

Saussurea devendrae Pusalkar – A new name in Himalayan Asteraceae

Prashant K. Pusalkar✉

Botanical Survey of India, Northern Regional Centre, 192, Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun – 248 195, India
✉Corresponding author : lecyth@yahoo.com

सासूरिया देवेन्द्राई पुसालकर – हिमालयी एस्टरेसी में नया नामकरण

प्रशान्त के. पुसालकर

सारांश

प्रस्तुत शोध पत्र में एस. रॉयली (डीसी.) सेश्च. बिप. उपजाति स्टीनोफाइला लिपिच. के लिये नया नाम सासूरिया देवेन्द्राई पुसालकर दिया गया है।

ABSTRACT

A new name *Saussurea devendrae* Pusalkar has given to *S. roylei* (DC.) Sch. Bip. Subsp. *stenophylla* Lipsch.

Keywords: *Saussurea roylei*, New name, India, Himalaya, Asteraceae

Lipschitz (1968) described *Saussurea roylei* (DC.) Sch.Bip. subsp. *stenophylla* Lipsch. (Asteraceae) based on Duthie's collection from Sansol nullah, Kashmir collected in 1893. He included the same as accepted taxon in the revisionary account of the genus *Saussurea* (Lipschitz, 1979) citing the type collection. Since then this name has only one cursory mention in an 'Annotated Catalogue of the Vascular Plants of West Pakistan and Kashmir', by Stewart (1972) referring to the type collection. There is no other reference of this subspecies in any systematic account of Indian Asteraceae or Indian *Saussurea* (Rao et al., 1988; Hajra, 1988, 1995; Sharma & Jamwal, 1998; Karthikeyan et al., 2009; Butola and Samant, 2010), neither as an accepted name nor as a synonym. During recent study on Western Himalayan *Saussurea*, one collection from Sarbal, Kashmir is identified as subspecies *stenophylla*, which is the first record of this narrow range Kashmir endemic after more than seven decades. It is further

noteworthy that three additional collections housed in DD herbarium collected by Duthie and Keshavanand were also confirmed to belong to this subspecies. Detailed study revealed that the subspecies *stenophylla* differs from subspecies *roylei* in many significant morpho-taxonomical characters and considering the significance of these key characters in the genus *Saussurea*, these differences are worth consideration to treat the subspecies *stenophylla* at the species rank. Since, the epithet '*stenophylla*' as *Saussurea stenophylla* Freyn [= *S. amurensis* Turcz.] (Lipschitz, 1979) is already occupied at the species rank for a distinctly different Sino-Russian species, a new name *Saussurea devendrae* Pusalkar is hereby proposed for the Himalayan entity. These two species can be easily keyed out as follows:

- 1a. Leaves lanceolate, broadly elliptic-lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate, leaf apex acute; margins runcinate

