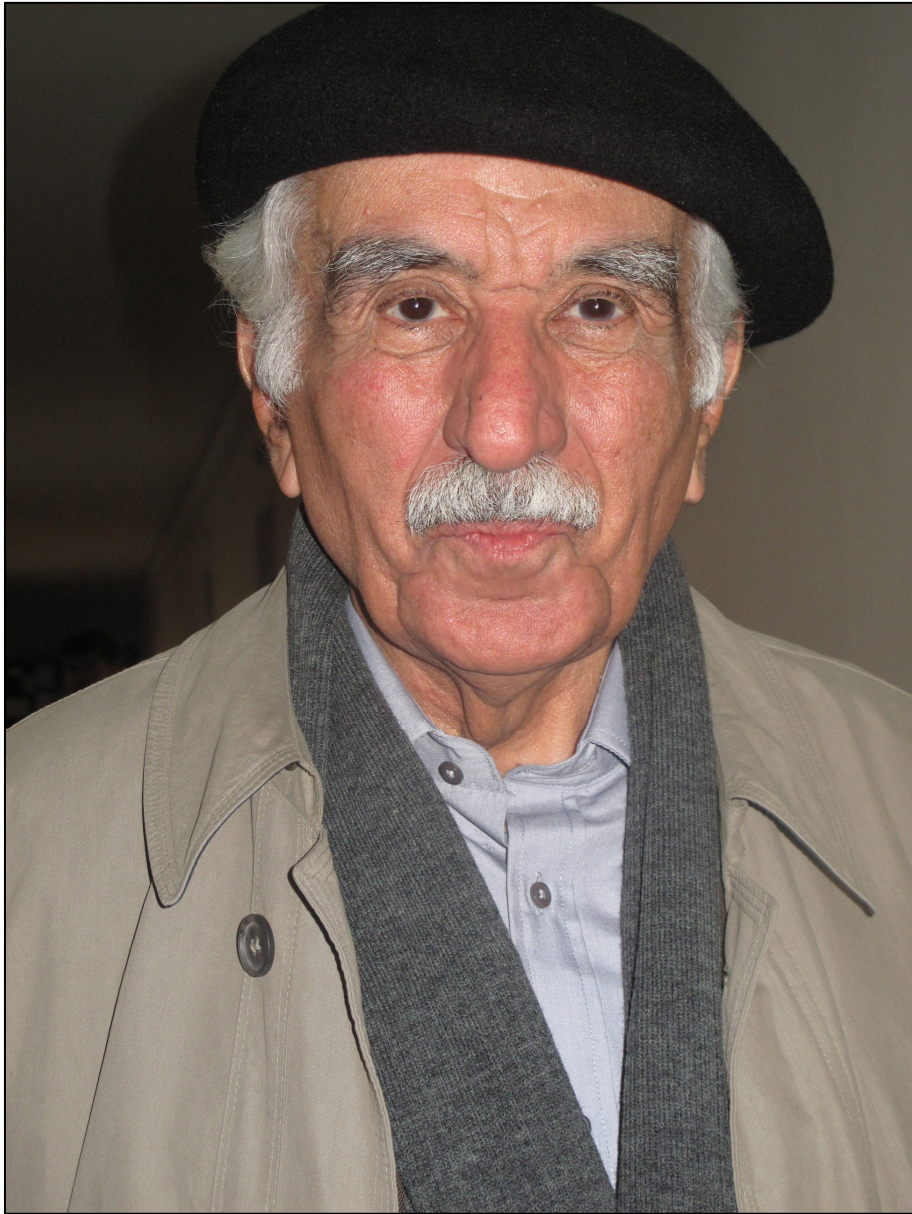


*Dedicated to Dr. M. Grashahr, the Iranian botanist,
on the occasion of his
90th birthday and more than six decades of his botanical research*



Musa Iranshahr

Biography of Dr. Musa Iranshahr, Distinguished Iranian Botanist

S.M. Moussavi: Emeritus Researcher, Department of Botany, Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection, P.O. Box 19395-1454, Tehran 1985813111, Iran (ssmm_mo@yahoo.com).

This brief biography is consecrated to a scientist who has spent more than sixty years of his life on the study of Iranian plants and made a significant contribution to our knowledge of botany in Iran.

Dr. Musa Iranshahr was born on 7 December 1923 in Tabriz (Iran). He did his elementary and high school where he was born. After graduating from Faculty of Agriculture, Tehran University, he received his doctorate in Agriculture from "Die Universität Für Bodenkultur, Wien" in 1977 and then worked in the Technical Office, Forest Organization and Training Office. In 1966, following his love and interest to Botany, he joined Dr. Esfandiari, his former teacher and E. Behboudi, an old friend in "IRAN" Herbarium of Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection (formerly named "EVIN" Herbarium of Plant Pests and Diseases Research Institute) at Tehran.

