

Azad Rastegar

HKS Herbarium, Department of Natural Resources

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Professional Profile

My research interests focus on plant diversity, systematic botany (Asteraceae family), phytogeography, distribution patterns, species distribution modelling and climate change effects on ecosystems. Due to my personal interests in field works, during last 10 years I made a good collection of plants from all geographic regions of Iran and north of Iraq.

Education and Qualifications

BSc.

Natural Resources and Range Management (University of Kurdistan-Iran).

My best grades in BSc: Systematic Botany (A), Rangeland Management (A), Functional Statistics (A), Plant Identification (A), Dendrology (A), Cartography (A), Advanced Hydrology (A), Rangeland Ecology (A), Natural Resources Law & Policy (A) etc.

BSc Project: Floristical composition of Marenj Valley (Kurdistan).

Supervisor: *Dr. Parviz Karami*.

MSc.

Plant Biology (University of Kharazmi-Iran). My best grades in MSc: Plant Metabolism (A), Advanced Plant Taxonomy (A)

MSc. Thesis: The effects of sulfosalicylic acid on growth and some eco-physiological parameters in *Phalaris minor* Retz plants under salinity stress.

Supervisor: *Dr. Farzaneh Najafi*

Ph.D.

Plant Systematic and Ecology (University of Tehran-Iran). My best grades in Ph.D.: Flora of Iranian deserts (A), Special topics (A), Forests of Iran (A), Plant evolution (A)

Ph.D. Dissertation: Biosystematic studies and distribution patterns of the genus *Cousinia*, sect. *Cynaroideae* (Asteraceae-Cardueae).

Supervisor: *Prof. Farideh Attar*

Laboratory, Computer and Special Skills and Abilities:

DNA extraction and purification, PCR and sequence analysis, Plant Identification and Herbarium management

Functional Software: GIS, ENVI, R, Surfer, MaxEnt, ModEco, SPSS, Photoshop

General Software: Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, Power point)

Awards and Honors:

Ranked 1st among Ph.D. students in Plant Systematic, University of Tehran. Iran.

Memberships:

Member of American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT), 2016 – Present.

Teaching & Development of Courses:

- Botany, fall semester 2011-2012, B.Sc. Level, Department of Rangelands and Watershed management , Faculty of Natural Resources, University of Kurdistan, Iran.
 - Aquatic Plants, fall semester 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015 B.Sc. Level, Department of Fishery, Faculty of Natural Resources, University of Kurdistan, Iran.
 - Plant Anatomy, fall semester 2011-2012, B.Sc. Level, Department of Crop sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Kurdistan, Iran.
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Publications:

Mirzaii A, **Rastegar A**, Ghorbani A, Keyvan F & Karami P (2010). Floristic studies on Marenj valley in Kurdistan province (Iran). *1th National congress in Natural Resource*, Sanandaj, Iran.

Rastegar A (2011). The history of botanical study in Flora of Iran from 1650-2010. A lecture in College of Natural Resources, University of Kurdistan.

Arabzadeh M, Hoseini E, **Rastegar A** & Ghahremaninejad F (2014). A floristic study of the Chitgar artificial forest. *18th National and 6th International Congress of Biology in Iran*, Kharazmi University, Karaj, Iran.

Rastegar A & Moradi I (2015). A contribution on biodiversity and flora of Hawraman region. *National conference on Hawraman*, Sanandaj, Iran.

Maroofi H & **Rastegar A** (2017). *Tragopogon erostris* (Asteraceae, Lactuceae), the correct name for *T. maroofi* Mahmoodi & Safavi, and *T. kurdicus* Safavi & Maroofi. *Phytotaxa* 302(3): 294-297.

Saman AA, **Rastegar A** & Attar F (2017). *Cousinia azmarensis* a new species from Kurdistan, Iraq. *Harvard Papers in Botany* 22(1): 71-73.

Hosein-Heidari R, Sohrabizadeh A, Heidari M & **Rastegar A** (2017). The patterns of distribution of the central Zagros forests, plants, and use it for sustainable development. *5th International Conference on new ideas in agriculture, environment and tourism*.

Hosein-Heidari R, Sohrabizadeh A, Heidari M & **Rastegar A** (2017). Evaluation of plant diversity (in base of ecological value) in middle Zagros forests and suggest suitable management operation (case study: Sarpol Zahab forests). *5th International Conference on new ideas in agriculture, environment and tourism*.

Mirzaii A, Ghorbani A, Keyvan F & **Rastegar A** (2017). Introducing Flora, Life Forms, Geographical Distribution, and Identification of Potentially Medicinal Plants in Habitat of the genus *Prangos* (Case Study: Southern Part of Ardabil Province). *Plant and Ecosystem* 13 (53): 15-35 (In Persian).

Rastegar A, Attar F & Mirtadzadini M (2018). Novelties in Iranian *Cousinia* sect. *Cynaroideae* (Asteraceae, Cardueae): new taxa and taxonomic notes. *Phytotaxa* 343 (3): 227-239.

Mohtashamian M & **Rastegar A** (2018). An introduction to Maples from Iran: Morphological Traits and Natural Habitat Characteristics, Part I. *The Maple Society Newsletter* 28 (3): 11-19.

Mohtashamian M & **Rastegar A** (2018). An introduction to Maples from Iran: Morphological Traits and Natural Habitat Characteristics, Part II. *The Maple Society Newsletter* 28 (4): 10-15.

Mohtashamian M, Chatreoor T, Fatehi F & **Rastegar A** (****). *Acer iranicum* (Sapindaceae), A New Species of Maple from Northern Iran. *Systematic Botany* (Accepted, will publish in early 2020).

Languages Skills:

Kurdish (Mother Tongue)

Persian (Fluent in spoken and written)

English (Good in spoken and written)

Latin (Good in translation, especially botanical diagnosis)

Hobbies: Music (Folklore, Iranian traditional music), Mountain Climbing, Botanical Illustration.
