

short communication/kratko priopćenje

## CAREX PUNCTATA GAUDIN (CYPERACEAE), A NEW SPECIES IN THE CROATIAN FLORA

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Koopman, J. & Topić, J.: *Carex punctata* Gaudin (Cyperaceae), a new species in the Croatian flora. *Nat. Croat.*, Vol. 20, No. 1., 225–228, 2011, Zagreb.

*Carex punctata* Gaudin 1811. *Agrost. Helv.*, 2: 152, (Cyperaceae), was found in Croatia in three localities in the period of 2004–2009. This species has never before been noted in Croatia. It was found by the second author, the former confirming the determination.

**Key words:** *Carex punctata* Gaudin, Croatia

Koopman, J. & Topić, J.: *Carex punctata* Gaudin (Cyperaceae), nova vrsta u hrvatskoj flori. *Nat. Croat.*, Vol. 20, No. 1., 225–228, 2011, Zagreb.

*Carex punctata* Gaudin 1811. *Agrost. Helv.*, 2: 152 (Cyperaceae) pronađen je na tri lokaliteta u razdoblju 2004–2009. Vrsta nikad nije zabilježena za Hrvatsku. Pronašao ju je drugi autor, a prvi je potvrdio determinaciju.

**Ključne riječi:** *Carex punctata* Gaudin, Hrvatska

### TAXONOMY

*Carex punctata* Gaudin belongs to the Subgenus *Carex*, section *Spirostachyae*. Other European species within this section are: *C. binervis* Smith, *C. distans* L., *C. cretica* Gradstein & J. Kern, *C. diluta* M. Bieb., *C. extensa* Goodenough and *C. mairei* Cosson & Germain; CHATER (1980). Of these species, *C. distans* and *C. extensa* are the most widely distributed. They are both also native to Croatia. *C. binervis* is a W and NW European species, *C. cretica* is an endemic from Crete. *C. diluta* has an eastern distribution, while *C. mairei* is restricted to SW Europe, Spain, France, Italy, and to N Africa.

### DESCRIPTION OF *C. punctata*

Plant caespitose, glabrous, medium sized, up to 60 cm. Leaves bright yellow green.



Fig. 1. *Carex punctata* Gaudin, from Pisarovinska Bregana (a), from NP Risnjak (b). Photo: J. Topić.

Terminal spike male, lower 3-4 female, oblong to cylindrical; all spikes erect (Fig. 1). Male spike less than 5 mm wide. Lowest bract sheathing exceeding the inflorescence. Utricles glabrous, not hairy, patent, shining, with 2-fid, smooth beak; 3 stigmas.

Easily confused with *C. distans* or even more with *C. demissa* Hornemann. But *C. distans* has the lowest bract shorter than the inflorescence and is mostly more robust. *C. demissa* has the female spikes ovoid and more sessile, and is mostly lower and not as upright as *C. punctata*. The hybrid of *C. demissa* and *C. punctata* has been found in Europe.

## DISTRIBUTION

*C. punctata* Gaudin has its distribution in Europe, including the Azores, NW Africa, including Madeira, and in Turkey, Asia. The material from the Azores and Madeira is often regarded as an endemic variety, *C. punctata* var. *laevicaulis* (Hochst. ex Seubert) Boott. The other European material belongs to the typical variety, *C. punctata* var. *punctata*.

