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## Distribution of *Rosa persica* Michx ex Juss. and its hybrids

*Rosa persica* Michx ex Juss., described for the first time from Iran in 1789, is a small shrub attaining no more than 30-60 (90) cm in height. It forms numerous long subterranean rhizomes and as a result usually occurs in the form of colonies covering sometimes even quite large areas.

It is a yellow-flowered rose. There are several roses with flowers of this colour, however only in the case of *R. persica* the petals have at their bases a distinct reddish-brown spot. The leaves of this rose are also interesting. In contrast to all other species they are simple and devoid of stipules (Fig. 1).

Considering the above characters Dumortier formed in 1824 a separate genus *Hulthemia* specially for this species. This genus however was not accepted by all and consequently even in more recent literature the simple-leaved rose is discussed either as *Hulthemia persica* (Michx ex Juss.) Bornm., or traditionally as a species in the genus *Rosa* L.

There are several reasons why it could be maintained in the latter genus. To start with, except for the individual features mentioned above it has many other characters common with typical roses (eg. in flowers structure, pseudocarp, prickles etc.). Secondly it has identical affinities as *Rosa* s. str. Thirdly it forms hybrids with typical roses. Thus most justified rank for this taxon appears to be a subgenus — *Hulthemia* (Dum.) Focke, which underlines its close association with other roses as well as its distinctiveness.

*R. persica* may be considered to be a classical Irano-Turanian species. Its range is limited almost completely to southwestern and central Asia, and it consists of two basic parts (Fig. 2). The smaller one covers western and northern Iran, southwestern regions of Soviet Turkmenia (Kopetdag) and northwestern Afghanistan. The second much larger part covers almost all central Asiatic republics of the USSR and the southern regions of western Siberia. In the northwest *R. persica* attains Orenburg, that is the extreme southeasterly parts of Europe (1865, Buch.

s. n., in sched. LE). It needs be pointed out that this rose was not mentioned in Flora Europaea (Kláštorský, 1968).

While in Iran, Afghanistan, and Kopetdag the range of the simple-leaved rose is similar to the ranges of other roses, in central Asia its

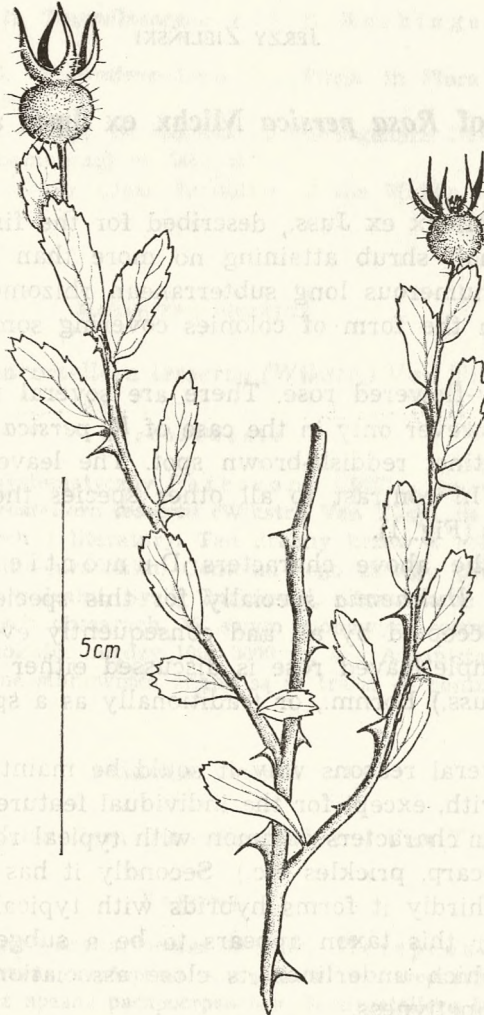


Fig. 1. *Rosa persica* Michx ex Juss.  
(Podlech, Jarmal 29611)

range has a distinctly different character. *R. persica* reaches here much further west into regions where no other species of this genus grows.

In vertical distribution it occurs from the sea coast as for example on the Lake Aral, up to 2400 m in the Iranian part of its range. It is at this elevation that it was collected in western Iran near Hamadan (Rehinger 48457, in sched. W).

