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PULICARIA CRISPA BENTH.—A NEW RECORD FROM WEST BENGAL

A weed was collected at Mojhampur, Beldanga, on the banks of the river Bhagirathi, which on examination was found to be Pulicaria crispa Benth. of the family Compositae. The species is reported from Punjab, Sindh, the Upper Gaugetic Plain and westwards to Arabia, Africa and the Canary Islands; its easternmost limit is Bihar. The collection of the plant from Murshidabad District further extends its distribution into West Bengal.


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NOTE ON SPERGULARIA FALLAX LOWE IN NORTHERN INDIA


This plant is not mentioned in any of the Indian floras. As the leaves are in false whorls and the seeds are broadly winged, the taxon is often mis-identified as Spergula pentandra Linn. but can be distinguished from the latter species by the 3-styled and 3-valved capsule. An examination of the material housed in the herbaria of Botanical Survey of India, Northern Circle, Dehra Dun; Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun and Central National Herbarium, Calcutta, revealed that Spergula pentandra Linn. has not been collected from N. India. All the materials kept under the name of Spergula pentandra in the above herbaria are Spergularia fallax Lowe.

Distribution: Madeira and Canary Islands, N. Africa, Nubia, Egypt, Palestine, Arabia, S. Persia, Afghanistan, Baluchistan, North and Central India.

Ecological notes: Common weed in cultivated and fallow fields and gardens during the cold season. Found also in other moist localities.

Flowers and fruits: December to March.

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A NOTE ON THE NOMENCLATURE OF LAGGERA FLAVA (DC.) BENTH. OF HOOKER’S FLORA OF BRITISH INDIA

The taxon under consideration had been treated under Blumea by De Candolle and Laggera by other authors. Gagnepain (Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 26: 76, 1920) segregated it to a monotypic genus Blumeopsis. Raizada (Indian For. 92: 315, 1966) treats it under Laggera. In her monograph on Blumea, Randera (Blumea 10: 175-217, 1966) showed that the three genera can be separated as follows:

Leaves decurrent, anthers tailless ..... Laggera
Leaves not decurrent
Anthers tailed ..... Blumea
Anthers tailless ..... Blumeopsis

Earlier workers considered that Erigeron falcatum D. Don (1825) is synonymous with Laggera flava (DC.) Benth. [=Blumea flavus DC. (1836)] and therefore E. falcatum D. Don was considered as the earliest specific epithet for the plant by Merrill (J. Arnold Arb. 19: 70, 1938) and Raizada (loc. cit.). It has been shown by Ludlow and Raven (Kew Bull. 17: 71, 1963) that E. falcatum D. Don is Conyza leucanthe (D. Don) Ludlow & Raven (loc. cit.). The earliest validly published specific epithet of the plant, therefore, is Blumea flavus DC. Prodr. 5: 439, 1836. Hence the nomenclature of the plant will be as follows:
A NEW VARIETY OF **JATROPHA VILLOSA** FROM MADRAS STATE

**Jatropha villosa** Wight var. rammadensis Ramamurthy var. nov.

Accedit ad varietatem villosam sed ab ea differt ramulis et floribus plus minusve glabris, foliorum lamina palmata, 3-5 loba, lobis late ovatis acuminate, sepalis masculinis unitis usque ad medium.


**Jatropha villosa** Wight var. rammadensis Ramamurthy var. nov.

Allied to *J. villosa* Wight var. *villosa* but differs in having more or less glabrous branchlets and leaves; lamina palmate, 3-5 lobed; lobes broadly...