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**PASPALUM DILATATUM POIRET, A NEW
ADVENTITIOUS PLANT IN THE FLORA OF
YUGOSLAVIA**

LJUDEVIT ILIJANIĆ and JASENKA TOPIĆ

(Department of Botany, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb and
Pedagogical Faculty, University of Osijek)

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The species *Paspalum dilatatum* Poiret was found in the Montenegrin coast region (Yugoslavia), in the vicinity of Bar, Budva, Miločer and Petrovac. So far, these were the first finds in Yugoslavia of this neophytic Southamerican species.

The genus *Paspalum* L. includes about 160, mainly tropical species, particularly numerous in America (Hegi 1935:270). Some of them are spread far from their original range as adventitious plants. According to Clayton (1980:236) four adventitious species have been found in Europe so far: *Paspalum dilatatum* Poiret, *P. urvillei* Steudel, *P. paspalodes* (Michx) Scribner and *P. vaginatum* Swartz. Clayton does not note for any of them to be spread in Yugoslavia.

Nevertheless the species *P. paspalodes* was found in Yugoslavia already in 1947 by Horvatić (1949) in swamp vegetation in the inundational area of the Neretva river, distributed over the whole area between Metković and Opuzen, and between Metković and Gabela (Horvatić 1949:233; about distribution of this species in Yugoslavia comp. also Horvatić 1954, 1963; Černjavski et al. 1949, Hodak 1956).

In July 1981, among the herbarium material of plants originating from an olive culture near Petrovac in the Montenegrin coastal region (J. Topić) a specimen of grass was found collected incomplete. We determined it as the species *Paspalum dilatatum* Poiret. Afterwards we paid more attention to this plant, and we found it again in the area between Bar and Budva. There it grew in grassland and ruderal vegetation along the Adriatic Road. In addition to Petrovac, it was collected near Budva, Miločer and Bar (Fig. 1). From the abundantly collected material it was possible to determine it definitively as *Paspalum dilatatum* Poiret (Fig. 2).

South America, i. e. Brasil and Argentina are cited as the native country of this plant (Hegi 1935: 270, Clayton 1980:263, Pignatti 1982:611). Recently it has spread as an adventitious species over many parts of the Earth including large areas of North America (Britton and Brown 1970, Radford et al. 1978), Middle and South America, as well as Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific Islands (Häfliger and Scholtz 1980). It is also spread in the warmer parts of Europe.

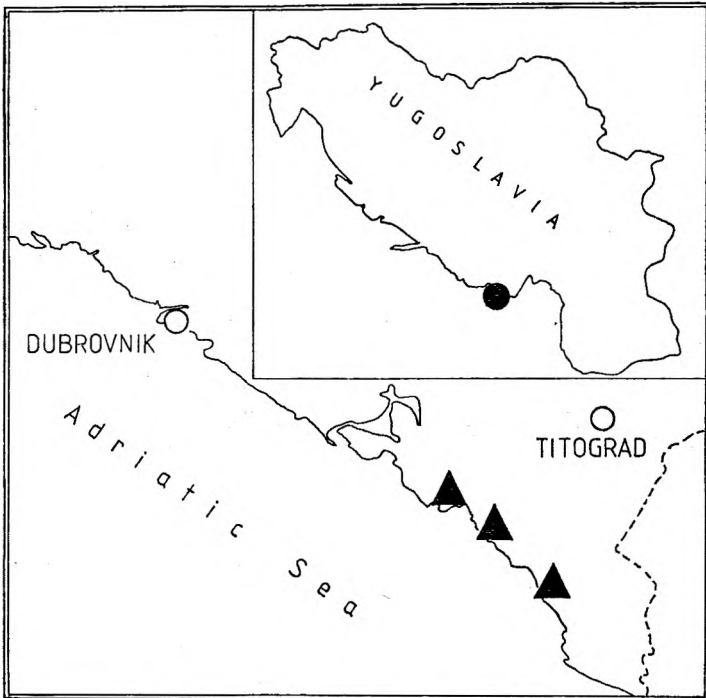


Fig. 1. Localities of *Paspalum dilatatum* (▲)

As the area of distribution in Europe Clayton (1980:263) notes the Azores, France, Spain, Portugal and Italy. Häfliger and Scholtz (1980:263) also noted Southeastern Europe, with no details of the country. It probably refers to the European part of Turkey (comp. analogy for *Panicum dichotomiflorum*, Ilijanić and Marković 1986).

Hegi (1935:270) also noted *P. dilatatum* »Adventiv: Rheinhafen Neuß 1913 und 1922; Derendingen; in Südfankreich eingebürgert«. In the new edition of Hegi's Flora, Conert (1979:36), describing *Panicoideae*, in addition to the above mentioned localities also notes Bürglen (St. Gallen), Dortmund-Huckare, Osnabrück as well as Italia: »Verbreitet in Italien. Im Gardaseegebiet seit 1974 bei Toscolano (siehe Kiem 1980: Ber. Ber. Bot. Ges. 49:10)«.