Factors determining the occurrence of *R. persica* are primarily the



Fig. 2. Distribution of *Rosa persica*  
 1 — plants pubescent, 2 — plants glabrous

temperature and light. This species grows most frequently on sandy or clayey soils, frequently salt-logged, in semi-desert regions, on wasteland, on poor degraded pastures, along roads etc. It enters also into less intensively cultivated fields where it is one of the most persistent, difficult to eradicate weeds (Fig. 3). According to Zohary (1973) there is a series of segetal plant communities led by *R. persica*.

Little information can be found about the utilitarian value of *R. persica*. It appears however that this species may have an important biological role. Thanks to its numerous and long rhizomes it rapidly occupies waste land, which prevents the erosion of soils. This creates favourable conditions for the further succession of plants.

The variability of *R. persica* is observable primarily in its habit, shape and dimensions of various organs and in the degree of their pubescence. This latter character appears most interesting. Plants can be found which are completely glabrous or completely pubescent, and a whole series of intermediate forms. The distribution of the above

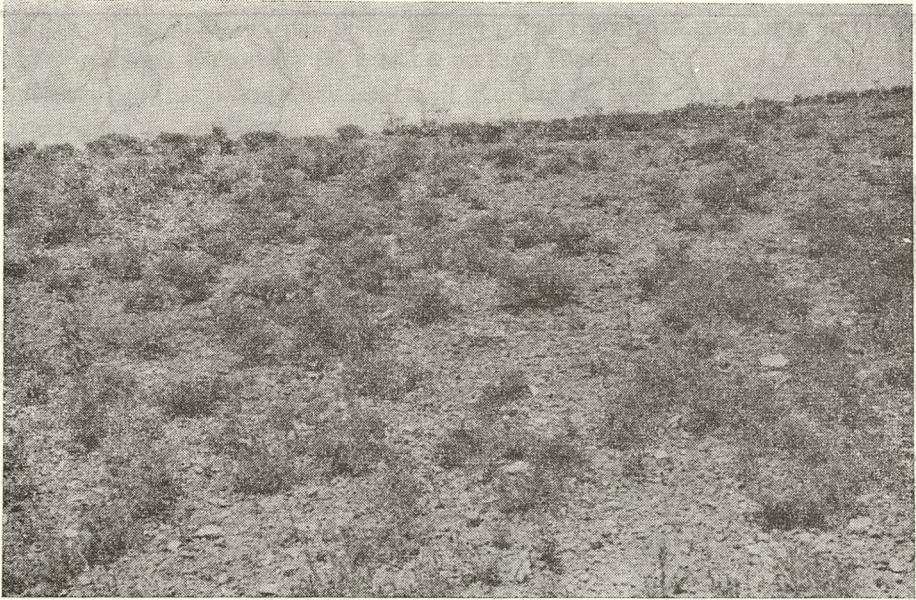


Fig. 3. *Rosa persica* on waste land between Takestan and Kazwin (Iran) (phot. K. Browicz)

forms is rather characteristic (Fig. 2). In the northern part of the range glabrous forms dominate while in the south pubescent forms are much more common. Almost throughout the range however these two forms can be found. Thus one can only speak of certain tendencies in their geographic distribution.

The pubescence of roses is frequently considered to be of great systematic value, thus glabrous forms of *R. persica* are sometimes treated as a distinct species — *R. berberifolia* Pall. In the light of the data mentioned above the specific identity of this taxon is doubtful, considering that practically pubescence is the only character differentiating *R. persica* from *R. berberifolia*.

The variability of leaves in *R. persica* is also worth mentioning. It is most obvious in the shape of the leaf blade base. Either cuneate forms, more rounded or even subcordate can be found (Fig. 4). Forms with cuneate leaf base appear to dominate in the southern, particularly Iranian part of the range, while in central Asia more commonly forms with rounded base occur. However similarly as in the previously discussed character only certain tendencies are observed here in the general distribution of individual forms.

The first known hybrid of *R. persica* — *R. ×hardii* Cels, has been obtained artificially by crossing *R. persica* with *R. clinophylla* Thory. So far two spontaneous hybrids are known, *R. ×kopetdagensis* Meff. and *R. guzarica* Juz.

*R. ×kopetdagensis* was described in 1939 from Kopetdag in Soviet Turkmenia by Meffert. Most probably as the author suggested it was a hybrid between *R. persica* and yellow-flowered *R. hemisphaerica* J. Herrmann (*R. sulphurea* Ait.) from the section *Pimpinellifoliae*. Both the parental species grow commonly in Kopetdag.



