

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY SPECIES OF BRASSICACEAE FOR THE FLORA OF CHINA

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Abstract. *Arabis kokonica* is reported here for the first time from China. *Chorispora tas hkorganica*, previously known only from the holotype and paratype specimens, was collected from the type locality. A detailed description of the former is provided.

Keywords: *Arabis*, Brassicaceae, China, *Chorispora*, Xinjiang.

The authors conducted field work during the summer of 2001 in Tian Shan, Kunlun Shan, and western Karakorum Shan mountain ranges in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of western China. Among the numerous species of vascular plants and lichens collected, two deserve the following notes. *Arabis kokonica* is described because it was not listed in the recently published account of the Brassicaceae for the Flora of China (Zhou et al., 2001).

Arabis kokonica Regel & Schmalhaus., *Izv. Opshistva Lobet. Est. Anthr. Ethnogr.* 34(2): 6. 1881.

Herbs perennial, 10–25 cm tall; caudex few branched, covered with leaf remains of previous years. Basal leaves rosulate; leaf blade lanceolate to oblong-oblancheolate, 2–5 cm × 3–9 mm, sparsely to moderately pubescent with subsessile to short-stalked, 2–4-rayed trichomes to 0.05 mm and rarely with 1 ray branched, base attenuate into winged petiole rarely to 2 cm, margin ciliate with simple trichomes longer than branched ones, margin entire or minutely few toothed below apex, apex subacute to obtuse. Stems leafless or rarely 1-leaved, pubescent with branched trichomes often mixed near base with simple ones, sparsely pubescent to subglabrous distally. Raceme without bracts, 3–9-flowered, lax, elongated considerably in fruit. Fruiting pedicels ascending, straight, slender, 2–9 mm, sparsely pubescent with branched trichomes. Sepals oblong, 2–3.5 × 0.7–1 mm,

sparsely pubescent. Petals white, fading lavender, linear-oblancheolate, 6–8 × 1–1.3 mm, apex notched. Fruit linear, 1.4–5.2 cm × 1–1.5 mm, flattened; valves glabrous, slightly torulose, with a distinct midvein proximally; style to 0.5 mm. Seeds brown, oblong-ovate, strongly compressed, uniseriate, 1.3–1.8 × 0.8–1.1 mm; wing narrow along seed margin, much wider distally and to 0.4 mm wide.

Arabis kokonica, which is reported herein for the first time from China, is easily distinguished from all of the Central Asian and Chinese species of *Arabis* by a combination of perennial habit, well-developed, persistent basal rosette, entire basal leaves, leafless or rarely one-leaved scapes, white to lilac flowers, lax fruiting racemes, and torulose flattened fruits 1.4–5.2 cm long. The species is widespread in Pamir Alay and Tian Shan of Tajikistan, and it grows on rocky places, partly sunny, talus or moraine slopes at altitudes of (1900–)3000–4000 m (Busch, 1939; Vvedensky, 1974; Junussov, 1978).

Illustration: Junussov (1978: 81).

Specimens examined: CHINA. Xinjiang: Fukang Xian, *B. Bartholomew 8550*, with *I. Al-Shehbaz, A. Abbas & A. Tumur* (CAS, MO, XJU). 21 July 2001. Tian Shan, in vicinity of Hainan, S of Tianchi lake. Elevation 1910 m. Latitude 43° 52' 07" N, longitude 88° 08' 44" E. Perennial herb in fruit. Growing in sunny dry mossy area. *Picea* forest and open slopes.

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Chorispora tashkorganica Al-Shehbaz et al., Novon 10: 106. 2000.

The species was previously known from the holotype and paratype, both specimens of which are deposited at KUN. For detailed description, illustration, and characters distinguishing *Chorispora tashkorganica* from its nearest relatives, see Al-Shehbaz et al. (2000) and Zhou et al. (2001). The following gathering, which was collected from Taxkorgan (pronounced as Tashkorgan) just as were the holotype and paratype, represents the third record of the species. Illustration: Al-Shehbaz et al. (2000: 105).

Additional specimens: CHINA. Xinjiang: Taxkorgan Tajik Zizhixian, *B. Bartholomew 8369*, with I. Al-Shehbaz, A. Abbas, A. Tumor, P. Bahti & Z. Yunus (BM, CAS, E, GH, MAK, MO, PE, XJU). 30 June 2001. Top of pass between Akto Xian and Taxkorgan Tajik Zizhixian on the road from Kashi (Kashgar) and Taxkorgan (Tashkorgan). Elevation 4100 m. Latitude 38° 16' 34" N, longitude 74° 55' 06" E. Procumbent perennial herb. Flowers pale yellow. Growing on open gentle slopes. Bare soil with scattered *Artemisia*, *Astragalus*, *Braya*, *Chorispora*, *Leiospora*, and *Neotorularia*.

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