*C. punctata* occurs in all parts of Europe (Koopman, in prep.), but mostly in Central, West and South Europe. In North Europe it is restricted to Norway and Sweden. In Central Europe *C. punctata* is known from Austria, Switzerland, Germany and Poland, in West Europe from Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. In South Europe it is recorded from Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece and the Mediterranean islands Corse (Corsica), Sardinia, Sicily and Crete. In

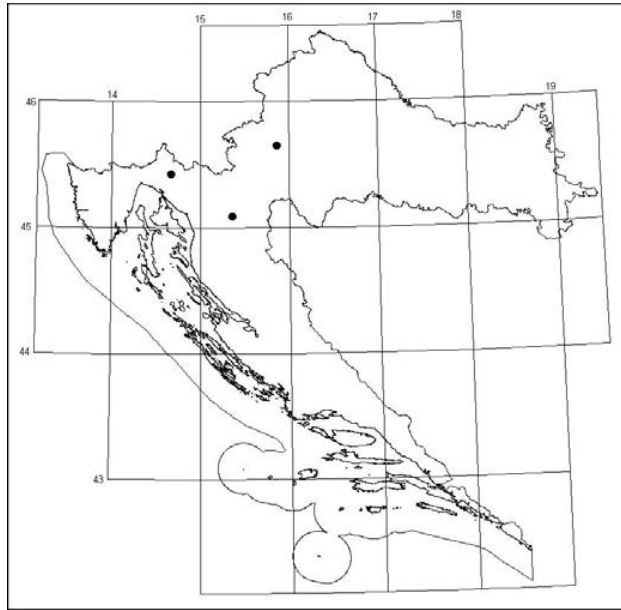


Fig. 2. Distribution of *Carex punctata* in Croatia

the Balkans it is known from Bulgaria, Slovenia (Jogan, 2001) and from Montenegro, where it was found in 2009 (STEŠEVIĆ & DRESCHER, 2010).

However, in general it is never a common species. Therefore it is found on several Red Lists, e.g. in Austria, Slovenia and the Netherlands.

Data about its phytosociological and ecological status are insufficient.

## DISTRIBUTION AND HABITATS IN CROATIA

*Carex punctata* was found at three localities (Fig. 2) in wet habitats. The first locality is near Pisarovinska Bregana village. There *C. punctata* grows in wet grassland. Those grasslands of unclear phytosociological status have not been regularly mown (sometimes burnt). Some other plants listed here are: *Cynosurus cristatus* L., *Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus* L., *Holcus lanatus* L., *Gaudinia fragilis* (L.) Beauv., *Lychnis floccuculi* L., *Juncus conglomeratus* L. and *Gratiola officinalis* L. The second locality is near Plaški village, near the Dretulja River, on a basophilous moor. There it grows among other plants with *Carex pulicaris* L., *Schoenus nigricans* L., *Equisetum palustre* L., *Carex flava* L. and *Epipactis palustris* (L.) Crantz. The third locality is in Risnjak National Park, in a small stream with *Equisetum palustre* L., *Carex lepidocarpa* Tausch, *Carex distans* L., *Cirsium palustre* (L.) Scop., *Dactylorhiza incarnata* (L.) Soó, *Eleocharis* sp., *Blysmus compressus* (L.) Link, *Eriophorum latifolium* Hoppe and others. Probably, this plant could be found in more localities, particularly now, after a detailed description and data about its habitat. It seems to have been overlooked in the past, partly due to the species not being very well known or being confused with *C. distans*.

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## SAŽETAK

***Carex punctata* Gaudin (Cyperaceae), nova vrsta hrvatske flore**

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U periodu od 2004. do 2009. na tri mjesta u Hrvatskoj nađena je nova vrsta roda *Carex* u Hrvatskoj. Primjerke je našla druga autorica, a determinirao ih je prvi autor. Ustanovljeno je da se radi o vrsti *Carex punctata* Gaudin. Ta je vrsta rasprostranjena u velikom dijelu Europe, no svuda je rijetka. To i nije čudno s obzirom na stanište. I drugdje, kao i u Hrvatskoj, ona raste na vlažnim livadama koje postaju sve rjeđe. Dosad je u Hrvatskoj nađena kod Pisarovinske Bregane, uz poučnu stazu Leska u Nacionalnom parku Risnjak te uz rijeku Dretulju kod Plaškog. Najvjerojatnije raste i drugdje, ali je dosad previđena, odnosno zamijenjena sa sličnim vrstama roda *Carex*.