Fig. 4. Variability of leaves of *Rosa persica*

a — SW Iran (Schmid 5375), b — N Iran (Korhonen 1029), c — NW Afghanistan (Anders 9647), d — N Iran (Lindsay 254), e — N Iran Iranshahr, Riedl 16141-E), f — NW Afghanistan (Janata 36), g — NW Afghanistan (Podlech, Jarmal 29486), h — NW Afghanistan (Koeie 2228), i — Kazakhstan, Taukum desert (Lisowski s.n.), k — distr. Aktjubinsk, basin of the Irgiz river (Grubov, Ljubarskij 83)



Fig 5. Leaves and sepals

a — *Rosa persica* (Koelz 16657), b — *R. × kopetdagensis* (Wenedelbo, Assadi 29508), c — *R. hemisphaerica* (Wenedelbo, Assadi 29523)

The structure of the calyx and leaf form in *R. ×kopetdagensis* is distinctly intermediate. On the other hand the shape of the stipules is rather interesting (Fig. 5). One would expect that if stipules were to occur in this hybrid they would be very small. However they are sometimes very large, "leaf-form", frequently larger than in *R. hemisphae-*



Fig. 6. Distribution of *Rosa* × *kopetdagensis*, *R.* × *guzarica* and their supposed parental species

1 — *R.* × *kopetdagensis*, 2 — *R.* × *guzarica*, 3 — *R. persica*, 4 — *R. hemisphaerica*, 5. — *R. ecae*

*rica*. One gets the impression that the lower pair of leaflets was moved to the base of leaf.

*R.* × *kopetdagensis* was considered to be an endemic form for the Soviet Kopetdag. It appears however that it occurs also on several stands in northern Iran. The majority of stands of this hybrid are known from regions where ranges of parental forms overlap each other. A stand from the vicinity of Kazwin (Lindsay s. n. in sched. BM) is the only exception falling in a gap in the range of *R. hemisphaerica* (Fig. 6). It is difficult to explain this fact. Possibly this gap is of secondary origin, and then the stand found would have to be considered as being of relict nature.

The other hybrid, *R.* × *guzarica* Juz. is known only from its classical stand in the vicinity of Guzar in southeastern Uzbekistan. It differs from *R.* × *kopetdagensis* primarily in having straight prickles and small-

ler leaflets. According to Juzepczuk (1941) it formed from a cross between *R. persica* and an unidentified species from section *Cinnamomeae*. The close affinity to the previous hybrid suggests however that also in this case besides *R. persica* a yellow-flowered species from section *Pimpinellifoliae* eg. *R. ecae* Aitch., could have been involved. This suggestion however would require experimental confirmation.

Both the hybrids described appear to be steril. On the herbarium material that was available to me, regardless of the date on which it was collected, never mature fully ripe "fruits" have been found.

It is worth mentioning that for the hybrids a separate genus was formed  $\times$  *Hulthemosa* Juz. (Juzepczuk l.c.) An interesting opinion on this has been recently published by Fisjun (1976). She questions the hybrid nature of  $\times$  *Hulthemosa*, suggesting at the same time that it is a "relict, narrowly endemic genus".

The maps presented have been compiled primarily on the basis of herbarium materials. For regions of the Soviet Union I have used herbarium collections of the Botanic Institute of USSR Academy of Sciences in Leningrad. These are not quoted in the list of stands.

## LOCALITIES

*R. PERSICA* MICHX EX JUSS.

