



## *Onobrychis mehmetchiquii* (Fabaceae) *sp. nov.*, a new species from European Turkey

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### Abstract

A new *Onobrychis* taxon was collected from regions of Turkey that reside in Europe and is described as *Onobrychis mehmetchiquii* Aybeke & Dane *sp. nova* belonging to sect. *Onobrychis*. Additionally, a description of the species along with illustrations and key features are given in contrast to *O. alba* and *O. degenii* which are the most similar to the new taxon.

**Key words:** *Onobrychis*, Leguminosae, Thrace Region, European Turkey

### Introduction

The genus *Onobrychis* Mill. (Gard. Dict. Abridge, ed. 4: 1754) is placed in Fabaceae tribe Hedysareae (1981:367) (Polhill 1981, Lock 2005) and comprises about 173 species worldwide. It is scattered especially in southwestern Asia and the Mediterranean region, but mainly distributed in the north temperate regions. However, its biodiversity centers are in the eastern Mediterranean area and western Asia, significantly in Iran and Anatolia (Lock 2005, Yildiz *et al.* 1999), in temperate Europe and Asia (Cronquist 1981, Zohary 1987). Taxonomic research that was specifically carried out in Iran and Anatolia in recent years has attracted even more attention to *Onobrychis* taxon richness. For instance; section *Onobrychis* was shown in the Flora Iranica as comprising 14 taxa (Rechinger 1984); yet this number has risen to 21 with recent taxonomic studies (Ranjbar *et al.* 2007, 2011, 2012, Amirabadizadeh 2011, Amirabadizade & Ghanavati 2013, Amirahmadi *et al.* 2014). Regarding Turkey, 56 taxa have been found (Hedge 1970, Davis *et al.* 1988) with the discovery of new taxa such as *O. fallax* Freyn & Sint. var. *longifolia* Aktoklu (2001: 359), *O. atropatana* Boiss. var. *grandiflora* Aktoklu (2001: 359) (Aktoklu 2001), *O. mutensis* Kit Tan & Sorger (1986: 111), *O. sivasica* Kit Tan & Sorger (1986: 111), *O. cilicica* Kit Tan & Sorger (1986: 111) (Kit Tan & Sorger, 1986), *O. marashensis* H. Duman et Vural var. *marashensis* (1990:45), *O. marashensis* H. Duman et Vural var. *longicaulus* H. Duman et Vural (1990:45), and *O. marashensis* H. Duman et Vural var. *alpina* H. Duman et Vural (1990:45) (Duman & Vural 1990). In this paper, the new taxon *Onobrychis mehmetchiquii* Aybeke & Dane (Sect. *Onobrychis*) is described from European Turkey.

### Material and Methods

During our routine fieldwork in Edirne, some *Onobrychis* specimens have drawn our attention in their differences to known species and they have been investigated in EDTU Herbarium (Trakya University comprising European Turkey Flora taxa), Herbarium of Bulgarian Science Academia (Sofia), and the European and Bulgarian Flora accounts (Ball 1968, Jordanov 1976). The holotype and all vegetative and fruit samples of the new taxa are stored in EDTU herbarium.

### Results

*Onobrychis mehmetchiquii* Aybeke & Dane *sp. nov.* (FIGURES 1–3)