

**A NEW RECORD FOR THE FLORA OF TURKEY:
ALYSSUM IDAEUM BOISS. & HELDR.**

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Abstract

Alyssum idaeum Boiss. & Heldr., as a new record for the Flora of Turkey is described and illustrated from South Anatolia:

Intruduction

Alyssum idaeum Boiss. & Heldr., is determined as a new record for the Flora of Turkey. It was collected in 2003 during field studies in Mersin vil. (C5) of South Anatolia. The collected specimens were checked by using the pertinent literature references (Hayek, 1927; Rechinger, 1943; Boissier, 1888; Dudley, 1964, 1965; Strid, 1987).

Taxonomy

***Alyssum idaeum* Boiss. & Heldr. (Fig. 1)**

Perennial, caespitose, with several slender, basally flexuous branched stems. Flowering stems 4-10 cm long, ascending, non-flowering stems 2-4 cm long, terminated by leaf rosettes. Basal leaves greyish-green to canescent, broadly elliptic-spathulate, acute-obtuse 3-12 x 2-6 mm, densely covered on both sides with 0.3 mm wide lepidote-stellate hairs; cauline leaves greenish, lanceolate-obovate, acute-obtuse 5-15 x 2-8 mm decreasing in size upwards, with 0.4 mm wide lepidote hairs. Raceme short umbellate, 1-2 cm long. Sepals 2.5-3 mm, ovate, sparsely stellate, acute. Petals 4-5 mm, oblong-cuneate, glabrous, entire. Long stamens 2-2.5 mm, with a narrow appendages in lower half, appendages 0.5 mm, connate. Short filament 1.5-2 mm, appendages 0.5-1 mm, free. Pedicel 4-5 mm, densely stellate. Silicula orbicular to broadly obovate, 4-6 x 4-5 mm, glabrous, retuse, with a narrow flattened margin, valves asymmetrically inflated. Style 1.5-2 mm, glabrous. Seed 2 mm, narrowly winged.

Type: CRETE: M. Ida, 1700-2000 m (Heldr., h. n. 5005, Bald.174, Baker) Gipfelstufe des M. Ida. 2000 m (Dörfl. 692); Lassithi; M. Afentis (Gandog.)

Flowering and fruiting time: May.

Habitat: Under forest and open fores.

General distribution: Endemic to Crete.

Distribution in Turkey: Turkey: C5: Mersin: Yeniköy entrance, 28.IV.2003, R. Binzet AK-781; 11.V.2003, R. Binzet AK-782, N 36° 57' E 34° 30'.