**Iran.** Entre Ispahan et Abadeh, 1500 - 2500 m, 24.04.1956, Schmid 5375 (W); Aminabad, 1700 m, in deserto, 22.05.1915, Pravitz 762 (S); Esfahan: A Shahreza 34 km versus Borujen, ad versuras prope Dahagan, 2150 m, 2.06.1974, Rechinger 47024 (W); North of Golpeyan, on the way to Khomein, 5700', 33°28'N, 50°15'E, Nr 123 (K); Sultanabad, 1890, Strauss s.n. (JE); Sultanabad, in planities, 14.06.1904, Strauss s.n. (JE); N d'Arak, 7.06.1956, Pabot s.n. (G); Distr. Kermanshah, 40 km W of Kermanshah, inter Kermanshah et Sahabad, S flank of Mahi-Dasht Valley, limestone slope with red cleyey soil, 14.05.1960, Bent, Wright 514 - 122 (W); In plan. Dinawer et Sungur, 10.1867, Haussknecht s.n. (JE); In aparcis prope Sungur, 09.1867, Haussknecht s.n. (K); 21 km SE Hamadan, 6300', 28.05.1960, Bent, Wright 528 - 403 (W); NO v. Hamadan, 26.05.1963, Kasy s.n. (W); Hamadan to Sanandaj, 40' of Hamadan, 6000 ft, corn of fallow fields, 14.05.1962, Furse 1998 (W) Hamadan: Montes Karaghan: In jugo Soltan Bolagh inter Awej et Razan, 2200 - 2400, 27.06.1974, Rechinger 48457 (W); 47 km W Obegarm au SW de Takestan, 1660 m, 24.06.1960, Pabot 3969 (G); Between Turbet Heidare and Hosor, 9.06.1939, Prodtečenskij 40, 50 (LE); Between Takestan and Kazwin, 30 km W of Kazwin, 31.05.1975, Browicz, Zieliński 404 (KOR); Aq Bulaq, ca 100 km N Hamadan, 15.04. - 1.07.1960., Roiux et Golvan 255 (W); Prov. Khamesh: ad versuras 8 - 22 km SW Zanjan versus Bijar, 1800 m, 30.06.1971, Rechinger 42355 (W); Prov. Khamesh: Kuh Anguran: in jugo Tarom, 18 km SW Tashvir inter Manjil et Zanjan, 1300 m, 31.05.1971, Lamond, Iranshahr in Rechinger 41066 (W); Between Meyaneh et Zinjan, stony slope, 31.05.1975, Jasiewicz s.n. (KRAM); Prov. Khamesh: in collibus argilloso-conglomeraticis 27 km a Zinjan boreo-occidentem versus ad viam versus Miameh ducentem, 1500 m, Rechinger 56599 (G); Ca 55 - 60 km NW Zinjan, road to Miyaneh, 31.05.1975.,

Browicz, Zieliński 401 (KOR); Miyaneh, 21.08.1971, Volk 71/616 (Herb. Podlech); Ca 90 km NW of Zandyan, 1400 m, 20.04.1972, Kukkonen 5471 a (H); Prope Kazwin, ca 1300 m, 17.05.1902, Bornmueller 6950 (JE); Stony places at Kahak near Kazwin, 31. 05. 1975, Jasiewicz s.n. (KRAM); Sultanabad near Kazwin, 5000', 05.1935, Lindsay 254 (BM); 20 km after Kazwin, road to Karaj, 31.05.1975, Browicz, Zieliński in obs.; Zwischen Kazwin und Teheran, 09.1847, Buhse s.n. (LE); 18 km after Karaj, along road to Chalus, 2.06.1975, Browicz, Zieliński in obs.; Prov. Teheran: Kalak, 30 km W of Teheran, towards Karaj, 1600 m, 26.04.1966, Žumer 548 (BG); In ditone opp. Keredj, in montibus ad pagum Kalak, 17.05.1937, Reehinger 130 (W); ca 15-20 km S of Karaj, 4.06.1974, Browicz, Zieliński 531 (KOR); Prov. Teheran: Tajrish, 1500 m, 18.05.1966, Žumer 891 b (BG); Ca 5 km E of Teheran on road to Amol, semidesert, 1310 m, 27.04.1972, Korhonen 1029 (H); Prov. Teheran: Tovchal near Manzaricheh, 1800 - 2200 m, 13.05.1966, Žumer 673 (BG); Prov. Teheran: Ad radices montis Tupal supra Evin, 1700 m, 11.05.1971, Reehinger 39412 (W); Prov. Teheran: Between Bumeheh and Sorkhe Hesar, 1600 m, 5.05.1974, Iranshahr, Riedl 16141-E (W, EVIN); In agris prope urbem Teheran frequens, 16.04.1843, Kotschy 26, 698 (LE); Zargende near Teheran, 06.1941, Uljaniščev s.n. (LE); Hills around Teheran, 4500', 8.05.1961, Stutz 1065 (W); Elburz Mts: Nezva Kuh Area: Asaran near Chashm, 1900 m, 35°51'N — 53°18'E, 10.07.1959, Wendelbo 1296 (BG); Prov. Semnan: ca 47 km SW of Damghan, 1500 m, 5.05.1974, Wendelbo et al. 11220 (W); Gorgan, Shahpassand, Gokdagh, 9.05.1958, 37048-E (EVIN); Prov. Gorgan: Golestan, Almeh, 1700 m, dry slope, 27.07.1974, Wendelbo, Cobham 14224 (KOR); Prov. Shahrud-Bustam: in declivibus australibus montium Shahvar ad Nekarman (Nigarman), 2000 m, 20-26.07.1948, Reehinger 6244 (W) Khorasan: Shahrud, Qaleb-Bala, 1120 m, 24.04.1975, Iranshahr 37071-E (KOR); N von Behkadeh (15-18 km), 1100-1300 m, 18.05.1974, Renz in Reehinger 50087 (W); Bujnurd, along bank of dry canal, 2.08.1940, Koelz 16657 (W, US); Ca 15 km N of Quchan, N of Shorak vaillage, 1650-1700 m, 1.08.1972, Kukkonen 7594 (H); Ca 30 km W of Mashad, on the road Bojnourd — Mashad, 1190 m, 3.05.1972, Kukkonen 5797 (H); Wakhilabad bei Meshed, 930 m, 27.05.1949, Gilli s.n. (W); In collibus argillosis 6 km a Salehabad boreo-occidentem versus 35°43'N-61°03'E, 26.05.1977, Reehinger 55775 (G); 15 km NW of Tayyebat, on road Mashad — Tayyebat, sandy steppe, 870 m, 4.05.1972, Uotila 16216 (H); In montibus inter Birdjand et Kain (Gaen), ca 1900 m, 26.05.1948, Reehinger, Aellen, Esfandiari in Reehinger s.n. (W).

