

# A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *JASMINUM CORDIFOLIUM* WALL. EX G. DON (OLEACEAE) FROM ANDAMAN ISLANDS

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The authors while examining the specimens of *Jasminum cordifolium* Wall. ex G. Don, as represented in the Indian herbaria, observed that though they are quite close to one another, yet can be distinctly demarcated into two groups. Those from the Nilgiris and other South Indian localities having glabrous petiole that are not connate at the base, bracts inside and calyx outside glabrous, and stamens attached inside the corolla tube at  $\frac{3}{4}$ th of its length from base, representing one group; and those from the Andaman Islands having petiole hairy and opposite petioles connate at the base to form a narrow wing around the node, bracts hairy inside and calyx hairy outside, stamens attached inside the corolla tube at  $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of

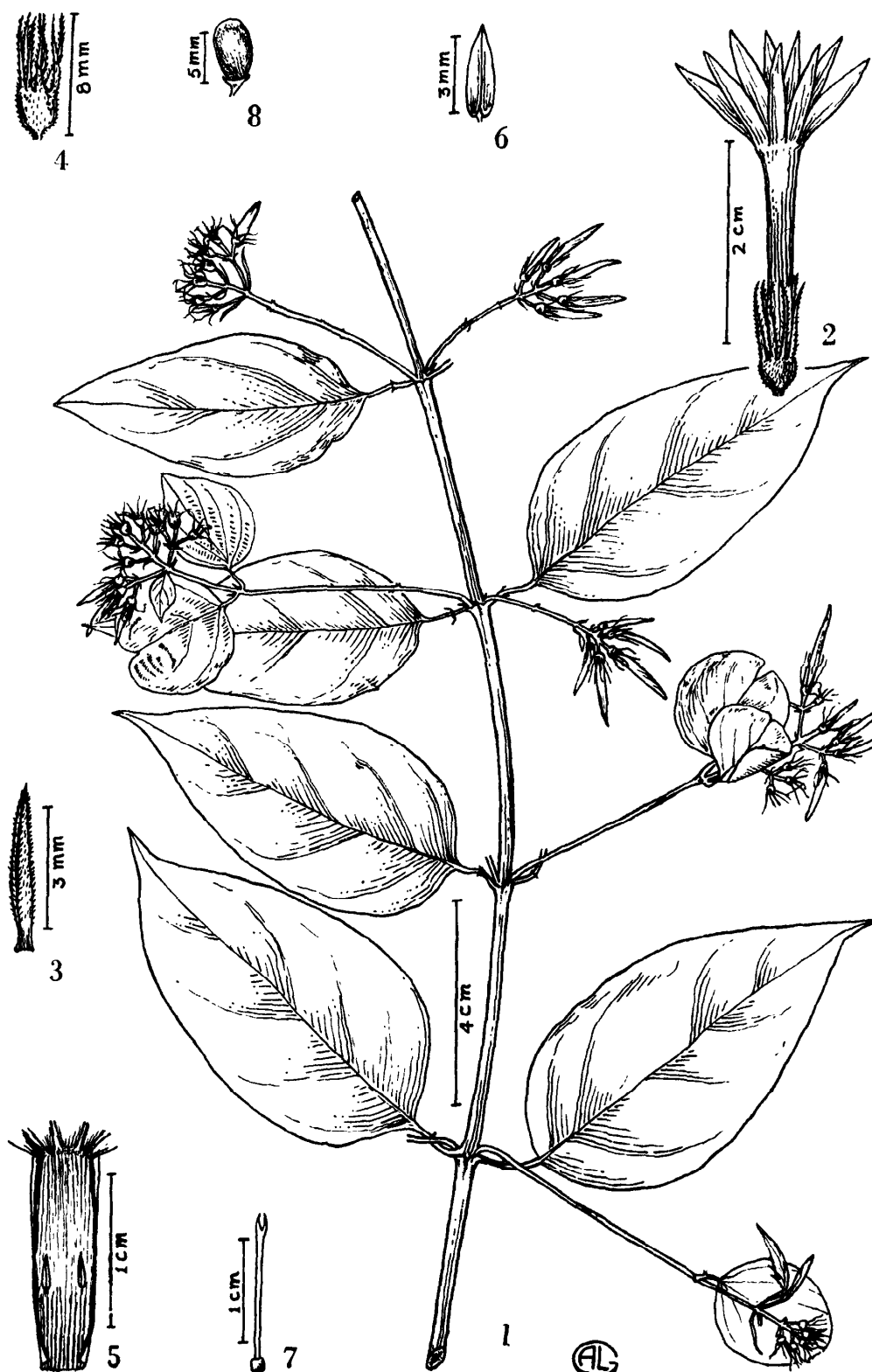
its length from the base, representing the other group. Although heterostyly has been reported in *Jasminum*, yet the feature of attachment of stamens as differing in the two groups of specimens has been found to be constantly associated with each group. The mainland specimens differ from the Island specimens in a number of characters quantitatively too (Table 1). In view of the above it is considered proper to categorise the two groups of the specimens studied here as subspecies of the same species.

