REMARKS ON FRORIEPIA (UMBELLIFERAE)

G. H. LEUTE*

ABSTRACT. A new species of the previously monotypic genus Froriepia C. Koch is described from SE Turkey: F. gracillima Leute. The fruit anatomy and morphology of the inflorescence in the new species and in F. subjmnata are treated in some detail.

INTRODUCTION

When the accounts of the Umbelliferae for Flora of Turkey were being written at Edinburgh, a small annual from SE Anatolia was left without a generic name. Accordingly, because of its proximity to the Flora Iranica region, a specimen was sent to me for identification. Surprisingly, a carpological and morphological study showed that it was a new species of the genus. Froriepia C. Koch, regarded until now as monotypic. The type species of the genus, F. subpinnata (Ledeb.) Baill, is confined to the Caucasus, Transcaucasia, Russian Armenia and NW Persia and mainly inhabits places disturbed by man such as fields, vineyards, roadsides, fruit gardens and meadows (Schischkin, 1950). As little material was available for comparison, I had to confine my studies to a single fruiting specimen, which, however, is in accordance with the original diagnosis in all characters. The inclusion of a second species within Froriepia necessitates an emendation of the generic description.

Froriepia C. Koch in Linnaea 16: 362 (1842). Descriptio emendata.

Flores polygami vel hermaphroditi. Calycis dentes inconspicui. Petala oblonga, apice inflexo, albida vel albo-viridia. Fructus late ovoideus, a latere leviter compressus, glaber, mericarpiis in sectione transversali subteretibus, jugis primariis et secundariis inter se subaequalibus, filiformibus, paulum prominentibus. Valleculae latae, evittata evel univitatae vel vitis minimis cellulis stereomaticis lignosis cinciti instructae. Vittae commissurales nullae vel binae, cellulis lignosis vel non lignosis cinctae, intrajugales irregulariter evolutae. Semen in sectione transversali ambitu subteres, non sulcatum, facie commissurali planiusculum. Stylopodium depressum vel breviter conicum, stylis brevibus divaricatis vel reflexis.

Herbae annuae vel biennes, gracillimae vel elatiores, ramosae, umbellis pauciradiatis, radiis inaequilongis, erectis vel erectopatentibus. Typus generis: Froriepia subpinnata (Ledeb.) Baill.

In the key for the Turkish genera of Umbelliferae by Hedge & Lamond (1964) the genus Froriepia should be inserted under the formula "AFHJLNPQ" under the annuals, as only the annual species is native in Turkey.

^{*} Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Botanische Abteilung, Austria.

F. gracillima
Plants annual, extremely slender,
up to 10 cm high
Bracts absent
Bracteoles longer than the pedicels,
awned, pungent
Secondary ribs of the mericarps
without limited tissue

F. subpinnata

Plants biennial, stouter, more than 50 cm high

Bracts present

Bracteoles much shorter than the pedicels, cuspidate

Secondary ribs of the mericarps

with lignified tissue

1. Froriepia gracillima Leute, spec. nov.

Annua, glabra, gracillima. Caulis ad 10 cm altus, in parte inferiore purpureostriatus, superne glauco-viridis, a basi ramosus, ramis divaricatim patentibus, umbellam centralem secundae ordinis et ramulos reductos ferentibus, gracillimis. Folia basalia ignota, caulina vaginis minimis albomembranaceis, subauriculatis, medio striatis insidentia, ad lacinias paucas. filiformes, mucronulatas, usque ad 5 mm longas, superiora ad lacinulam unicam vagina insidentem reducta. Umbellae 2-4-radiatae, radiis valde inaequilongis, usque ad 1.5 cm longis. Involucrum nullum. Umbellulae inter se valde inaequales, centralis subsessilis, exterioribus major; flores exteriores minores, pedicellis glabris, longioribus, extermi steriles, abortivi, Involucelli phylla 1-3, anguste lanceolata, albo-marginata, longe aristata, rigidiuscula, umbellulam superantia vel aequilonga. Fructus centralis 2-2.5 mm longus, exteriores 1.5-2 mm longi, saepe cum mericarpio rudimentario. Mericarpia matura in sectione transversali subteretia, jugis primariis 5-6, secundariis 4-5, omnibus filiformibus. Vittae valleculares singulae, commissurales binae, omnes minimae. Juga primaria lateralia facie commissurali approximata. Type: Turkey B9 Van; 20 miles S of Başkale, bare slopes, annual, flowers white, 2 viii 1954, Davis & Polunin, D. 23791 (holo. E!, iso K! W!).