**Afghanistan.** Herat, 12.06.1948, Koeie 2228 (W, C); 10 km E of Herat, to Obeh, 24.04.1971, Gibbons 90 (K); 6 km N of Herat, 17.12.1940, Rodin 550 (LE); Prov. Herat: östlich von Khwaja Gul Bed, ca 7 km NW von Doab (Woluswoli Kushk) an der Strasse nach Qara Bagh (Woluswoli Gulran), 1180 m, 34°51'N-34°51'E, 29.04.1977, Podlech, Jarmal 29486 (M); 5 km NW von Doab (Woluswoli Kushk) an der Strasse nach Gulran, 1180 m, 34°52'N-62°07'E, 28.04.1977, Podlech, Jarmal 29450 (M); Badhiz: Khush Asia: Khaleqdad, 900 m, 34°55'N-62°20'E, 05.1969, Janata 36 (W); Kotale Banda Buguchar, ca 40 km N von Herat an der Strasse nach Toraghundi, 1300 m, 34°41'N-62°02'E, 28.04.1977, Podlech, Jarmal (Herb. Podlech); Südhänge des Mir-Alam-Passes, 11 km N Andraskan an der Strasse nach Herat, 1450 m, 34°44'N-62°16'E, 25.04.1977, Podlech, Jarmal 29210 (M); SO von Armaleh, ca 73 km ONO von Herat an der Strasse nach Qala-i-Naw, 1620 m, 34°31'N-62°51'E, 2.05.1975, Podlech, Jarmal 29719 (M); Ghorumbaw, 86 km ONO von Herat an der Strasse nach Qala-i-Naw 1840 m, 34°33'N-63°00'E, Podlech, Jarmal 29730 (M); Harirod Tal Bei Arwij, ca 30 km östlich Obeh, 1450 m, 34°23'N-63°30'E, 30.04.1977, Podlech, Jarmal 29611 (M); Obeh, 1700 m 16.04.1949, Koeie 3764 (W, C); A l'oest d'Obeh, 1300 m, 19.10.1958, Pabot



A 1516 bis (G); Obbeh-Chisht, 1400 m, 19.04.1949, Koeie 3613 (W, C); Below Cheshmeh Obbeh, 1600 m, 12.05.1969, Hedge, Wendelbo, Ekberg, in Wendelbo 7914 (GB); Koh-i-Zyrat NW von Herat, Umgebung des Zyarate Mulla Khwaja-Khoi, 1200 - 1400 m, 34°26'N - 62°05'E, 26.04.1977, Podlech, Jarmal 29265 (M); Koh-e Nas Panj, S Herat, 1100 m, 34°08'N - 62°02'E, 14.04.1973, Anders 9647 (W); 21 km S Herat ad aerodromum, 950 m, 23.04.1967, Rechingner 33299 (W); 40 km S of Herat on main road to Farah Rud, first pass, 1600 m, 14.05.1969, Hedge, Wendelbo, Ekberg in Wendelbo 7994 (GB); 47. 7 miles S of Herat, road to Kandahar, 4500', 18.04.1971, Grey-Wilson, Hewer 532 (W); Farah: NE Shindand, an der Strasse nach Andresken, 1250 m, 33°28'N - 62°17'E, 13.04.1973, Anders 9569 (W).

