

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to Dr. S. K. Mukerjee, ex-Keeper, Central National Herbarium for kindly scrutinising the specimen and giving his valuable opinion. We also thank the Forest Dept., A. P. for all their help and co-operation and especially

Shri B. V. Somayajulu, Range Officer, Madugula for guiding and accompanying us to Kappakonda. We are thankful to Rev. Fr. Dr. Cecil J. Saldanha, S. J. for kindly correcting our Latin translation.

G. V. SUBBA RAO AND G. R. KUMARI  
*Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore*

## NEW CHROMOSOME REPORTS IN ANGIOSPERMS

TAXON	NUMBER	ORIGIN AND VOUCHER	TAXON	NUMBER	ORIGIN AND VOUCHER
ANNONACEAE			SCROPHULARIACEAE		
<i>Polyalthia suberosa</i> (Roxb.) Thw.	n=9	West Bengal : Panpur, Howrah, 2/8, 1966, Chatterjee 1736. CBLH.	<i>Russelia sarmentosa</i> Jacq.	n=10	West Bengal : Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, 4/12, 1969, Chatterjee 10772. CBLH.
BORAGINACEAE			STERCULIACEAE		
<i>Cordia aubletii</i> DC.	n=18	West Bengal : Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, 13/12, 1968, Chatterjee 10808. CBLH.	<i>Abroma augusta</i> (Linn.) Linn. f.	n=10	West Bengal : Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, 4/7, 1968, Chatterjee 10653. CBLH.
FABACEAE			<i>Melochia borbonica</i> Cav.	n=9	West Bengal : Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, 30/1, 1969, Chatterjee 10829. CBLH.
<i>Teramnus labialis</i> Spreng.	n=14	West Bengal : Garia, 24 Parganas, 14/11, 1969, Chatterjee 10758. CBLH.	TILIACEAE		
PORTULACACEAE			<i>Grewia abutifolia</i> Vent. ex Juss.	n=9	West Bengal : Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, 28/4, 1969, Chatterjee 10861. CBLH.
<i>Talinum calycinum</i> Engelm.	n=22	West Bengal : Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, 26/11, 1969, Chatterjee 10767. CBLH.			
RUBIACEAE					
<i>Morinda citrifolia</i> Linn.	n=22	West Bengal : Eden Garden, Calcutta, 4/8, 1969, Chatterjee 10713. CBLH.			

UTPAL CHATTERJEE  
*Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta*

## SOME INTERESTING PLANTS FROM UPPER GANGETIC PLAIN

During the course of an intensive botanical exploration of some areas in the Upper Gangetic Plain, the authors collected and studied the following plants which are new and noteworthy additions to the flora of the region. The tropical American species, *Desmodium neomexicanum* A. Gray, was collected from

Ambaji near Mount Abu and Ajmer, and constitutes a new record for the Upper Gangetic Plain. The species, *Dactyliandra welwitschii* Hook. f. and *Heliotropium curassavicum* Linn. are new to the flora of Delhi and have extended their range in the Upper Gangetic Plain. The specimens cited in this paper

are deposited in the Herbarium of Floristic Botany Division, National Botanic Gardens, Lucknow (LWG).

**Desmodium neomexicanum** A. Gray, Pl. Wright. 1 : 53, 1852; Schubert in Contrib. Gray Herb. 129 : 13, 1940; Standley & Steyermark in Fieldiana (Bot.) 24 : 232, 1946; Chavan *et al.* in Kew Bull. 17 : 265, 1963 (Papilionaceae).

The species is a native of tropical America and has been recently recorded from India by Chavan *et al.* (*loc. cit.*). It is hitherto known from Gujarat State only. Its collection from Ambaji, near Mount Abu and Ajmer by the authors extends the distributional range of the species further eastwards to Ajmer and is, therefore, a new record for the Upper Gangetic Plain. There is every probability that the species is found all along the Aravalli Range east of Ajmer, as the plant appears sporadically after rains on the semi-arid hills in thick forests and is generally seen on the slopes in the dense undergrowth.

*Flowers and fruits*: August to October.

*Herbarium specimens examined*: Happy Valley, Ajmer, restricted to shaded ground in thick forests, V. S. Sharma 540, Aug. 22, 1958 (LWG); Nag Pahar, Ajmer, on rocks in shade, V. S. Sharma 984, Aug. 23, 1959 (LWG); Punch Kund, Ajmer, in dense forests behind Forest Dak Bungalow, V. S. Sharma 1111, Sept. 13, 1959 (LWG); Ambaji, near Mount Abu, J. K. Maheshwari 5440, Sept. 28, 1964 (LWG).

**Dactyliandra welwitschii** Hook. f. in Fl. Trop. Afr. 2 : 557, 1871; Meeuse in Bothalia 8 : 10, 1962; Bhandari & Singh in Kew Bull. 19 : 133, 1964 (Cucurbitaceae).