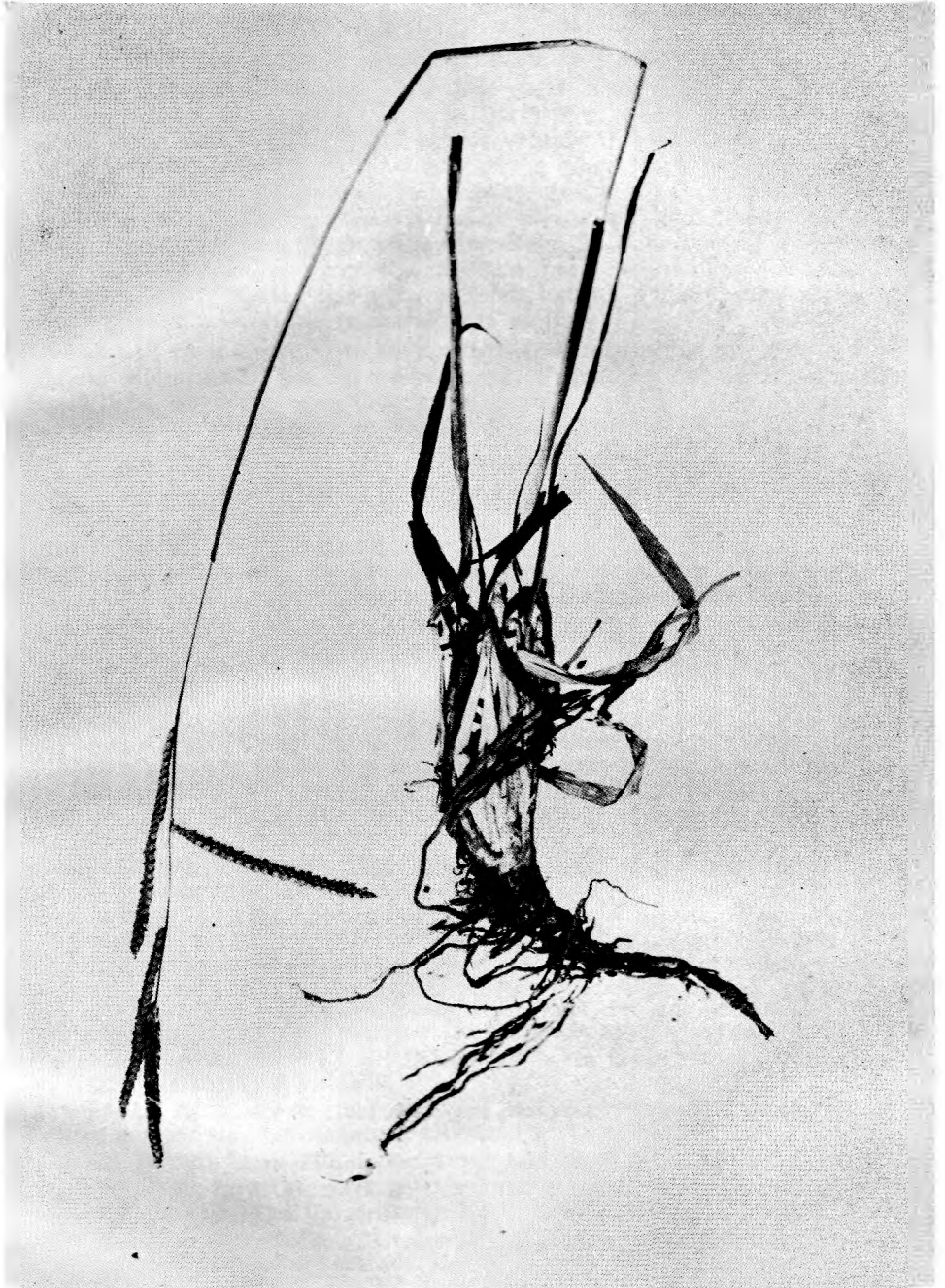


Fig. 2. *Paspalum dilatatum* Poiret from Montenegrin coast region

The localities in the Montenegrin Coast are, so far as we were able to determine from the literature, the only finds known of this neophytic species in Yugoslavia, and it seemed useful to publish them.

The species *Paspalum dilatatum* could have reached these parts through some of the ports (perhaps Bar?) from where it has been spreading over the coastal region. Where exactly it came from is difficult to say, because it could have arrived by ship from any part of the world — taking into account its present range; from North Africa, for instance, where it is domesticated as it also is in Egypt (comp. Täckholm 1974:744) or from neighbouring Italy. It is interesting to mention that it is distributed over the western parts »dalla Tosc. al Napol.« (Pignatti 1982:611, and Map of Distribution) while it has not been recorded in the Adriatic (eastern) part of Italy.

It will be interesting to follow further spreading of the species *Paspalum dilatatum* in the coastal region of Yugoslavia, where the climatic conditions obviously are favourable for it.

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SAŽETAK

PASPALUM DILATATUM POIRET — NOVA ADVENTIVNA BILJKA U FLORI
JUGOSLAVIJE

Ljudevit Ilijanić i Jasenka Topić

(Botanički zavod Prirodoslovno-matematičkog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i
Pedagoški fakultet Sveučilišta u Osijeku)

U području između Budve i Bara (Budva, Miločer, Petrovac, Bar) u Crnogorskom primorju (sl. 1) nađena je nova adventivna južnoamerička vrsta *Paspalum dilatatum* Poiret (sl. 2). Tamo raste uz magistralnu cestu u travnjačkoj i ruderalnoj vegetaciji. To je zasad prvi zabilježeni nalaz te neofitske vrste u flori Jugoslavije.

Prof. dr. Ljudevit Ilijanić
Botanički zavod Prirodoslovno-matematičkog
fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu
Marulićev trg 20/II
YU-41000 Zagreb (Jugoslavija)

Doc. dr. Jasenka Topić
Pedagoški fakultet Sveučilišta u Osijeku
Jože Vlahovića 9
YU-54000 Osijek (Jugoslavija)

During the printing of these paper we found the species *Paspalum dilatatum* also in the park near the Great Beach in Ulcinj.

Za vrijeme tiskanja ovoga priloga našli smo vrstu *Paspalum dilatatum* također u parku kraj Velike plaže u Ulcinju.