

NEW CHROMOSOME REPORT

The paper relates to chromosome numbers of 15 species of Angiosperms belonging to different families (Table 1). The study was carried by making smears of pollen mother cells, or by preparing leaf or root-tip

squashes as in the case of *Mentha rotundifolia*, *Lantana wightiana* and *L. montevidensis*. Acetocarmine and propiono-carmine stains were employed.

TABLE I

No.	Names of the taxa.	Family	Chromosome No. n	No. 2n	Locality
1.	<i>Mahonia leschenaultii</i> Tak.	Berberidaceae	14		Ooty.
2.	<i>Memecylon capitellatum</i> L.	Melastomaceae	14		Bangalore.
3.	<i>Pterocarpus echinatus</i> Pers.	Papilionaceae	11		-do-
4.	<i>Cassia spectabilis</i> DC.	Caesalpinaceae	14		-do-
5.	<i>Sindora siamensis</i> Teysm. ex Miq.	-do-	12		Sibpur garden, Calcutta.
6.	<i>Trema orientalis</i> Blume	Urticaceae	18		Bangalore.
7.	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> Hassk.	Oleaceae	23		-do-
8.	<i>Datura inermis</i> Jacq.	Solanaceae	24		Japan.
9.	<i>Datura bertolonii</i> Parl.	-do-	12		-do-
10.	<i>Justicia simplex</i> D. Don	Acanthaceae	9		Lucknow.
11.	<i>Lantana montevidensis</i> Briq.	Verbenaceae		36	Coimbatore.
12.	<i>Lantana wightiana</i> Wall.	-do-		72	-do-
13.	<i>Mentha rotundifolia</i> Huds.	Labiatae		36	Poona.
14.	<i>Asphodelus tenuifolius</i> Cav.	Liliaceae	14		Lucknow.
15.	<i>Calanthe veratrifolia</i> R. Br.	Orchidaceae	20		Coimbatore.

Certain interesting features are noticed in the chromosome numbers of the taxa cited in the table. The chromosome number for the genus *Trema* is reported here for the first time (fig. 1). The somatic chromosome number for *Sindora supa* is recorded as 16 (Darlington and Wylie, 1955) but in the present species viz., *S. siamensis*, the haploid number is 12 (fig. 2). A new basic number ($x=9$) is established for the genus *Justicia* (fig. 3), the other basic numbers reported being 14 and 16 (Darlington and Wylie, *loc. cit.*; Narayanan, 1951).

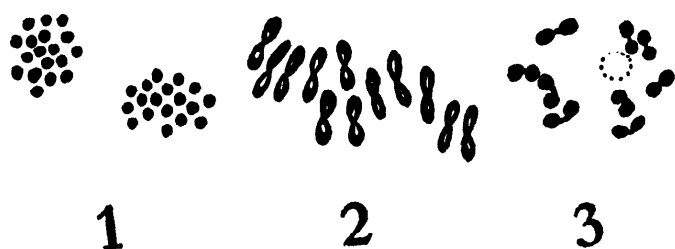


Fig. 1. *Trema orientalis* MII $\times 2300$; Fig. 2. *Sindora siamensis* MI $\times 2100$; Fig. 3. *Justicia simplex* Diakinensis $\times 1250$.

The previous chromosome counts for *Mentha rotundifolia* are $2n=18, 24$, and 54 (Darlington and Wylie, *loc.*

cit.) and in the present investigation a fourth chromosomal race with $2n=36$ was met with. On the basis of the chromosome number reported for *Memecylon aylmeri* ($2n=14$, Darlington and Wylie, *loc. cit.*), *M. capitellatum* with $n=14$, should be considered as a polyploid. *Datura inermis* with $n=24$ is a naturally occurring polyploid; the previous record for all the investigated species has been $2n=24$ except the induced tetraploid of *D. stramonium* (Darlington and Wylie, *loc. cit.*).

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