Sedum nevadense (Crassulaceae), new for the Italian flora

Abstract

The discovery of Sedum nevadense Coss. (Crassulaceae) in Abruzzo region (central Italy) is reported. It was previously known for Spain, France and N. Africa.

- Key words: Chorology, Italian flora, Sedum.

Introduction
During a floristic excursion carried out in Abruzzo (central Italy) a Sedum sp. was found in Campo Felice.

Campo Felice, Luoci (L’Aquila), depressioni umide con Sesleria uliginosa, 1528 m a.s.l., 42°13’26’’ N 13°26’50’’ E, 12.06.2009, F. Conti (APP!); ibidem, 26.06.2009, R. Soldati (APP!)

According to literature data and on the basis of the comparative morphological analysis of herbarium specimens (MA, SALA, APP) it has been identified as Sedum nevadense Coss. (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1 Sedum nevadense detail.
In the same locality some other very interesting plants occur such as *Sesleria uliginosa*, *Ranunculus marsicus*, *Serratula lycopifolia* and *Artemisia atrata*.

*S. nevadense* is a west oro-mediterranean plant occurring in Spain (Castroviejo & Velayos 1997), France (Haut-Var) (Raymond-Hamet 1952, 1957, Bouchard 1956), Algeria and Morocco (Maire 1976, Quézel & Santa 1962, Fennane & al. 1999). In France it is considered extinct (Olivier & al. 1995) and, although it has been sought, needs to be confirmed (Michaud, in litt.).

Plants from Abruzzo have five well developed stamens and five more reduced to a brief part of the filaments. This character was also observed in the specimens from Morocco and Spain. The new locality is the eastermost of the species’ distribution area. *S. nevadense* is new for SE Europe and can be considered as an Oro-Mediterranean plant.

In the new locality some hundreds of individuals of *S. nevadense* have been observed in a few square metres surface. Given the rarity and phytogeographical importance we recommend to include this species in the Red Book of Italian vascular Flora.

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References


