P-143 (173) MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS IN SOME CULTIVATED POPULATIONS OF TUSSILAGO FARFARA FROM IRAN

Mohamad Norani, Department of Horticultural Science, Tarbiat Modares University TMU, P.O.Box 14115-336, Tehran, Iran; mohamadnorani1368@gmail.com (Presenting author)

Assist. Prof. Mahdi Ayyari, Department of Horticultural Science, Tarbiat Modares University TMU, 8203 P.O.Box 14115-336, Tehran, Iran; m.ayyari@modares.ac.ir
Assist. Prof. Mohammad-Taghi Ebadi, Department of Horticultural Science, Tarbiat Modares University TMU, 8203 P.O.Box 14115-336, Tehran, Iran; m.t.ebadi@gmail.com

Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara* L.) from Asteraceae family is a perennial plant and its flowers have been used traditionally for the treatment of cough, bronchitis and asthmatic disorders. In this study, the rhizomes of seven Iranian coltsfoot populations were collected from different regions of Iran including Chalous Road, Damavand, Firoozkooh, Nur, Deylaman, Kaleybar and Namin. The collected samples were planted in the same condition during 2015-2016 in research field of Tarbiat Modares University in Tehran, with a randomized complete block design experiment and three replications. In order to evaluate morphological diversity between different samples, the number of flowers per plant, stem height, flower length, flower diameter and time of flowering have been measured. The results showed the significant differences between all studied populations. Chalous Road and Namin populations of *T. farfara*, considered as superior populations and their flowering time were earlier than the others. Our results also indicate the presence of comparable genetic potentials of *T. farfara* in these populations for any further cultivar development.

Keywords: Tussilago farfara, morphological characteristics, coltsfoot, plant population