Dr. Iranshahr was appointed as the head of the Department of Botany as well as "IRAN" Herbarium in 1975, and kept this position until 1979, when he was retired. However, his intensive research collaboration with the Herbarium continues till present.

Dr. Iranshahr never stopped his struggle for the advancement of botany in Iran and enrichment of "IRAN" Herbarium. He traveled over 60,000 km and has spent more than 500 days in mountains, forests, deserts and plains of Iran, alone or together with other botanists, namely, Rechinger, Alava, Riedl, Renz, Lamond, Ershad, Termeh, Moussavi, etc. collecting plant species.

A few plant species discovered and described from Iran were named after him in recognition of his contribution to botanical science in Iran. He authored 37 new taxa and over 36 scientific papers and books in botany. His devotion to research activities has left him little time to take executive or educational positions, but he never refused to train and support younger botany enthusiasts. Those who had the opportunity to attend his lectures have much to say about how love can bring together knowledge and humbleness in a man.

New taxa, names and combination authored by Dr. Iranshahr:

Anthemis atropatana Iranshahr

A. busherica Iranshahr

A. freitagii Iranshahr

A. gillettii Iranshahr

A. gacilis Iranshahr

A. harinensis Iranshahr

A. kandaharica Iranshahr

A. kurdica Iranshahr

A. lorestanica Iranshahr

A. mazandarica Iranshahr

A. mirheydari Iranshahr

A. moganica Iranshahr

A. rhodocentra Iranshahr

Consolida kandaharica Iranshahr

C. lorestanica Iranshahr

C. teheranica (Boiss.) Rech.f. forma *ecalcarata* Iranshahr

Cortusa mathioli L. subsp. *iranica* Iranshahr & Wendelbo

Delphinium filifolium Iranshahr

D. heratense Iranshahr

D. jacobsii Iranshahr

D. lalesaricum Iranshahr

D. rechingerorum Iranshahr

D. wendelboi Iranshahr

D. wilhelminae Iranshahr

Lappula semnanensis Riedl & Iranshahr

[= *Microparacaryum intermedium* (Decne) Hilger et Podl.]

Ranunculus chrysocyclus (Rech.f.) Iranshahr & Rech.f.

R. dalechanensis Iranshahr & Rech.f., nom. nov.

R. gharuensis Iranshahr & Rech.f.
R. logivaginatus Iranshahr
R. orozganicus Iranshahr & Rech.f.
R. renzii Iranshahr & Rech.f.
R. sojakii Iranshahr & Rech.f.
R. termei Iranshahr & Rech.f.

R. wendelboi Iranshahr & Rech.f.
R. zenjanensis Iranshahr & Rech.f.
Sclerorhachis rechingeri Iranshahr
 (= *Sclerorhachis platyrachis* (Boiss.) Podlech ex Rech.f.)
Tulipa wendelboi Matin & Iranshahr

New Taxa described and named in Dr. Iranshahr's honour:

- Aconitum iranshahrii* Riedl – Willdenowia 8(2): 319, as '*iranshahrii*'. 1978.
Alcea iranshahrii Pakravan, Ghahr. & Assadi – Rostaniha 6(2): 52. 2005.
Amygdalus × iranshahrii Khat. – Iran. J. Bot. 4(1): 114. 1988.
Astragalus iranshahrii Maassoumi & Podlech – Iran. J. Bot. 4(1): 79. 1988.
Astragalus musaianus Maassoumi & Joharchi – Rostaniha 14(1): 14. 2013.
Astragalus neo-iranshahrii Maassoumi & Amini Rad – Rostaniha 14(1): 14. 2013.
Centaurea iranshahrii Wagenitz & Esfand. – Willdenowia 13(1): 137. 1983.
Cousinia iranshahrii Rech.f. – Fl. Iranica 139a: 152. 1979.
Dionysia iranshahrii Wendelbo – Iran. J. Bot. 1(1): 72. 1976.
Echinops iranshahrii Rech.f. – Candollea 29(1): 124. 1974.
Euphorbia iranshahrii Pahlevani – Adansonia 33(1): 96. 2011.
Nepeta iranshahrii Rech.f. – Fl. Iranica 150: 139. 1982. (*Lophanthus iranshahrii* (Rech.f.) A.L. Budantzev – Bot. Zhurn. (Moscow & Leningrad) 77(9): 76. 1992)
Onobrychis iranshahrii Rech.f. – Fl. Iranica 157: 442. 1984.
Onosma iranshahrii Ghahr. & Attar – Iran. J. Bot. 7(1): 52. 1996.
Rheum iranshahrii Taheri & Assadi – Rostaniha 14(1): 87. 2013.
Suaeda iranshahrii Akhiani & Freitag – Rostaniha 14(1): 68. 2013.
Zeugandria iranshahrii Esfand. – Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 38(3): 447. 1980.

