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Autor: Yildirimli, .
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Cerasus erzincanica (Rosaceae), a new species from Turkey

Ş. YILDIRIMLI

ABSTRACT

YILDIRIMLI, Ş. (1993). *Cerasus erzincanica* (Rosaceae), a new species from Turkey. *Candollea* 48: 115-118. In English, English and French abstracts.

Cerasus erzincanica Ş. Yıldırımli (Rosaceae) from Eastern Anatolia is described and illustrated as a new cherry species belonging to the tribe *Pruneae*.

RÉSUMÉ

YILDIRIMLI, Ş. (1993). *Cerasus erzincanica* (Rosaceae), une nouvelle espèce de Turquie. *Candollea* 48: 115-118. En anglais, résumés anglais et français.

Une nouvelle espèce de cerisier (tribu *Pruneae*) d'Anatolie Orientale est décrite et illustrée: *Cerasus erzincanica* Ş. Yıldırımli.

KEY-WORDS: Cherry — *Cerasus erzincanica* — ROSACEAE — Flora — Turkey.

During an expedition to the province of Erzincan in Eastern Anatolia in May 1981, I collected a natural *Cerasus* (cherry) specimen. At first, I identified it as *C. angustifolia* (Spach) Browicz (BROWICZ, 1972). Then, I remarked that this species was characterized by having a splitting bark, whereas all Turkish *Cerasus* species have not got a splitting bark. The splitting bark is typical in *Armeniaca* (apricot) and *Persica* (peach). It is the unique specimen in the genus *Cerasus* in Turkey by having a splitting bark. This and the other features soon showed that the plant was undescribed (BROWICZ, 1972; KOMAROV, 1941; RECHINGER, 1969).

***Cerasus erzincanica* Ş. Yıldırımli, spec. nov.** (Fig. 1, 2).

Type: Türkiye. B7 Erzincan: Kemah, Eriç, Tuztaş Deresi, Munzur Dağları, 1200-1500 m, 18.5.1981, Ş. Yıldırımli 4267 (holo.: HUB; iso.: G).

Haec species inter omnibus *Cerasis* speciebus cortice fissili insigni et affinis *C. angustifolio* (Spach) Browicz sed foliis tenuioribus et papyraceioribus; pedicellis 6-8 mm longis (non ca. 2 mm longis); sepalis 4 mm longis (non 2 mm longis) et 1/2 and 2/3 (non 1/3) calycis tubos superantibus.

Frutice inermi vel arbor parva, rami griseo-brunnei, cortice fissili. Surculi juvenes glabri. Stipulae subulatae, bini, persistentes, 7-10 mm longi. Folia et flores fasciculati. Petioli ca. 3 mm longi. Folia juvenia supra in facie glabra viridia; infra in facie albo-viridula, lanata et decalvata. Folia matura 3-6 × 0.5-1 cm, elliptica vel lineari-elliptica, tenuiora, papyraceiora, viridia, margines arcte serrata. Pedicellis 6-8 mm longi. Flores fasciculati, 1-2, ca. 10 mm longi; hypanthia ca. 6 mm longa, cylindrica; sepala 4 mm longa, viridia et 1/2 ad 2/3 calycis tubos superantia. Petala ignota. Ovaria et styli glabra. Drupae ignotae.

