

## Short Communication

# *Galinsoga ciliata* (RAF.) S. F. Blake (Asteraceae): A new species for the flora of Macedonia

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*Galinsoga ciliata* (Raf.) S. F. Blake (Asteraceae) is recorded for the first time for the flora of Macedonia. Genus *Galinsoga* Ruiz and Pavon in Macedonia is represented with the unique species *Galinsoga parviflora* Cav. During the research of this genus in Macedonia, another new species, *G. ciliata* (Raf.) S.F. Blake, was recognized which represents a new species for Macedonian flora. Examined specimens: Macedonia: Upper part of the Polog valley: 546 m, 41° 48' N, 20° 55' E, 14 September 2008, A. Haziri and F. Millaku.

**Key words:** *Galinsoga*, new record, Asteraceae, Macedonia.

## INTRODUCTION

The genus *Galinsoga* Ruiz and Pav. is an small genus with 2 species *Galinsoga parviflora* Cav. and *Galinsoga ciliata* (Raf.) S.F. Blake (Tutin et al., 1976; Anzalone et al., 1982; Josifovi et al., 1977; Martin i et al., 1999; Vangjeli et al., 2000). *Galinsoga* Ruiz and Pav., originates in South America's Peruvian Andes. It was brought to Europe in 1794, when samples of this plant were brought to Madrid, Paris and other European botanical gardens. It began to spread broadly, naturalizing easily as a spontaneous plant. It is known as a bad grass in agricultural products and it is distinguishable by its high vitality. It is very difficult to eliminate.

In Macedonia is represented only for *G. parviflora*. During the research of this genus in Macedonia, another species of *Galinsoga* Ruiz and Pav., *G. ciliata* (Raf.) S.F. Blake was discovered, which represents a new species for Macedonian flora.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

*G. ciliata* (Raf.) S. F. Blake, Rhodora 24: 35(1922).  
Synonym: *G. quadriradiata* Auct., non Ruiz and Pavon (Figure 1).

Examined specimens: Macedonia: Upper part of the

Polog valley: 546 m, 41° 48' N, 20° 55' E, 14 September 2008, A. Haziri and F. Millaku. Figure 2 is an annual herbs which grows up to 60 cm tall with a branched stem (pedicle) which is dense and covered with glandular hair. The first leaves are oval, a little toothed and the leaves are on opposite sides of the stem. The ovals leaves mature up to triangular, margine denticulate and are covered with dense hairs, especially at the lips of lappet. The sub-spherical capitula grow up to 7 mm and have involucre with internal and external bracts. Receptacle conical, with scales. Peripheral florets, whitish, female ligulate, 4 - 6 in quantity, have a triple tongue. It has central tubular florets, which are yellow, hermaphrodite, 15 - 30 in quantity. Pappus-scales aristate, Achenes, obovoid-prismatic, brown to black. A single plant can produce up to 7500 of these achenes. The cotyledons orbicular are 4 - 8 mm. Flowering June-October.

## Identifying characteristics

Hairy stems and leaves and 3 toothed ray flowers. The densely hairy nature of this weed helps to distinguish this weed from small- flower *Galinsoga* (*G. parviflora*), which is very similar but much less hairy than *G. ciliata*.

Specimens of the recorded species are deposited in the herbarium of the department of Biology, State University of Tetova.

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**Figure 1.** *Galinsoga ciliata* (Raf.) S.F. Blake, upper part of the plant with typical characteristics of the species. September 2008 (photo by Haziri A).



**Figure 2.** Distribution of *Galinsoga ciliata* ( Raf.) S.F. Blake in Macedonia (•).

## Conclusion

From the current knowledge of flora in Macedonia, the genus *Galinsoga* is represented for a single species *G. parviflora* (Tutin et al., 1976; Josifovi et al., 1977).

As a result of the research of the genus *Galinsoga* in Macedonia, another species of this genus, *G. ciliata*, is included for the Macedonian flora.

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