

A NEW LOCALITY OF THE SPECIES *NARCISSUS SEROTINUS* L. – AUTUMN DAFFODIL IN CROATIA

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This paper describes the finding of a new locality of the Mediterranean species – *Narcissus serotinus* L., on area of Pelješac Peninsula, near village of Lovište in Mirce Bay, over quite a large area. Previous mentions of *Narcissus serotinus* L. in the Dalmatian flora (Croatian) and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Yugoslavia, were based on a report from the session »Zoologisch – botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien« of 1861, which is quoted in its entirety in this work. According to this report, mentions of this species in the flora of Bosnia-Herzegovina were dubious, and the localities in Croatia were not precisely indicated. Researchers into Croatian flora do not quote this species in their works. This is the first certain finding of this species in the Croatian flora.

Key words: *Narcissus serotinus*, Croatian flora

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U radu se objavljuje novo nalazište mediteranske vrste – *Narcissus serotinus* L., na poluotoku Pelješcu, kod mjesta Lovište, u uvali Mirce, na dosta velikom području. Dosadašnji navodi za *Narcissus serotinus* L. u flori Dalmacije (Hrvatska) i Bosne i Hercegovine, Jugoslavije, zasnivaju se na izvještaju sa sjednice »Zoologisch – botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien« iz 1861. g., koji se citira u cjelini. Prema tom izvještaju dvojbeno je navođenje ove vrste u flori Bosne i Hercegovine, a lokaliteti u Hrvatskoj nisu točno naznačeni. Istraživači hrvatske flore ne navode ovu vrstu u svojim radovima. Ovo je prvi siguran nalaz ove vrste u flori Hrvatske.

Ključne riječi: *Narcissus serotinus*, hrvatska flora

INTRODUCTION

In autumn, last year (23. IX 1998), I was unusually surprised, when I found an autumn daffodil flowering near the village of Lovište on Pelješac Peninsula, in Mirce Bay, a flower previously unknown to me. The autumn daffodil is a very attractive, interesting and uncommon plant that deserves further biological and eco-

logical research, especially of its distribution in Croatia. For the protection of this plant, the autumn daffodil should be placed in the second edition of the Red Book of Croatian plants (ŠUGAR, 1994).

MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF *NARCISSUS SEROTINUS*

This is a perennial. The specimens from Pelješac are a little bigger than those described by WEBB (1980) in *Flora Europaea* and by PIGNATTI (1982) in *Flora d' Italia*. It has a little bulb 15–30 × 12–20 mm, from which, in autumn, rise one or, rarely, two cylindrical, round and glaucous leaves, up to 42 cm high and 3 mm thick, or only one floral scape with one, and rarely two, fragrant white flowers. The bulbs from which the floral scape grows do not put forth leaves. After flowering, the floral scape is protracted, taking over the role of the leaf and grows to 45 cm long. The spathe is tubular in the lower part, up to 35 mm long, the pedicel 15–20 mm, and the hypanthial tube 15–20 mm. The flower has six white, lanceolate, perianth-segments 4–7 × 15–20 mm, the corona is tiny, orange, sized 2.5 × 4 mm.

