PSILOTUM NUDUM (L.) P. BEAUUV. (PSILOTACEAE), A NEW RECORD FOR THE FLORA OF IRAN

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Specimens of Psilotum nudum (L.) P. Beauv. were collected in a natural habitat in a program for the collecting of plants and establishment of a herbarium in Mazandaran. These specimens were found as epiphyte in the cavities on old trees of Parrotia persica (DC.) C.A. Meyer. (Iron tree) which filled with decomposing plant residues. Then available books and flora about the Pterophytes of Iran were revised but the species had not been reported. These specimens were later on named Psilotum nudum, which is a new record for the flora of Iran. The species is a perennial herb and has branched rhizome and aerial stems with dichotomous branches. Foliar appendages are scale-like and once-forked. Sporangia are 3-locular and 3-lobed, occur above the base of forked sporophylls and each lobe exhibits loculicidal dehiscence at maturity.

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اولین گزارش گونه

آیت الله رضایی و شاهبور خانقلی

ژیک بر پنامه جمع آوری جهت احداث هرباریوم در غرب مازندران، نمونه‌هایی از گونه Psilotum nudum (Psilotaceae) صورت گرفت در جنگل‌های سختکوهی بلوطی از Parrotia persica (DC.) C.A. Meyer. پس از جمع آوری نمونه‌ها، کتاب‌های در دسترس مربوط به پتریدوئیدیت‌های ایران بزرگی و مشاهده شد. چنان گیاهی از ایران گزارش نشد. به نامگذاری شدند، در مواقعی اولین گزارش گونه برای Psilotum nudum نمونه‌ها که بعداً نام جدیدی به این گونه می‌شود. این گونه گیاهی علفی که در مکان‌های بزرگ و روستاهای منطقه بومی است و به‌طور بالقوه در منطقه شناخته می‌شود، از کثیف‌های هوا و آب با اندازه‌های زیادی برگی فرسنگی می‌باید و یک بار دور شناخته شده است. سپس این گونه به سه حفره‌ای، به لب در محله بلوغ شکوفاتی افکار جهانی.
Psilotum nudum (L.) P. Beauv.

Mazandaran: Ramsar, on the road to Limashak, on parrotia persica trees, 60 m, 5.6.2003, Rezaei & Maassoumi 83501 (TARI).

In a program of collecting plants for the establishment of West Mazandaran herbarium, the specimens of a fern-like species were found on trunk of Parrotia persica (DC.) C.A. Meyer trees in Ramsar, Ramak river, altitude about 40 m from sea level and collected. Then available books and flora about pteridophytes of Iran were revised but the species had not been reported from Iran. These specimens were later on named Psilotum nudum (L.) P. Beauv, which is a new record for the flora of Iran.

The division Psilotophyta is made up of living plants comprising one class, one order, one family and two genera (Psilotum and Tmesipteris). So, all of the taxa are new to Iran. It is native to the southeastern region of the United States, Japan, Australia and New Zealand (Gifford & Foster 1989). It is noteworthy that the species is one of only a few surviving members of an ancient group of vascular plants, accepted by some botanists as the most primitive - certainly the most primitive - looking and simplest vascular plant alive today and it is often described as "living fossils" because of high similarity in many aspects to the earliest tracheophyts of the Silurian - Devonian periods, e.g., Cooksonia, Agalophyton (Judd & al. 1999). Psilotum nudum is a herbaceous plant up to 35 cm occurs as epiphyte on trunk of Parrotia persica (Iron tree). Roots absent, the branched rhizome bears numerous rhizoids. Aerial stems erect, nearly tetragonal, glabrous and dichotomously branched. Foliar appendages helically arranged, scalelike, once-forked, veinless. Sporangia 3-locular and 3-lobed, approximately 2 mm wide, short-stalked above the base of forked sporophylls and each lobe exhibits loculicidal dehiscence at maturity (Fig. 1). Homosporous; spores bean-shaped, pale in color. Gametophyte subterranean.

References
Fig. 1. *Psilotum nodum* (x 1.5); sporangium (x 10); dehiscent sporangium (x 10).