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## ***Chenopodium pumilio* R. BR., a new adventive species for Rumania**

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**Abstract:** *Chenopodium pumilio* was collected in the Danube Delta in 1989. It is the first record of this species from Rumania.

During a small private expedition to the Danube Delta in Juni 1989, I collected *Chenopodium pumilio* R. BR. among other species. It grew on sandy dunes influenced by man on the southern margin of the village of Crisan, which lies approximately in the centre of the Danube Delta, on the right bank of the Sulina arm. It was associated with other synanthropic species growing at this site, e.g. *Xanthium spinosum* L., *Datura stramonium* L., *Malva neglecta* WALLR., *Plantago coronopus* L., *Marrubium vulgare* L., *Teucrium scordium* L. etc.

*Chenopodium pumilio* belongs to the section *Orthosporum* R. BR. It originates from Australia and Tasmania. In the late 19th century it began to spread throughout Europe where it was misidentified under the name of a closely related Australian species *C. carinatum* R. BR. (ASCHERSON 1895). Its recent European distribution comprises Great Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary (AELLEN 1979). It has not as yet been reported from Rumania and it has been mentioned neither in the Flora of Rumania (PRODAN 1952) nor in the most recent survey of the Rumanian flora (BELDIE 1977).

The species was brought to Europe together with Australian wool and it often occurred on wool scraps (AELLEN 1979), but recently heaps of refuse and dumps, trampled sites, railway stations, tracks und riverbanks are also

quite common habitats of the species in its homeland (LHOTSKA & HEJNY 1979).

The Sulina arm of the Danube is the most important way of transport in the delta, connecting the Black Sea with the Danubian ports on the mainland. Thus, the diaspores of the species seem to be brought there by traffic. Because of an appropriate germination and dissemination strategy (acquired dormancy, long-lasting viability of fruits and favourable periodicity of dissemination - LHOTSKA & HEJNY 1979) the species may be expected to spread to other localities in south-eastern Europe.

Herbarium specimen is stored in the Herbarium of Masaryk University in Brno (BRNU).

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