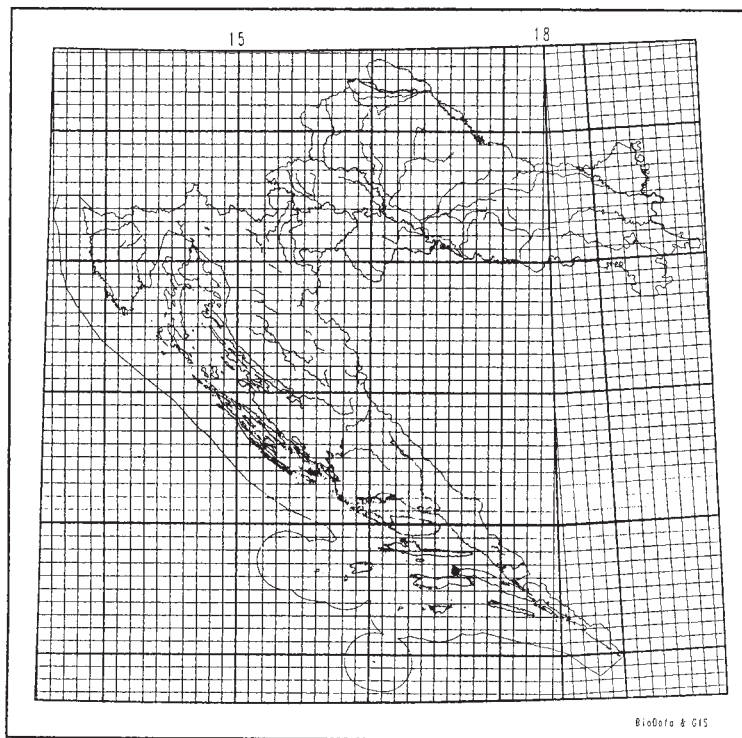


Fig. 1. Finding locality of *Narcissus serotinus* L. in Croatia on UTM net (XH 66).

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

Narcissus serotinus is a Mediterranean floral element, distributed on stony hill-sides, stony meadows and glades, from 0–900 m. It is naturally distributed from Portugal to Greece: Portugal, Spain, Balearic Islands, Pantelleria, Malta, Corsica, Sardinia, Italy, the Tuscan archipelago, Sicily, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina (?), the Ionian islands, Greece and Cyclads.

According to REICHARDT's report (1861) the autumn daffodil is found in Croatia on the island of Ugljan, on Mt Promina by Drniš and around Orlovac by Knin in the Dinaric Alps. As a result of this last piece of information BECK (1903) inserted this species in the Flora of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Those localities were never precisely noted, nor were they confirmed subsequently.

The flower is distributed near the village of Lovište in Mirce Bay on Pelješac Peninsula, as far as Bili dvori, up the hill towards the central hill of the area, and in all likelihood much more widely as well (Fig. 1, UTM net HX 66). Here and there it is found in groups (Fig. 2), but it is also distributed individually (Fig. 3), on dry rocky ground, surrounded with the evergreen degraded association *Orno-Quercetum ilicis*, composed of the species: *Quercus ilex*, *Phillyrea latifolia*, *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Arbutus unedo*, *Juniperus oxycedrus*, *Myrtus communis*, *Erica verticillata*, *Smilax aspera*, *Asparagus acutifolius*. Together with *Narcissus serotinus* on this dry rocky ground come



Fig. 2. and 3. *Narcissus serotinus* L., in group and individually. Lovište, Mirce, 23.9.1998.

the following species: *Brachypodium ramosum*, *Scleropoa rigida*, *Lagurus ovatus*, *Teucrium polium*, *Satureia juliana*, *Thymus* sp., *Fumana* sp., and especially *Scilla autumnalis* with its blue flowers in full inflorescence. The autumn daffodil is found on brown-red soil, on rocky fields, on soil of deserted gardens, near roads, as well as near the sea upon gravely ground with enough organic material.

DISCUSSION

In the floral literature of our area available to me no information about the autumn daffodil – *Narcissus serotinus* L. (VISIANI, 1842; SCHLOSSER-VUKOTINOVIĆ, 1869; DOMAC, 1994; TOMMASINI, 1875; HARAČIĆ, 1905; FRITSCH, 1922; ROSSI, 1930; PEVALEK, 1930; HORVATIĆ, 1939; KUŠAN, 1969; RADIĆ, 1976; ROHLENA, 1942; MARTINČIĆ & SUŠNIK, 1999) can be found. The Bosnia and Herzegovina Flora quotes the autumn daffodil (BECK, 1903); and DEGEN (1936) in *Flora Velebitica*, upon the same grounds, thinks that it might be distributed upon the slopes of Velebit. HAYEK (1934) in the Flora of the Balkan Peninsula mentioned this daffodil as growing in Dalmatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as did Flora Europaea (1980) with respect to Yugoslavia.

