

A NEW FRITILLARIA FROM RHODES

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Fritillaria rhodia A. Hansen, sp. nov.

Bulbus globularis, membranis tunicatus, 10–15 mm diam. *Caulis* 6–30 cm altus, 1–2 mm diam., erectus, teres, glaber, glaucus. *Folia* 4–13, viridia, omnia spiralia, 4–5 cm longa, infima anguste oblongo-lanceolata, 3–7 mm lata, media et suprema linearia, acuta, 1 mm lata. *Flores* 1 (rarissime 2), nutantes; perigonium campanulatum. *Tepala* omnia 1–1.5 cm longa, flavo-virentia, exteriora oblonga, obtusa, interiora obovata-cuneata vel spatulato-cuspidata. *Nectaria* elliptica, conspicua. *Stamina* 6, stylo breviora. *Filamenta* matura 2–4 mm longa, glabra; antherae lineatae, flavae, filamentis aequilongae. *Ovarium* cylindricum, 5–6 mm altum; stylus 4 mm longus, integer. *Capsula* cylindrico-subglobularis, flavo-brunnea, 10–15 mm alta. *Semina* triangulo-obovata, plana, brunnea, 5 mm longa.

RHODES. N-exposed limestone slope of the Attaviros-Massif, NE of the town Ag. Issidoros, in open stony ground, c. 500 m, in flower, 27 iv 1965, A. Hansen; (holo—C) *ibidem*, (fruit) 10 v 1966—also recorded from the Loutanis Valley, SW of the village Afantou, in April 1961 and 1968 (Mrs. G. Stroh, Opladen, Germany, in litt.) and from a slope below a NW-exposed cliff of hard limestone north of Zambikos (near the Loutanis-Valley), c. 150 m, 29 iii 1964, S. Snogerup 22061. At present the plant is in cultivation in a greenhouse in the Botanical Garden, Copenhagen; in 1966 it flowered on March 9th.

F. rhodia belongs to the section *Eufritillaria*, subsection *Olostyleae*, following the classification of Boissier (*Flora Orientalis* 5: 177, 1884). It is related to *F. forbesii* Bak. from Asia Minor, but differs in its smaller, purely yellowish-green flowers (when dried the tepals change their colour, at least on outer surfaces, and become purplish-brown; this may happen in the post-floration state too); further, the filaments are glabrous and anthers and filaments equal. It is also related to *F. dasyphylla* Bak. from Asia Minor and to *F. pineticola* O. Schwarz from the East Aegean islands and Asia Minor, but differs in its much narrower leaves, smaller flowers and glabrous filaments. *F. rhodia* is the only species of this genus hitherto known from Rhodes. Further investigations may show that it has a wider distribution on this island, the flora of which still seems to be rather insufficiently known.