#### *ROSA* × *KOPETDAGENSIS* MEFF.

**USSR.** Kopetdag orient., supra pagum Roberhovskij, in declivibus borealibus angustiarum „Vetelki", 6.07.1934, Androsov s.n. (LE); Aschabad: Sülükli (Saratowka) and fines Persiae in montibus Gul, 17.08.1900, Sintenis 997, 1100 (LE); Geoktepe: on the way from Sulukli to Keljat, 3-4 miles from Sulukli, 5.06.1940, Blinovskij s.n.; 55 km SSO Bachardena, dry slopes in the vicinity of Soljukli, 20.05.1963, Gubanov 578 (LE).

**Iran.** Prov. Khorasan: Inter Gifan et Golama, 1400 m, Gauba, Sabeti 485 (W); Prov. Semnan-Damghan: In montibus prope Tuweh boreo-occidentem versus, 1900 - 2250 m, 7.06.1977, Rechingner 56452 (G); Seman: ca. 35 km N of Damghan above Toueh, 1950 m, 16.05.1975, Wendelbo et Assadi 29503 (GB); Sultanbad near Kasvin, 500 ft, 05.1936, Lindsay 252 (BM).

#### SUMMARY

*Rosa persica* has a clearly distinct position within the genus *Rosa* L. In view of its characteristic morphology a separate genus has been created for it, *Hulthemia* Dum., which however was not accepted by all authors. It is a classical Irano-Turanian species. The range covers primarily central and southwestern Asia. In the northeast it attains Siberia, and in the northwest it crosses the limits of Asia reaching Orenburg in Europe.

The variability of *R. persica* is notable, particularly in the degree of plant pubescence. Completely glabrous forms occur, as well as completely pubescent ones and a whole range of intermediate ones. In the southern regions of the range pubescent forms dominate and in the north glabrous ones. The latter ones are frequently treated as a distinct species *R. berberifolia* Pall. According to the author the specific rank for *R. berberifolia* is unjustified.

So only two spontaneous hybrids of *R. persica* have been described; *R.* × *kopetdagensis* Meff. and *R.* × *guzarica* Juz. Almost all known stands of these hybrids occur in regions where the ranges of the presumed parental forms overlap.

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JERZY ZIELIŃSKI

*Rozmieszczenie Rosa persica Michx ex Juss. i jej mieszańców*

## Streszczenie

*Rosa persica* zajmuje w obrębie rodzaju wyraźnie izolowaną pozycję. Ze względu na swoistą morfologię tego gatunku utworzono dla niego odrębny rodzaj *Hultemia* Dum., który jednakże nie przez wszystkich autorów został zaakceptowany.

*R. persica* jest klasycznym gatunkiem irano-turańskim. Zasięg jego przypada w głównej mierze na centralną i południowo-zachodnią Azję. Na północnym wschodzie gatunek ten dociera aż do Syberii, a na północnym zachodzie przekracza granicę Azji dochodząc do Orenburga w Europie. Występuje od poziomu morza po około 2400 m n.p.m. — najwyżej w Iranie w okolicach Hamadanu.

Czynnikami warunkującymi występowanie *R. persica* są przede wszystkim temperatura i światło. Rośnie ona najczęściej na gliniastych, często zasolonych glebach, na terenach półpustynnych, na nieużytkach, na ubogich, zdegradowanych pastwiskach, przydrożach itd. Wkracza także na mniej intensywnie uprawiane pola, gdzie bywa jednym z najbardziej uporczywych, trudnych do zwalczania chwastów.

Interesującą zmienność wykazuje *R. persica* w owłosieniu roślin. Występują bądź to formy nagie, bądź to całkowicie owłosione oraz cała gama form przejściowych. Nagie formy dominują na północy zasięgu, natomiast owłosione przeważają w jego części południowej. Pierwsze z nich traktowane są często jako odrębny gatunek *R. berberifolia* Pall. Zdaniem autora odrębność gatunkowa tego taksonu jest wątpliwa.