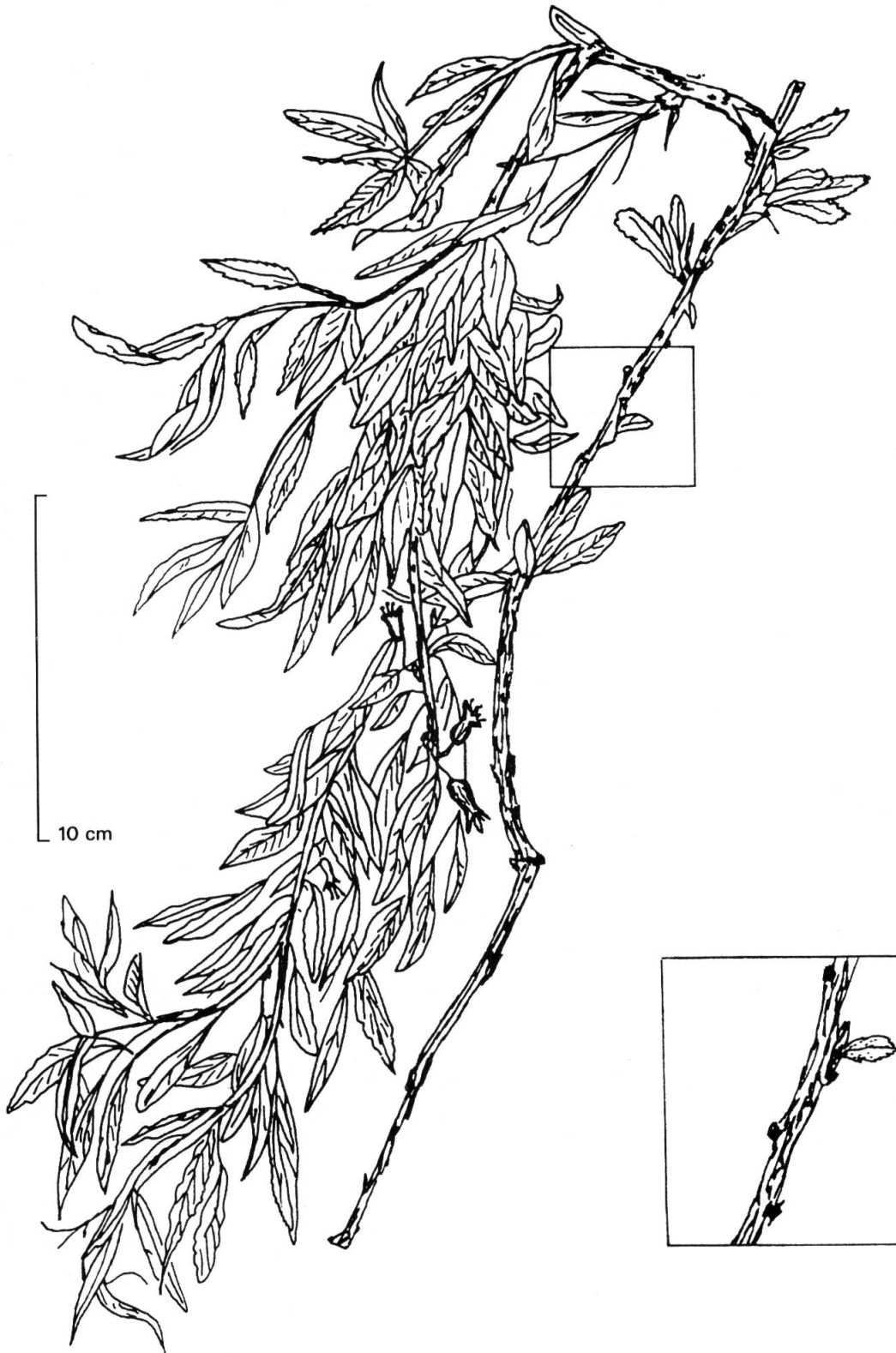


Fig. 1. — *Cerasus erzincanica* Ş. Yıldırım (Rosaceae).

