

Fabio Conti & Aurelio Manzi

***Serratula lycopifolia* (Vill.) A. Kern., new for the Italian flora**

Abstract

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The finding of *Serratula lycopifolia* (Vill.) A. Kern. on the Altopiano delle Rocche (Abruzzo) is reported.

This new species for the Italian flora, *Serratula lycopifolia*, was found on the Altopiano delle Rocche, near Rocca di Cambio, in Abruzzo.

Though it had not yet been found in Italy, Pignatti (1982) reported the species because it was present near the national border, both in the Nizzardo and near Trieste. Pignatti provides a brief description and an illustration drawn from Fiori (1933). According to his description the species should have a rough shoot which is pubescent at the base. In the sample from the new location the stem is smooth, thus agreeing with Wagenitz's description (1987) in which the stem can be puberulent or glabrous.

Serratula lycopifolia belongs to the Sect. *Klasea* which, with many other species, is distributed in woody-steppe from Europe to eastern and central Asia (in North Africa as well). Its areal is W.-C.-Pontic S. E.-Sarmatic with Pannonic, W. Illir. and Alpi Marittime (W. Alps) disjunctions (Fig. 1).

The following species belong to the same chorological element (Eurasian and southern-subsouthern European (temper.)-Continental) and are also present in the central Apennines: *Stipa capillata*, *Jurinea* Sect. *molles*, *Onobrychis arenaria*, *Adonis vernalis*, *Campanula sibirica*, *Echinops ritro*, *Salvia nemorosa*, *Verbascum phoeniceum*, *Achillea nobilis*, *Dictamnus albus*, *Campanula bononiensis*, *Inula hirta*, *Achillea setacea*, *Scorzonera austriaca*, *Astragalus danicus*, *Oxytropis pilosa*, *Scutellaria hastifolia*, *Veronica prostrata*.

In the Pontic steppe *Serratula lycopifolia* enters as an element of the woody-steppe with shrubs and as a sporadic element in the wet meadows (Meusel & Jager 1992). In the new location it was found in the wet meadows of the Altopiano delle Rocche and along the artificial ditches created to reclaim the wet meadows.

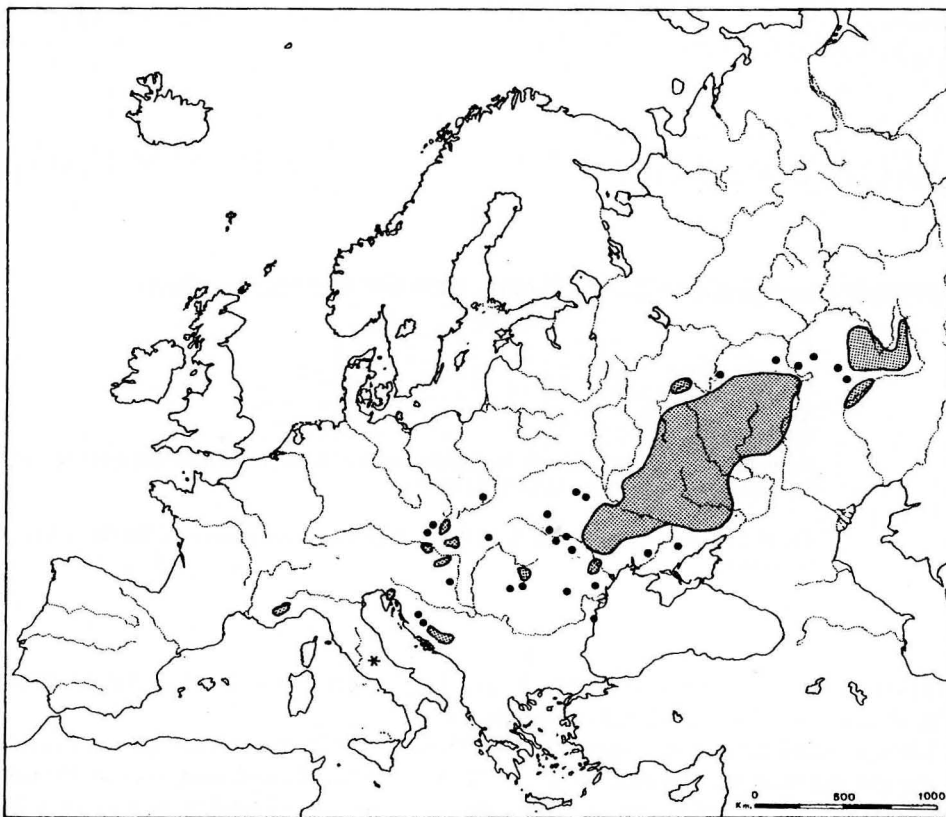


Fig. 1. *Serratula lycopifolia* (Vill.) A. Kern. (from Meusel & Jager 1992, modified). The location of our finding is indicated with an asterisk.

The new finding enriches the already consistent steppe contingent of central Italy and testifies of connections between central Italy and the Asiatic steppes.

Studied material

Serratula lycopifolia (Vill.) Kern.: Altopiano delle Rocche, Rocca di Cambio (AQ), in loc. "Le Prata", presso il laghetto artificiale sotto il paese, prati umidi e fossi, 1260 m, 12 Jul 1997, F. Conti et A. Manzi (CAME).

References

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Wagenitz, G. 1987: *Serratula* L. — In: Hegi G., *Illustrierte Flora von Mittel-europa*. **6(4)**: 937, 1408 Verlag Paul Parey. — Berlin-Hamburg.

Address of the authors:

F. Conti & A. Manzi, Dipartimento di Botanica ed Ecologia, Via Pontoni 5, I-62032 Camerino (MC), Italy.