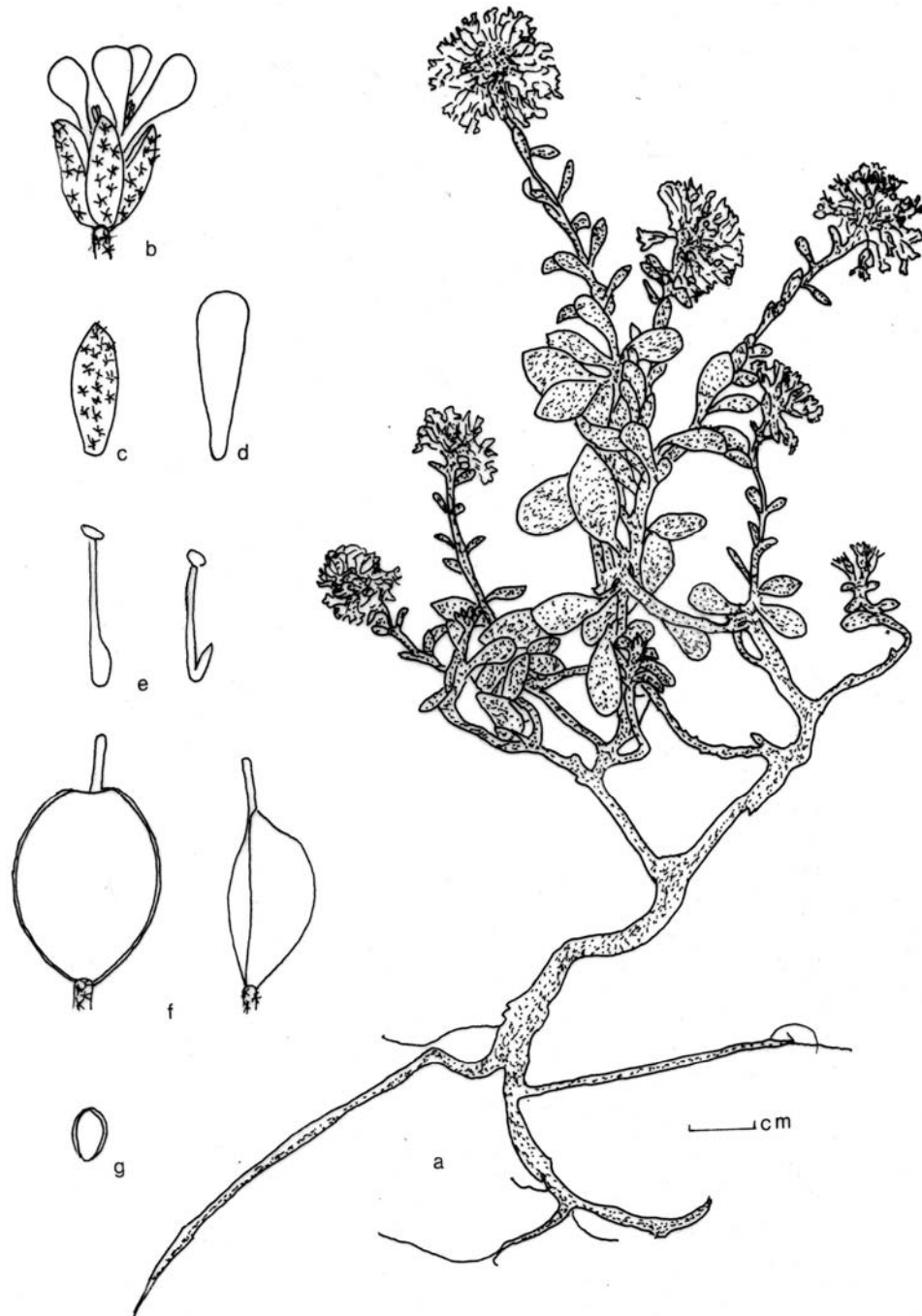


Fig. 1. *Alyssum idaeum* Boiss. & Heldr., a- habitus, b- flower x 7, c- sepal x 7, d- petal x 7, e- stamens x 10, f- fruit x 5, g- seed x 5.

Discussion

Alyssum idaeum belongs to Section *Alyssum*, that is distributed in Crete (Rechinger fil. 1943; Strid, 1986). It is closely related to *A. mouradicum* from Greece. The diagnostic characters claw is denticulate and 15-25 cm long in *A. mouradicum* while *A. idaeum* 4-10 cm and petals entire. *A. idaeum* is distributed in Lebanon and Turkey (B2, C2, C3, C4, C5 square) as *A. idaeum* is endemic to Greece. (Dudley, 1965; Strid, 1986). *A. idaeum* is very closed to *A. idaeum*. The differences are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. The differences between *A. idaeum* and *A. Mouradicum*.

<i>A. idaeum</i>	<i>A. mouradicum</i>
Habitus: 4-10 cm, caespitose	15-25 cm
Leaves: Basal leaves 10-15x5-7 mm	Basal leaves 3-12x2-6 mm
Cauline leaves 15-18x2-5 mm	Cauline leaves 5-15x2-8 mm
Petal: Oblong-cuneate, entire	spathulate, retuse-truncate, claw margin denticulate
Long filaments: 3.5-4 mm, narrow appendages 3 mm connate	2-2.5 mm, narrow wings in lower half, connate
Silicula: 5-7x4-5 mm, subemarginate- obtuse	4-6x4-5mm, retuse, with a narrow flattened margins
Distribution: Lebanon, Turkey	Endemic to Crete

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