The new species is included in Froriepia for the following reasons: calyx teeth lacking, petals white, fruits ovoid, laterally compressed, with primary and secondary ribs, vallecular vittae 0-1, very small, mericarps nearly orbicular in cross-section. Related genera are distinguished by the following characters: Pimpinella by numerous vittae; Petroselinum by yellow flowers and only the primary ribs present on the mericarps; Ptychotis by distinct calyx teeth; Carum by mericarps polygonal in cross-section and furrowed endosperm; Bupleurum by entire leaves.

Carpological remarks. The mericarps of F. gracillima are nearly orbicular in cross-section as in F. subpinnata and the filiform primary and secondary ribs are scarcely prominent. On the dorsal surface an accessory primary rib could be seen in several fruits. The very small vittae are situated in wide valleculae and are embedded in non-ligneous tissue contrary to F. subpinnata. Intrajugal vittae are irregularly present in both species.

Inflorescence. The type of inflorescence in the new species is usually the same as in F. subpinnata. The umbels consist of few rays extremely unequal in length. The central umbellule is usually reduced to one single flower, the corresponding ray being very short to indistinct and the likewise usually single bracteole simulates a one-leaved involucre of the umbel. The umbels

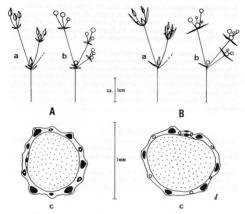


Fig. 1. A, Froriepia subpinnata (Ledeb.) Baill. and B, F. gracillima Leute: a, inflorescence; b, schematic inflorescence; c, transverse section of a mericarp (lignified tissue in black).

of secondary order often have a reduced basal internode, so that they originate directly from the axil of the corresponding leaf. This leaf normally is reduced to a sheath and may simulate a bract in the same manner as described above. The umbellules show a "Zentralförderung", according to Froebe (1964), i.e. the sessile central flower precedes the others in development, while these are smaller, with longer pedicels and one of the mericarps is often sterile. The outermost flowers are usually sterile and degenerated. The bracteoles usually surpass the flowers.

The convergent structure of the inflorescences in F. subpinnata and Petroselinum segetum C. Koch is very remarkable. This fact as well as the rather obvious similarity of the fruits may be the reason why Ledebour described F. subpinnata under the name Petroselinum segetum Ledeb. True P. segetum C. Koch differs from F. subpinnata in its yellow petals, pentagonal mericarps without secondary ribs and much bigger vittae which are surrounded by cells, reminiscent of the "Meridocytes" of Briquet (1914), and are absent in Froriepia. The question arises whether the colour of the flowers and the relatively few characters in the fruit anatomy are sufficient to acknowledge two separate genera. Similar problems are involved in the generic separation of Pimpinella and Reutera.

2. Froriepia subpinnata (Ledeb.) Baill., Hist. Pl. 7: 200 (1880) in adnot.

Syn.: Bupleurum subpinnatum Ledeb. in Eichw., Pl. nov. vel minus cogn. 13, t. 11 (1831–1833); Froriepia nuda C. Koch in Linnaea 16: 362 (1842); Petroselinum seetum Ledeb., Fl. Ross. 2: 242 (1844), non Koch.

Type: "Habitat cum illo (Bupleurum gracile M.B.) in Astrabadensi ora" LE.

Carpological remarks. The mericarps are orbicular in cross-section, with filiform and more prominent primary and secondary ribs than in F. gracillima. The lateral ribs on the commissural surface are more widely separated from each other than in F. gracillima. The secondary ribs contain thick stereom-bundles nearly orbicular in section with very thick and lignified cell walls. They surround a very small rudimentary vitta. The commissural vittae may likewise be substituted by a stereom-bundle or also be only rudimentarily developed.

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