Znaczną zmienność obserwujemy także w kształcie liści róży irańskiej. Formy z klinowatą nasadą blaszki przeważają na południu, natomiast na północy częstsze są formy z liśćmi zaokrąglonymi u nasady. Podobnie, jak w przypadku owłosienia, możemy tu tylko mówić o pewnych tendencjach w geograficznym rozmieszczeniu poszczególnych form.

Dotychczas znane są dwa spontaniczne mieszańce róży irańskiej: *R. × kopetdagensis* Meff. i *R. × guzarica* Juz. Pierwszy z nich, będący najprawdopodobniej mieszańcem *R. persica* i *R. hemisphaerica* J. Herrmann z sekcji *Pimpinellifoliae*, uchodził dotychczas za formę endemiczną dla radzieckiego Kopetdagu. Okazuje się jednak, że występuje on także na kilku stanowiskach w północnym Iranie. Większość stanowisk tego mieszańca znana jest z rejonów, gdzie zasięgi domniemych gatunków rodzicielskich wzajemnie się pokrywają.

Drugi mieszaniec, *R. ×guzarica* Juz., opisany został z południowo-wschodniego Uzbekistanu. Jego pochodzenie nie jest pewne. Na ogół uważa się, że powstał on ze skrzyżowania *R. persica* z bliżej nieokreślonym gatunkiem z sekcji *Cinnamomeae*. Duże podobieństwo do poprzedniego mieszańca nasuwa jednak przypuszczenie, że i w tym przypadku, oprócz *R. persica*, mógł w grę wchodzić również żółtokwiatowy gatunek z sekcji *Pimpinellifoliae*, np. *R. ecae* Aitch.

ЕЖИ ЗЕЛИНСКИ

### Размещение *Rosa persica* Michx ex Juss. и ее гибридов

Резюме

*Rosa persica* занимает в рамках своего рода четко обособленное место. В виду различий в морфологическом строении, был образован для этого вида отдельный род *Hulthemia* Dum., однако не все авторы с этим согласны.

*R. persica* является классическим ирано-туранским видом. Ареал ее распространения находится главным образом в центральной и юго-восточной Азии. На северо-востоке этот вид достигает Сибири, а на северо-западе выходит за пределы Азии, достигая Оренбурга в Европе. Этот вид встречается до 2400 м над ур. моря, выше всего в Иране, в окрестностях Гамадана.

Фактором лимитирующим распространение *R. persica* являются прежде всего температура и световой режим. Растет роза иранская на суглинистых, часто засоленных почвах, в полупустынных районах, на пустошах, бедных, деградированных пастбищах, около дорог итп. Она заселяет менее интенсивно возделываемые сельскохозяйственные угодия, где является одним из самых трудных для истребления сорняков.

Интересную изменчивость имеет *R. persica* в опушении. Встречаются формы без опушения и полностью опушенные, а также множество переходных форм. Формы без опушения доминируют в северной части ареала, а опушенные в южной. Первые часто считаются отдельным видом *R. berberifolia* Pall. По мнению автора видовые различия этого таксона сомнительны.

Значительной изменчивостью характеризуется у розы иранской форма листьев. Формы с клиновидным основанием листовой пластинки доминируют на юге, а на севере чаще других встречаются формы с закругленными у основания листьями. Так же, как и в случае опушения мы можем говорить о некоторых тенденциях в географическом размещении отдельных форм.

До сих пор известны два спонтанные гибрида розы иранской: *R. ×kopetdagensis* Meff. и *R. ×guzarica* Juz. Первый из перечисленных является по всей вероятности гибридом *R. persica* и *R. hemisphaerica* J. Herrmann из секции *Pimpinellifoliae*. До сих пор он считался эндемическим видом для советского Копетата. Оказывается однако, что он встречается в нескольких местах в Иране. Большинство местобитаний этого гибрида известно с районов, в которых совпадают ареалы его предполагаемых родительских форм.

Второй известный гибрид *R. ×guzarica* Juz., описан в юго-восточном Узбекистане. Его происхождение не ясно. Считается, что он возник при скрещении *R. persica* с ближе неизвестным видом из секции *Cinnamomeae*. Однако большое сходство этого гибрида с предыдущим может свидетельствовать, что и в этом случае, кроме *R. persica* скрещении могло произойти также с желтоцветущим видом из секции *Pimpinellifoliae* например *R. ecae* Aitch.