

# A CORRECT RECORD FOR FLORA OF IRAN: *ONONIS SPINOSA* SUBSP. *ANTHIQUORUM* (FABACEAE)

S. Yusef Naanaie

Received 06.04.2009. Accepted for publication 02.12.2009

Yusef Naanaie, S. 2009 12 31: A correct record for flora of Iran: *Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum* (Fabaceae). - *Iran. J. Bot.* 15 (2): 181-182. Tehran.

The tribe *Ononideae* (Fabaceae) has been studied in Iran by the author. *Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum* is recorded from Hamedan, Isfahan and Tehran provinces. This subspecies is compared with the other subspecies *leiosperma* and *spinosa*. It differs from subsp. *leiosperma* only in micro-sculpturing pattern of the seed and differs from subsp. *spinosa* in indumentum, corolla and legume length.

Sedigheh Yusef Naanaie, Agricultural and Natural Resources Research Center of Khuzestan, Khuzestan, Iran email <S Nanaei @ yahoo.com >

## Fabaceae      *Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum*

*Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum* از تیره *Fabaceae* در ایران توسط نویسنده مورد بررسی قرار گرفت و زیرگونه *Ononideae* قبيله *anthiquorum* از استانهای اصفهان، تهران و همدان گزارش می شود و با زیر گونه های دیگر گونه مثل subsp. *leiosperma* و subsp. *spinosa* مقایسه می شود. این زیر گونه با زیر گونه subsp. *leiosperma* فقط در تزئینات دانه و با زیر گونه subsp. *spinosa* در شکل کرکپوشها، طول جام و نیام متفاوت می باشد

### Introduction

The tribe *Ononideae* Hutch. of the family *Fabaceae* contains only the genus *Ononis* with about 75 species in the world that is distributed in Europe, the Canary Islands, Mediterranean region, Ethiopia and Iran (Mabberly 1997). Based on Flora Iranica there are 7 species and 2 subspecies in Iran (Rechinger 1984). In order to preparing Flora of Iran *Fabaceae* (Assadi 1988), the genus was revised. *Ononis anthiquorum* L. was recorded from Baluchestan, Kuhgiluyeh & Boirahmad and Azerbaijan provinces, Iran in Flora Orientalis (Boissier 1872). Muraveva (1945) in Flora of the USSR mentioned that the specimen from Azerbaijan cited as *O. anthiquorum* by Boissier (1872) have been found to be quite smooth, a character of *O. leiosperma* Boiss. Rechinger (1984) in Flora Iranica identified part of the Boissier *O. anthiquorum* specimens as *O. spinosa* L. subsp. *leiosperma* (Boiss.) Sirj. Therefore, Boissier records of *O. anthiquorum* from Iran have not been confirmed by the later authors. Among the specimens of *O. spinosa* based on morphological and seed morphological characters true *O. anthiquorum* was identified which is recorded here as a subspecies.

This study was mainly based on plant materials deposited in different Iranian herbaria, namely: TARI, TUH.

### Results and discussion

*Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum* (L.) Briq., Pordr. Fl. Corse 2: 274 (1913).

Syn.: *O. anthiquorum* L., Sp. Pl. ed. 2: 1006 (1763); *O. spinosa* L. var. *anthiquorum* (L.) Arcng., Comp. Fl. Ital. 157 (1882).

*Specimens seen.* Hamedan: Abbas abad, 1977.6.25, Manochehri 1072 (TUH). – Isfahan, above Boin, Cheshmeh Rashid, 2475 m, 1981.7.19, Nowroozi & Eatemadi. -Tehran: Firoozkuh, Polsefid, 4 km NE railway, 1950 m, 1977.8.26, Buttler & Bothmer 22817 (TARI).

This subspecies is distinguished from the other subspecies of Iran *O. spinosa* subsp. *leiosperma* by its tuberculated seeds (Fig. 1). The subspecies of *O. spinosa* are separated in the following key.

1. Stem with hairs in a line alternating from one internod to the next. Leaflets oblong. Corolla 10-20 mm long. Pod 2 to 4-seeded, equaling or slightly exceeding the calyx. Seeds tuberculate

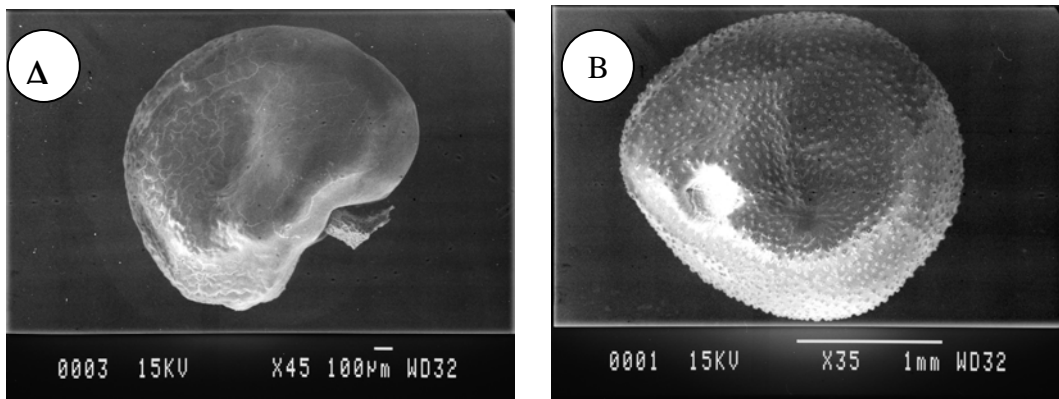


Fig. 1: Micrographs of seeds of A: *Ononis spinosa* subsp. *leiosperma* (Boiss.) Sirj. (Amin7537, 2500 m); B: *Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum* (L.) Briq ( Buttler & Bothmer 22817, 1950 m).

*Ononis spinosa* subsp. *spinosa*

-Stem hairy all around. Leaflets ovate-oblong. Corolla 8-16 mm long. Pod 1-seeded, shorter than the calyx 2  
2. Seeds tuberculate

*Ononis spinosa* subsp. *anthiquorum*

-Seeds smooth

*Ononis spinosa* subsp. *leiosperma*

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