

Scorzonera rawii RECH. f. et GUEST, n. sp.

Rhizoma crassissime tuberosum, interdum ultra 4 cm crassum, brouneo-corticatum, collo non producto squamoso, squamis externis bruneis coriaceis, internis membranaceis. Folia numerosa linearia, 2 (—3) mm lata, 10 — 15 cm longa, flexuosa, costa mediana albida latiuscula et utrinque nervis 1-2 tenuibus parallelis percursa, flexuosa, apicem versus sensim attenuata, apice ipsa saepe incurva, margine omnia plana, appresse albo-floccosa interdum complete glabrescentia. Scapi plures 7 — 12 cm longi, floriferi folia aequantes usque subsuperantes, in statu exisiccato 1, 5 — 2 mm crassi, imprimis in parte superiore appresse floccoso-lanati, saepe valde glabrescentes. Involuerum in statu florifero artificialiter compresso 18 — 22 mm longum, 8 — 15 mm diametro, laxiusculum, sub-biseriatum. Phylla non numerosa, plerumque 10 — 12, omnia herbacea, membranaceo-marginata et floccoso-ciliata, tenuiter multinervia, appresse albo-floccosa valde glabrescentia; phylla exteriora 6 — 12 mm longa, 5 — 6 mm lata, late usque elongato-ovata, purpurascentia, apice rotundata, rarius acutiuscula; phylla interiora late lanceolata, quam exteriora duplo usque triplo longiora, magis virescentia, apicem versus gradatim attenuata apice ipsa obtusiuscula usque acutiuscula. Ligulae flavae, 20 — 23 mm longae, 2 — 3 mm latae, nervis usque 5 parallelis tenuibus percursae, antice breviter denticulato-crenulatae. — Species habitu et imprimis involucri phyllis perlatis omnibus vel plurimis apice rotundatis characteristicis, achaeniis adhuc ignotis provisorie tantum prope *S. mollem* M.B. inserenda.

North-western Desert: (1) 20 km West of Rutba, stony land, 640 m, 11/3/1955, (RAWI in BAG 15636, typus). (2) 20 km West of Rutba, clay soil, plains, 640 m, 11/3/1955 (RAWI in BAG 14678, specimen sterile). (3) 18 km South of Rutba, clay soil, dry step, 640 m, 10/3/1955 (RAWI in BAG 14602). (4) Rutba, 640 m, low hillside, 10/3/1955 (RAWI in BAG 14650: specimen elatius, magis glabrescens, foliis latioribus).

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Periploca aphylla DECAISNE — Boiss. 4: 50

Shrub, 1 — 2 m high. Branches long, often pendulous, naked, resembling those of *Spartium junceum*, velvety canescent while young, then glabrous. Leaves few, 2 to 3 mm long, ovate, canescent, mucronate, nearly sessile. Cymes in axils of abortive leaves, nearly sessile, densely flowered. Corolla brownish-purple, 8 mm to 1 cm broad, lobes ovate, obtuse or retuse, concave, bearded along upper half of margin. Scales 2-auricled, ending in a simple awn. Folicles velvety, then glabrous, tapering, horizontal, 7 to 10 cm long, 6 mm wide.

Persian foothills near Mandali, sandy wadi bottoms, 2/2/1956 (HAINES 539).