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To whom it may concern,

Over recent decades, digitization of herbarium specimens has become part of main activities in the big herbaria. Hitherto, many large herbaria have digitalized all or part of their vouchers and made the digital photos available online to researchers all over the world. However, the same trend is not true for Iranian herbaria, mostly due to the technical or financial problems.

Iranian Biological Resource Center is a national institute with its main defined policy on ex situ conservation of Iranian flora, and its herbarium includes valuable and standard specimens, but little has been done to make digital photos due to the financial limits. Based on my contact and collaboration with this herbarium and its curator, Dr. Alireza Dolatyari, I strongly support any funding to digitize the specimens of this collection. Certainly the digitalization of the specimens of this Herbarium will be much gainful in conservation programs of the Iranian Flora and will broaden our knowledge of plant biogeography in Iran.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Jalil Noroozi
Vienna
2022.09.29

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jalil Noroozi', written in a cursive style.