

**NEPETA ADENOPHYTA HEDGE (LABIATAE),
A NEW SPECIES FROM PAKISTAN**

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Abstract

A new species of *Nepeta* viz. *N. adenophyta* Hedge is described from Pakistan.

During the course of preparation of an account of the family Labiatae for Flora of Pakistan, the author came across a new *Nepeta* species, which is described here.

***Nepeta adenophyta* Hedge sp. nov.**

Affinis *N. glutinosae* Benth. habitu erecto, indumento ubique pilis longioribus et brevibus glandulosis, foliis erectis vel erecto-patentibus, calycis et corollae longitudine sed differt ab ea: foliis regulariter crenatis vel crenulatis, floribus albis.

N. glutinosa var. *crenata* Stewart, Ann. Cat. Vasc. Pl. W. Pak. & Kashm. 621. 1972
– *nomen*.

Clump-forming aromatic perennial with an all-over dense glandular indumentum of short and long glandular hairs. Stems erect, 30-50 cm, mostly unbranched, densely leafy. Leaves oblong-ovate or oblong-elliptic, c. 30(-60) x 15(-40) mm, erect or spreading-erect, crenulate or crenate, all sessile and ± amplexicaul or lowermost with an up to 2 mm petiole, densely glandular. Inflorescence of 3-8 distant or uppermost approximating many-flowered, ± adpressed, usually shortly pedunculate verticillasters, all borne in the axils of the upper leaves. Bracts linear-elliptic, slightly shorter than calyces. Calyx narrow tubular, 8-12 mm, straight; throat slightly oblique; teeth unequal, triangular, c. 1/3 length of tube. Corolla c. 18 mm, white or lower lip purple-speckled; tube slender, clearly exerted, curved, scarcely wider above. Nutlets brownish black, oblong-ellipsoid, 2.1 x 1.1 mm, minutely granular with faint longitudinal veins, areole bilobed c. 1/4 length of nutlet.

Holotype: Pakistan, Gilgit: SW Astor, Rama valley, dry rocky hillside, clumped erect herb, c. 15", with powerfully pungent green leaves, flowers whitish c. 5 mm across, anthers white, 3140 m, 1 Aug. 1967, *Lankester & Pearson* Tel 1315 (K!).

Specimens examined:

Gilgit: SW Astor, Rama valley, 3200 m, *Lankester & Pearson* Tel 1390 (K); near Rama, 3200 m, *Swed. Exped. Pakistan A6479* (GB); Astor, Rupal Nullah, *R.R. Stewart* 18833 (*n.v.*); Kashmir: Das Kirim, *R.R. Stewart* 22959 (*n.v.*).

Distribution: Endemic.

Fl. Per.: August.

Although at first glance, the general appearance of this new species is quite different from *N. glutinosa*, it is certainly a close ally of it as the similarity of description shows. Dr. Stewart (*l.c.*) first drew attention to the taxon as "var. *crenata* ined." (never formally published) but, with the material now available, species rank seems more appropriate. Nevertheless, the only real difference is that of leaves: crenate as opposed to deeply incised-serrate. Both species are known from a reasonable number of gatherings, both remarkably constant in their characters; they would be an interesting pair to study in depth.

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