De Candolle (1844), Clarke (1882), Gamble (1921) and Parkinson (1922) have recorded *J. cordifolium* in their respective publications but have not described any infraspecific taxon in this species. Since the type of

Table — 1

## *Distinguishing characters of the two taxa*

Subsp. <i>andamanicum</i>	Subsp. <i>cordifolium</i>
1. Petioles minutely puberulous, connate at the base to form a narrow wing around the nodes, 8-15 mm long.	Petioles glabrous, not connate at the base, 10-30 mm long.
2. Cymes hairy.	Cymes glabrous.
3. Bracts hairy inside, 4-6 mm long.	Bracts glabrous inside, 7-9 mm long.
4. Calyx hairy outside, 6-9 mm long.	Calyx glabrous outside, 8-14 mm long.
5. Stamens attached inside the corolla tube at $\frac{1}{3}$ of its length from the base.	Stamens attached inside the corolla tube at $\frac{3}{4}$ of its length from the base.
6. Style 10-13 mm long.	Style 16-20 mm long.
7. Distributed in Andaman Islands,	Distributed in S. India.



*Jasminum cordifolium* subsp. *andamanicum* Srivastava & Kapoor  
 Figs. 1-8: 1. Flowering twig. 2. Flower. 3. Bract. 4. Calyx. 5. Corolla tube (cut open)  
 6. Stamen 7. Pistil. 8. Fruit

*J. cordifolium* Wall. ex G. Don (Wall. Cat. n. 2858 vide G. Don, 1837) belongs to Nilgiri Hills, the mainland specimens are treated as subspecies *cordifolium* and the specimens from the Islands are described as a new subspecies, viz., subspecies *andamanicum*.

***Jasminum cordifolium* subsp. *andamanicum***

Srivastava & Kapoor subsp. nov.

*Jasminum cordifolium* Wall. ex G. Don subsp. *andamanicum* Srivastava & Kapoor subsp. nov. a subspecie *cordifolio* differt praecipue petiolis pilosis, oppositis, basi connatis alis angustis formantibus in nodis; cymis, bracteis intus, calycibusque extus pilosis; staminibus intustubi corollae ad  $1/3$  longitudinem e basi affixis.

Subspecies limitata ad insulam Andaman.

Scandent climber, branchlet terete, glabrous. Leaves simple opposite,  $7-9.5 \times 3.5-5.0$  cm; lamina ovate, acuminate, base rounded or subcordate, entire, thick-chartaceous, glabrous on both the surfaces, midrib impressed above, raised beneath, lateral nerves distinct, ca. 7 pairs, interarching far from the margin; petiole 0.8-1.5 cm long, minutely puberulous, channelled, flattened at the base and adnate to the stem to form a narrow wing on the node. Cymes axillary or terminal, trichotomous, hairy, bract 0.4-0.6 cm long, hairy, linear or linear-lanceolate, acute; flower in clusters, 3.2-4.0 cm across, peduncle hairy, pedicel 0.3-0.4 cm long, hairy; calyx 0.6-0.9 cm long, hairy, tube 0.2-0.25 cm long, campanulate, lobes 5-6, 0.5-0.7 cm long, linear, subulate; corolla 2.5-3.0 cm long, glabrous, tube 1.5-1.8 cm long, lobes 6-7, 0.8-1.0 cm long, oblong, acuminate; stamens 2, 0.35-0.45 cm long, glabrous, attached inside the corolla tube at  $1/3$ rd of

its length from the base, nearly sessile or filament 0.1 cm long, anther 0.3-0.35 cm long, lobes oblong, connective produced; pistil 1.4-1.7 cm long, glabrous, ovary ovate-cylindrical, 0.15 cm long, style 1.0-1.3 cm long, slender, stigma 0.2-0.3 cm long, broad, bifid. Fruit ovoid or ellipsoid,  $0.6-1.0 \times 0.6$  cm.

*Holotype*: Andaman Islands, North Baratang, 11.2.1915, C. E. Parkinson 302A (DD); *Isotype*: 302B (DD); *Paratype*: South Andamans; Chiriatapu, 20.1.1916, C. E. Parkinson 891 (DD, CAL).

*Fls. & Frts*: January to March.

*Distribution*: Andaman Islands (India).

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