

A new species of *Salvia* for the Soviet Union

Nový druh šalvěže pro Sovětský svaz

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Salvia forskahlei L. was found near Sochi as a new species for the Soviet Union.

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At the beginning of September 1984 I collected *Salvia forskahlei* L. near Sochi. It grew on the eastern slopes above Dagomys tourists' centre about 13 km north-west from Sochi. *Salvia forskahlei* L. occurred here largely in the margin of forest and on clearings. The forest was composed of *Quercus hartwissiana* STEV., *Carpinus orientalis* MILL. and *Carpinus caucasica* GROSSH. This type of forest is known as Colchis forest with evergreen undergrowth or Colchis vine forest. The following evergreen plants were widely distributed there: *Ruscus ponticus* WORONOW, *Epimedium colchicum* (BOISS.) TRAUTV., *Hedera colchica* C. KOCH, *Smilax excelsa* L. Of the other interesting plants it is worth to mention *Serratula quinquefolia* M. BIEB., *Trachystemon orientale* (L.) D. DON, *Colchicum umbrosum* STEV. and *Lysimachia verticillaris* SPRENG.

Salvia forskahlei L. has a rather small area. So far it has been found in southeastern part of the Balkan Peninsula, viz. in Bulgaria (Strandža mountains, Eastern Stara planina mountains and Tundža hilly region — Elchovo) and in Greece (Thrace) and in Turkey (northern Anatolia) — only on narrow belt along the southern coast of the Black Sea (MEUSEL et al. 1978, HEDGE 1982).

CZEREKANOV (1981) mentioned in his work that the occurrence of this species on the territory of Soviet Union is possible. Practically the same remark appeared in Flora USSR, vol. 21 : 283. My finding confirms the above-mentioned assumptions.

Salvia forskahlei L. is a perennial herb 30—80 cm high. Stem erect, usually simple, conspicuously white-pubescent; some hairs jointed, with long flat basal part and fine-filamented tip, the others thin with admixed long stalky glands, especially in inflorescence. Leaves mostly in lower part of the stem, long petiolate, radical leaves withering away before anthesis, leaf-blades oval to ovate, 6—15 cm long, 4—11 cm wide, obtuse or rounded at tip, cordate to slightly so at base, blunt bitoothed or bicrenate, sparse downy on both surfaces, especially on veins, hairs flattened; the upper half of stem only with one pair of small sessile leaves. Verticils (false whorls) 6—12, loosely arranged, 6-flowered, forming a elongated terminal spike; the floral

bracts rounded and long narrowed with cusp, sessile, pilose, bractlets minute. Pedicels pubescent, half as long or as long as calyx. Calyx bell-shaped, 10—12 mm long, glandular pilose, the upper lip 3-shortly-toothed, the lower lip 2-toothed. Corolla bilabiate, 2,5—3,5 cm long, blue-violet, with darker dots and spots, tube twice longer as calyx, the upper lip sickle-shaped, flattened, 2 cm long, incised to the middle into 2 wide lobules, the lower lip 3-lobed, lobules rounded. Stamens 2, anthers 5 mm long. Style 3—4 cm, long-exserted, stigma with 2 small lobules. Nutlets globular, 2 mm across.

Salvia forskahlei L. belongs to the section *Drymosphace* BENTH., where is classed also *Salvia glutinosa* L.

A herbarium voucher specimen of this species is deposited in the herbarium of the Department of Forest botany and Phytocenology in Brno.

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