

*PULSATILLA HALLERI* SUBSP. *RHODOPAEA*  
(RANUNCULACEAE),  
NEW RECORD FOR MT. PAIKO, GREECE

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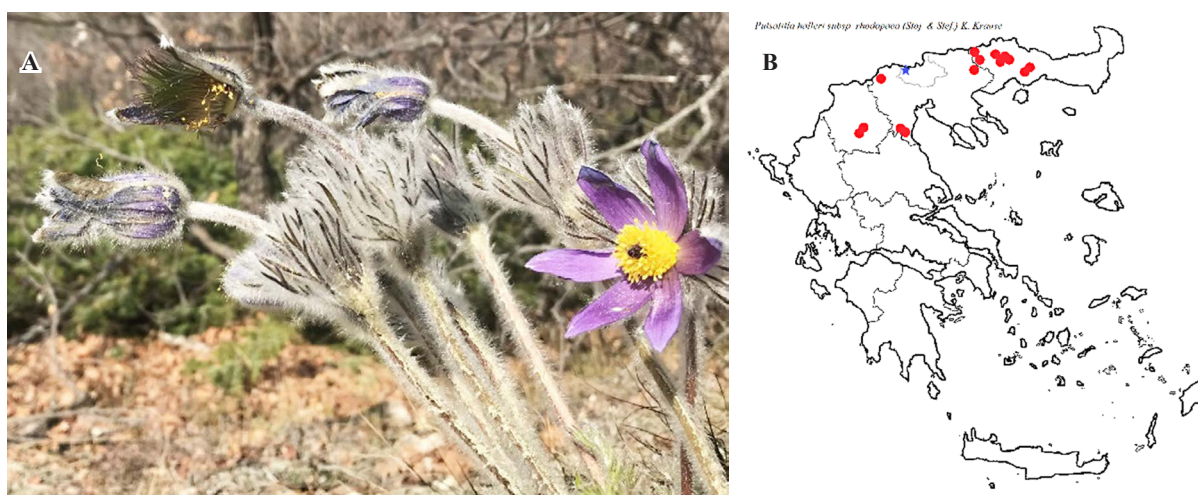
RANUNCULACEAE

*Pulsatilla halleri* (All.) Willd. subsp. *rhodopaea* (Stoj. & Stef.) K. Krause (1958) (Fig. 1).

Greece: Macedonia, Nomos Kilkis, Eparchia Paeonias, Mt. Paiko, between villages Skra and Hamilo, woodland and scrub with limestone rock and cliff, 345m, 4°6'8.3" N, 2°4'5.1" E, 6.V.2021, Vasilis Ioannidis & Stavros Gontsis (Herb. Ioannidis). **New record for Mt. Paiko and Nomos Kilkis.**

*Pulsatilla halleri* subsp. *rhodopaea*, is the only species of the genus *Pulsatilla* Miller that has been recorded to date in Greece (Strid & Tan 2003, Dimopoulos et al. 2013). It is a hemicyptophyte endemic to Central Balkans (N. Greece, North Macedonia and SE Bulgaria) (Strid & Tan 2003). In Greece, the taxon is known from Macedonia and Thraki (Mt Olimbos, Mt Vourinos, Mt Boras, Mt Falakro, Mt Orvilos, Mt Lailias, Mt Menoikio and Rodopi mountain range) (Strid & Tan 2003).

The information on the existence of the species in Kilkis was provided by the residents of the village of Skra, Stavros Gontsis, Dora Gontsi and Anneta Georgetsi. Locals tell the story that the plants were



**Fig. 1.** *Pulsatilla halleri* subsp. *rhodopaea*, Mt. Paiko, Greece. **A.** habitus, 4.III.2022 (V.I.). **B.** Known distribution in Greece (●), new locality (★).

## *Pulsatilla halleri* subsp. *rhodopaea* new for Mt Paiko

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offered by the grandparents to the young girls of the village as a harbinger of spring.

Only one very small population has been located on the mountain, inhabiting an area of approximately three acres and counting 15 plants. The habitat consists of limestone rocks that include hard limestones and in terms of mechanical composition the soils are characterized as moderate or heavy with a clayey texture. Sparse mixed forest of *Pinus nigra* and *Quercus pubescens* are present, with the presence of small trees or shrubs, such as *Arbutus andrachne* and *Phyllirea laetifolia*. Other species present are: *Vincetoxicum hirundinaria* subsp. *nivale*, *Jurinea mollis* subsp. *mollis*, *Leucanthemum vulgare*, *Satureja montana* subsp. *macedonica* and *Echium maculatum*.

### Acknowledgements

Arne Strid was kind enough to offer correct identification on photographic material presented to him and Sotiris Alexiou offered assistance in the preparation of the manuscript.

### Literature

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Strid, A. & Tan, K. (eds) 2003 ['2002']: *Flora Hellenica*, Volume II, Koeltz Scientific Books, Koenigstein.