Publications of Dr. Iranshahr:

- Iranshahr, M. & Wendelbo, P. 1976. A new subspecies of *Cortusa matthioli* (*Primulaceae*) from N. Iran. The Iranian Journal of Botany 1(1): 57–60.
 Iranshahr, M. 1977. Die Gattung *Cuscuta* L. in Iran (Dissertation).
 Iranshahr, M. 1979. *Sclerorhachis rechingeri* (*Asteraceae-Anthemideae*), a new species from N. Khorassan. Plant Systematics Evolution 132: 149–152.
 Iranshahr, M. 1981. Fünf neue Arten der Gattung *Anthemis* (*Compositae*) aus Iraq und Afganistan. Plant Systematics Evolution 139: 159–162.
 Iranshahr, M. 1982. Acht neue Arten der Gattung *Anthemis* (*Compositae*) aus Persian. Plant Systematics Evolution 139: 313–317.
 Iranshahr, M. 1983. New records of *Cuscuta* (*Cuscutaceae*) from Iran. The Iranian Journal of Botany 2(1): 9–12.
 Iranshahr, M. & Matin, F. 1985. E. Behboudi and his botanical expeditions in Iran. The Iranian Journal of Botany 3(1): 1–8.
 Iranshahr, M. 1985. Franz Theodor Strauss. Journal of Environmental Studies 13: 133–142 (in Persian).

- Iranshahr, M. 1986. *Anthemis* L. In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. Vol. 158: 5–44.
- Iranshahr, M. 1987. *Morinaceae*: In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. No. 135: 1–4.
- Iranshahr, M. 1987. Two new species of *Consolida* (DC.) S.F. Gray (*Ranunculaceae*) from the Flora Iranica area. *Plant Systematics Evolution* 155: 55–57.
- Iranshahr, M. 1988. Notes on the vegetation of Iran. *Sonbole* 1: 46–50 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 1989. Professor Dr. Esfandiari, an old pioneer in the Botany of Iran. *The Iranian Journal of Botany* 4(2): 143–148.
- Iranshahr, M. 1992. *Delphinium* L. In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. Vol. 171: 44–89.
- Iranshahr, M. 1992. *Consolida* (DC.) S.F. Gray. In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. Vol. 171: 89–114.
- Iranshahr, M. & Rechinger, K.H. 1992. *Ficaria adans*. In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. Vol. 171: 126–127.
- Iranshahr, M. 1992. *Batrachium* (DC.) S.F. Gray. In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. Vol. 171: 194–199.
- Iranshahr, M., Rechinger, K.H. & Riedl, H. 1992. *Ranunculus* L. In: K.H. Rechinger, Flora Iranica. Vol. 171: 127–194.
- Iranshahr, M. & Zahedi, F. 1992. *Abnus* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 1: 35–36 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 1992. *Azad* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 1: 80–81 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. & Zahedi, F. 1992. *Acacia* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 1: 135 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 1994. *Ormak* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 2: 235 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. & Pazouki, A. 1994. *Ors* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 2: 222 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. & Pazouki, A. 1994. *Azmalak* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 2: 274 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. & Pazouki, A. 1994. *Estabragh* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 2: 312 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. & Pazouki, A. 1994. *Esfarzeh* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 2: 344 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 1997. *Al* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 3: 199 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 1998. *Anjiri* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 4: 13 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M., Pazouki, A. & Afshar, A. 1998. *Anar-e Sheitan* In: Encyclopedia for Young People. Vol. 4: 3 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 1999. Parasitic and Semiparasitic flowering plants of Iran. Vol. 1. Agricultural Research Education and Extension Organization Press. 111 pp. (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 2006. An introduction to Latin language. University of Tehran Press. No. 2780. 253 pp. (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 2008. Parasitic and Semiparasitic flowering plants of Iran. Vol. 2. *Rostaniha* 9 (Suppl. 1): 1–79 (in Persian).
- Iranshahr, M. 2010. *My Botanical Tours in Iran*. Published by the Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection. 164 pp. (in English).
- Mobayen, S. & Iranshahr, M. 1984. Plant records from N Khorasan, new to Iran. *The Iranian Journal of Botany* 2(2): 149–154.
- Moussavi, S.M. & Iranshahr, M. 2004. Plants of Heydar Baba. *Environmental Sciences* 1(2): 2–16 (in English).
- Riedl, H. & Iranshahr, M. 1985. A new species of *Lappula* from Iran with notes on the infrageneric division of the genus. *Linzer Biologische Beiträge* 17(2): 327–331.