ARUM CRETICUM (ARACEAE), FIRST RECORD FROM THE ISLAND OF RODOS, GREECE

Giorgos Pastrikos¹ & Christos Galanos²

¹ Email: gpastrik@gmail.com  
² Email: galanosx@gmail.com

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Araceae

Arum creticum Boiss. & Heldr. in Boiss.

E Aegean: Nomos Dodekanisou: Rodos: Mt. Akramitis, close to village Sianna, rocky slope, with Ranunculus creticus, Allium neapolitanum, Centaurea lactucifolia, etc., c. 450m, 31 Mar 2012, Pastrikos & Galanos obs. (photo); Mt. Akramitis, close to village Monolithos, below summit Agios Ioannis, c. 700m, 8 Apr 2012, Pastrikos & Galanos obs. (photo).

The total number of Arum species which have been recorded from Greece and Cyprus is 14 and belong to subgenus Arum. According to the literature, A. creticum is a S Aegean species, restricted to the Greek islands of Kriti, Kasos, Karpathos and Simi and to southwestern Turkey (Mugla).

During a fieldwork carried out by the authors in 2011, on a rocky slope of Akramitis mountain, near the village of Sianna, a dried plant of what was suspected to be Arum creticum, was observed. Indeed on 31 Mar 2012 the authors managed to verify that the population above concerned A. creticum, confirming the presence of that species on the island for the first time. Further investigation for more populations of that species was conducted. So on 8 Apr 2012 one more population was found near Monolithos village, close to the summit of Akramitis, Agios Ioannis. Also, Andreas Kleinsteuber (written communication with the second author on February 25, 2014) mentioned that E. Garweidner observed the same species on 2012, in a Pinus forest of Akramitis near Agios Ioannis (may be the same population that was observed by us).

Thus from all the above results the total number of Arum species that exist in Rodos island amount to 3: A. concinnatum Schott, A. dioscoridis Sm. in Sibth. & Sm. and A. creticum.
Fig. 1. *Arum ceticum*, Sianna, Akramitis mountain, 31 Mar 2012, (photo C. Galanos).
Fig. 2. *Arum creticum*, Monolithos, Akramitis mountain, 8 Apr 2012 (photo G. Pastrikos).

Fig. 3. Geographical distribution of *Arum creticum* in Greece
(● literature records, ● new record)
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References