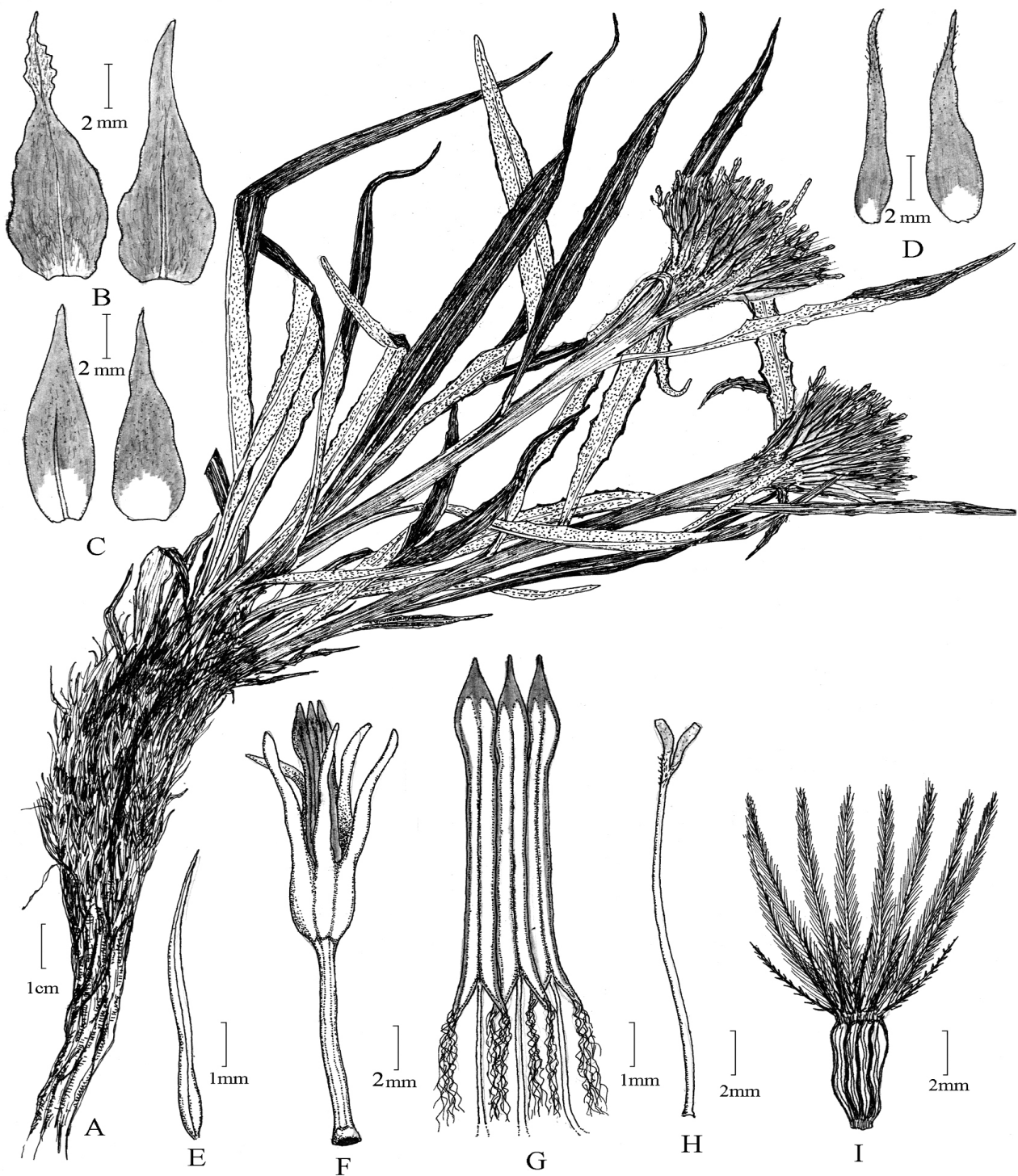


Fig -1: (A-I). *Saussurea devendrae* Pusalkar. A. Habit, B. Outer Phyllaries (variation), C. Median Phyllaries (variation), D. Inner Phyllaries (variation), E. Receptacle bristle (palea), F. Floret, G. Stamen with woolly anther tails, H. Style and stigma and I. Cypselus with pappus. [Drawn by Prashant K. Pusalkar from B.M. Wadhwa & S.K. Murti 84087 (BSD)].

or lyrate-pinnatifid with broadly triangular lobes; upper surface sparsely to cobwebby woolly; outer phyllaries lanceolate; median and inner phyllaries linear to linear-lanceolate; phyllaries externally woolly

Saussurea roylei

1b. Leaves narrowly linear or linear-lanceolate; leaf apex slender, acuminate margins; entire or sparsely and inconspicuously dentate; upper surface glabrous; outer phyllaries ovate, often appendaged at apex; median and inner phyllaries ovate to lanceolate; phyllaries externally hairy

Saussurea devendrae

Saussurea devendrae Pusalkar, *nom. et stat. nov.* *S. roylei* (DC.) Sch.Bip. subsp. *stenophylla* Lipsch. in Novosti Sist. Vyssh. Rast. 1968: 225. 1968 & Gen. Saussurea: 156, 168. 1979. [Fig. 1]

Perennial herb, 15–25(–35) cm high; rootstock stout, branched, base covered with brown fibrous and scarious, membranous remains of radical petiolar bases. Stem subglabrous below, sparsely cobwebby woolly above, sometimes moderately so below capitulum. Leaves mostly basal with few cauline leaves, similar with petiole reduced upward, upper leaves sessile; lamina linear to linear-lanceolate, 5–16.5 cm long, up to 8 mm broad, base tapering into petiole, margins entire or distantly and inconspicuously dentate, recurved, apex slender, acuminate, flexuose, upper surface glabrous (turning brown in dried specimens), lower surface felted or matted white-woolly; petiole bases broadened into scarious sheath with small wool in axis; capitular (involucral) leaves smaller, similar, linear with dentate margins. Capitula terminal, solitary, 2–3.5 cm across, homogamous, discoid. Phyllaries multi-seriate, purplish-violet, broadly ovate to ovate-lanceolate, inner often lanceolate, narrowed inwards; outer phyllaries ovate, 1.1–1.8 cm long, purplish-violet, acute to sub-acuminate or with leafy appendage at tip, externally hairy on back, mainly in sub-basal part; median phyllaries ovate to lanceolate, 1–1.5 cm long, cream-coloured at base, purplish-violet above, acute to acuminate at apex, externally glabrous below, hairy above; inner phyllaries lanceolate, 0.9–1.4 cm long, upper part purplish-violet and sparsely hairy. Receptacle bristly (paleate); receptacle bristles (palea) 5–7 mm long, equaling or exceeding cypsela. Florets pink or purple with exerted purplish-violet or bluish-violet anther tube, many, hermaphrodite, tubular, 1.4–1.7 cm long, glabrous. Corolla pink or purple; lobes linear, 5–6 mm long, longer than upper broadened cup

of corolla tube; tube 9–11 mm long, with lower narrowed part 7–8 mm long and upper broadened cup 2–3 mm long. Stamens 8–13 mm long, base sagittate; anthers 6–8 mm long, with woolly tails; filaments 3.5–4.5 mm long. Style linear, filiform, 1.5–1.8 cm long, with 1.3–2.2 mm flat arms. Cypsela oblong, 4–5 mm long, flattened, brown, glabrous, 5–10-ribbed; pappus biseriate, white; inner pappus bristles plumose, 8–12 mm long; outer pappus bristles scabrous, 3.5–5 mm long.

Flowering & Fruiting: July–September.

Ecology & Habitat: In rock crevices and alpine meadows; 3800–5000 m.

Distribution: India (Jammu & Kashmir). Endemic.

Specimens Examined: Jammu & Kashmir: Liddar valley, Sansol Nullah, 13–14,000 ft., 31.07.1893, Duthie 13356 (Holotype: LE; Isotype: DD!); Masjid valley, 25.07.1893, 12–13,000 ft., Duthie *s.n.* (DD!); Harmukh slopes, 13–15,000 ft., 14.09.1908, Keshavanand 1113 (DD!); Jhelam valley, 13–15,000 ft., 09.08.1909, Keshavanand 1344 (DD!); Sarbal, 26.09.1986, B.M. Wadhwa & S.K. Murti 84087 (BSD!).

Etymology: The specific epithet is named after author's teacher and former Scientist G of Botanical Survey of India, Dr. Devendra Kumar Singh.

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