In this paper, to avoid confusion, because some names, or even places, were badly quoted (DEGEN), I quote an unabridged report from a session of the Zoological and Botanical Association of Vienna, 1861, from which I derived these data:

»Schliesslich machte Herr Dr. Reichardt noch folgende Mittheilungen:

Ich erlaube mir der geehrten Versammlung einen neuen Bürger für die Flora des Kaiserthums Oesterreich und speciell für Flora Dalmatiens vortzuführen. Er ist Narcissus serotinus L. Unser geehrtes Mitglied, Herr E. Bergner in Zara, sendete diese Pflanze an die Gesellschaft um ihre Determinirung ersuchend, da er sie in keiner Flora Dalmatiens aufzufinden vermöge und sie daher für dieses Land als neu betrachte. Es wurde ihm diese Narcisse von Herrn Josef Bercic aus Dalmatien von der Insel Ugliano eingesendet. Sie kommt dort häufig vor und blüht nach den ersten Herbstregen im September. In Folge weiterer Erkundigungen, welche ich über diese Pflanze einzog, erfuhr ich, dass der Narcissus serotinus L. schon vor mehreren Jahren von Herr Franz Maly, k. k. Hofgärtner am oberen Belvedere bei Gelegenheit seiner (1857) nach Dalmatien unternommenen Reise an folgenden Orten beobachtet wurde: »Auf dem Monte Promina nächst Dernis, um Orlovac bei Knin, auf der Dinara in den dinarischen Alpen.« Exemplare dieser Pflanze finden sich von mehreren der genannten Standorte im k. botanischen Garten zu Schönbrunn.«

It is unknown to me whether Maly published this information anywhere else. But there is no reason to doubt the data, even if it is rather strange that Croatian authors do not mention the autumn daffodil. Probably they did not visit that area during the time of flowering of this species. (I also visited over island Ugljan (10.10.1999) from Kukuljice – Preko – Sv. Mihovil, to the town of Ugljan, but did not manage to find the autumn daffodil.) In the flora of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it appeared upon the south-west slope of Kamešnica, from the Orlovac hydro power

plant – Kamensko to Buško blato (Knin = Sinj?). At the end of December 1998 I picked up a few bulbs from Pelješac (Mirce), which had mature green leaves and a floral scape with remains of a dry capsule, and then I planted them in a box in Sarajevo. During the winter I kept them in cold room near the window, until April. From there I put them on the balcony. The leaves remained green until the end of May when they gradually started to wither, and by the end of June all units were dry. Precisely on September 1, 1999, they started to grow out of the soil, and by October 1, each bulb had put out a new leaf. Three bulbs put out a floral pedicle and blossom, between October 15 and October 20. Every plant had a great capacity to vegetate, even though they were exposed to the sun only for 3–4 hours.

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SAŽETAK**Novo nalazište jesenskog sunovrata – *Narcissus serotinus* L.
u flori Hrvatske**

Z. Devetak

U članku se objavljuje novo nalazište mediteranske vrste *N. serotinus* L. na poluotoku Pelješcu, kod mjesta Lovište, u uvali Mirce (HX 66). Dosadašnji navodi za *N. serotinus* L. u flori Dalmacije (Hrvatske) i Bosne i Hercegovine, Jugoslavije, zasničaju se na izvještaju »Zoologisch – botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien« iz 1861. g. koji se donosi u cjelini. Domaći istraživači ne navode ovu vrstu u svojim radovima, jer vjerovatno nisu odlazili na terene, gdje dolazi, u vrijeme cvatnje. Ovo je, zapravo, prvi stvarni nalaz ove vrste za floru Hrvatske.