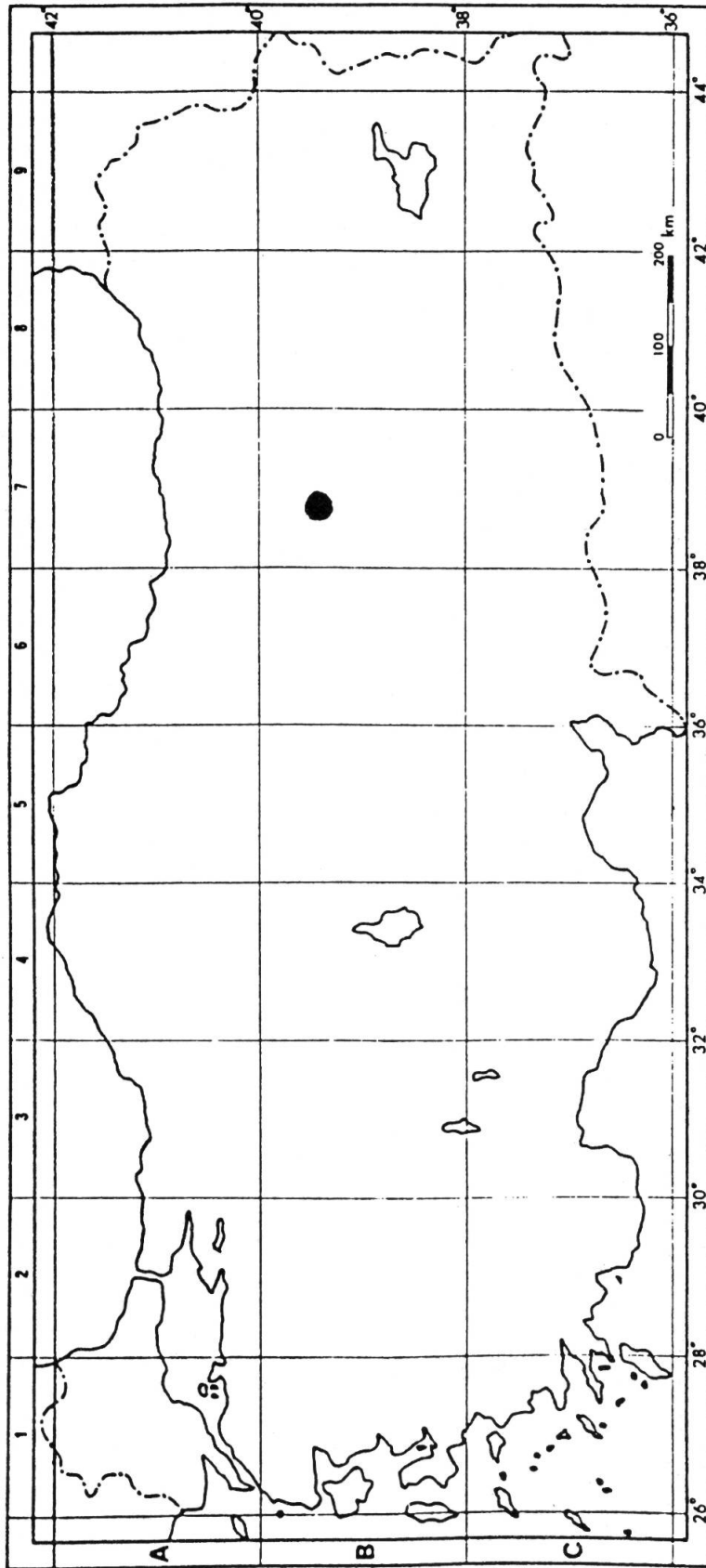


Fig. 2. — Distribution of *Cerasus erzincanica* Ş. Yıldırımli in Turkey.

Dikensiz çalı veya küçük ağaç. Kabuk gri-kahverengi, boyuna yarık yarık. Genç sürgünler tüysüz. Kulakçıklar bizsi, çift, kalıcı, 7-10 mm boyunda. Yapraklar ve çiçekler demetsi. Yaprak sapları yaklaşık 3 mm boyunda. Genç yapraklar üstte tüysüz ve yeşil; alta yünsü tüylü, zamanla tüysüz. Olgun yapraklar 3-6 × 0.5-1 cm, gözsüden gözsü-şeritsiye değişken, çok ince kâğıtsı, yeşil; kenarları testere dişli. Çiçek sapları 6-8 mm boyunda. Çiçekler demetsi, 1-2, yaklaşık 10 mm boyunda; hipantiyum 6 mm boyunda, silindirsı; çanak yapraklar 4 mm boyunda, yeşil ve kaliks tüpünün 1/2 ilâ 2/3'ü kadar. Taç yapraklar bilinmiyor. Yumurtalık ve uzantısı tüysüz. Meyva bilinmiyor.

Unarmed shrub or small tree. Bark grey-brown, longitudinally splitting. Young shoots glabrous. Stipules subulate, paired, persistent, 7-10 mm long. Leaves and flowers fascicled. Petioles ca. 3 mm long. Young leaves glabrous, green above; whitish-green, lanate and become glabrous beneath. Mature leaves 3-6 × 0.5-1 cm, elliptic to linear-elliptic, very thin, papery, green; margins closely serrate. Pedicels 6-8 mm long. Flowers fascicles, 1-2, ca. 10 mm long, hypanthium 6 mm long, cylindrical; sepals 4 mm long, green and 1/2 to 2/3 as long as the calyx tube. Petals unknown. Ovary and style glabrous. Drupe unknown.

Endemic to Turkey. Irano-Turanian element.

This new species among all species of *Cerasus* in Turkey by having a splitting bark is remarkable and closely related to *C. angustifolia*, but it differs by very thin and papery leaves; 6-8 mm long pedicels; 4 mm long sepals and with exceeding 1/2 to 2/3 of the tube of the calyx.

The genus *Cerasus* Duhamel consists of 10 species in Turkey including the new species. The new species is locally called "kuşüzümü" meaning "birdgrape", because of its red fruits.

In order to ameliorate cultivated cherries, it is very important to investigate the genetic sources from agronomic point of view for the creation of new forms. This new species provide perhaps a way of handling genetic diversity and taking the best of these resources for genetic improvement.

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