

Crocus lydius

Crocus lydius Kerndorff & Pasche, species nova STAFIA 95 (2011): 99–105

Description taken from Stapfia paper:

Corm globose, about 10 mm in diameter. Tunics coriaceous splitting into segments with rings at base; rings with very long pointed teeth. Neck bristly, extended up to 5 mm. Cataphylls 3, silvery to brownish, skinny. Leaves 2–2,3–3 (n=36) shorter as flowers at anthesis, dark green, subulate, 1,5–2,5 mm in diameter, glabrous, **many (3–4,5–6, n=6) ribs underneath**. Width of white stripe smaller than to approximately 1/3 of leaf diameter. Throat yellow, glabrous, sometimes violet at the bottom of the throat. Perianth tube bluish-violet near apex, whitish below. Outer segments between 14 and 25 mm but usually 18 mm long, between 5 and 12 mm mostly 7 mm wide. Inner segments between 13 and 25 mm but usually 17 mm long and between 5 and 13 mm frequently 7 mm wide. Inside all segments are whitish-blue sometimes with faint markings shining through from the outside. Outside of outer segments usually uniformly blue, if striped, then in darker blue, not violet outside of inner segments light blue without markings but sometimes with a greyish spot towards the perianth tube. Prophyll absent. Bract and bracteole present, silvery-white, turning to brownish with age. Filaments 3–8 mm on average 5,6 mm long (n=36), whitish to yellow glabrous; anthers 5–10 mm on average 6,9 mm long (n=36), yellow, greyish or sometimes black, connective colourless to yellow or rarely blackish. Pollen yellow. The styles are orange, divided into 3 branches which are very slightly trumpet-shaped towards the end; branches 3–7 mm on average 5,1 mm long (photograph 1a). The styles are mostly equal or longer as the stamens (78%, n=36). Capsule and seeds not seen. Chromosome number $2n = 10$.

Photos are included in Stapfia paper .

Stafia papers are available to purchase, individually for a modest sum:

<http://www.landesmuseum.at/biophp/stafia.php>

<http://crocusmania.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/lydius>