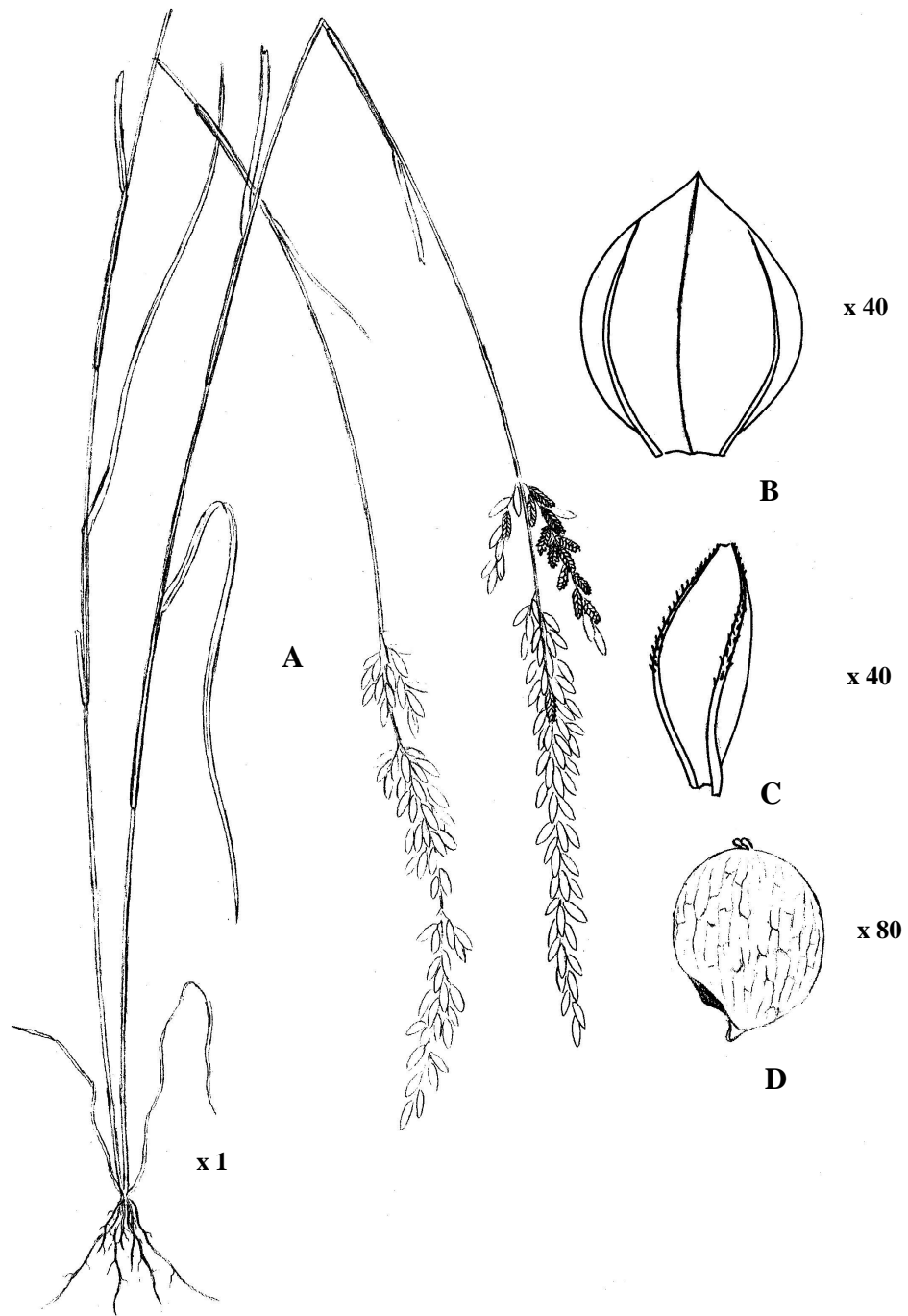


Fig. 2. *Eragrostis cilianensis* subsp. *starosselskyi*: A. Habit, B. Lemma, C. Palea, D. Grain.