The species is known from the dry areas of S. W. Africa and Angola (Jeffrey, 1965). Bhandari and Singh (*loc. cit.*) reported this taxon for the first time from India, based on their own collections from the Indian Desert as well as on the gatherings of V. S. Sharma from Ajmer and of Irani from Kutch, thus recording its distribution in the country from Kutch (Gujarat State) to western Rajasthan up to Ajmer region. In September 1969, the species was again collected by one of us from Tonk, Rajasthan. The field observations made by the authors during the last few years have, however, revealed that the distribution of *Dactyliandra welwitschii* Hook. f., though much less common than its allied species, *Ctenolepis cerasiformis* (Stocks) Hook. f. (syn. *Blastania fimbripulata* Kotschy & Peyr.), is continuous throughout

the sandy parts of eastern Rajasthan too, and is seen to extend as far as up to Delhi Ridge. Since *Dactyliandra welwitschii* and *Ctenolepis cerasiformis* are often found to grow together and appear very similar in the field, they are easily mistaken for each other. However, they can be readily distinguished by the marked dissimilarity in the shape of their seeds, besides other external characters of comparative value (Bhandari & Singh, *loc. cit.*).

*Flowers and fruits*: August to November.

*Herbarium specimens examined*: Ajmer District, between Beawar & Saradhana, climbing over *Acacia senegal*, *Capparis decidua*, *Euphorbia caducifolia*, etc. in open scrubs, V. S. Sharma 1794, Aug. 31, 1961 (LWG); on way from Nand to Pushkar, Ajmer District, in stabilised sand dune scrub jungles, V. S. Sharma 1892, Aug. 30, 1962 (LWG); Sonha, near Delhi, J. K. Maheshwari 5393, Sept. 6, 1964 (LWG); Tonk, Rajasthan, J. K. Maheshwari 52926 (LWG).

**Heliotropium curassavicum** Linn. Sp. Pl. 130, 1753; Wright in Dyer, Fl. Cap. 4, 2 : 7, 1904; Britton & Millsp. Bahama Fl. 362, 1920; Hingorani & Gaur in Indian For. 91 : 293, 1965; Burt in Notes Roy. Bot. Gdn. Edinburgh 26 : 357, 1965; Curtis' Bot. Mag. t. 2669; Hilliard & Burt in Notes Roy. Bot. Gdn. Edinburgh 30 : 115, 1970 (Boraginaceae).

The species is a native of sandy shores and salt marshes in West Indies and tropical America, but has now spread throughout the tropical and subtropical coasts of both hemispheres. It has long been known from far inland in South Africa and occurs in the Orange Free State and Southern Transvaal (Hilliard & Burt, 1970). Burt (1965) recorded its inland occurrence in Asia from the Peshawar district of north-west Pakistan, where it is well established on low-lying ground near the Kabul river. In India, it is a well established species in South India and was recorded as early as 1923 by Gamble in the Flora of the Presidency of Madras. Nair and Nair (1964) reported the species from Sonepat in Punjab plains. Recently, Hingorani and Gaur (1965) reported its occurrence in Kuchaman (Nagaur District, Rajasthan) which is as far as 590 km from the nearest sea-coast. The present authors had collected this interesting species from Ajmer District and along the banks of Jumna river, Delhi, where it inhabits saline or alkaline margins of fresh water ponds, ditches, etc. The inland occurrence of the species in Delhi shows its potentiality to become a weed of saline grounds on the mainland.

*Flowers and fruits:* April to September.

*Herbarium specimens examined:* Pushkar-Merta Road, between the villages Kothi & Talora, Ajmer District, V. S. Sharma 1891, Aug. 30, 1962 (LWG).

J. K. MAHESHWARI AND V. S. SHARMA  
National Botanic Gardens, Lucknow

#### REFERENCES

- BHANDARI, M. M. AND DALBIR SINGH. *Dactyliandra* (Hook. f.) Hook f. : a Cucurbitaceous genus new to the Indian flora. *Kew Bull.* 19 : 133-138, 1964.
- BURTT, B. L. Inland occurrences of *Heliotropium curassavicum*. *Notes Roy. Bot. Gdn. Edinburgh* 26 : 357, 1965.
- CHAVAN, A. R., S. D. SABNIS AND S. J. BEDI. *Desmodium neomexicanum* A Gray (Leguminosae) from India. *Kew Bull.* 17 : 265-266, 1963.
- GAMBLE, J. S. *Flora of the Presidency of Madras. Part V*, London, 1923.
- HILLIARD, O. M. AND B. L. BURTT. Notes on some plants of Southern Africa chiefly from Natal : I. *Notes Roy. Bot. Gdn. Edinburgh* 30 : 109-128, 1970.
- HINGORANI, G. R. AND R. C. GAUR. A short note on the occurrence of *Heliotropium curassavicum* Linn. in Rajasthan. *Indian For.* 91 : 293, 1965.
- JEFFREY, C. Further notes on Cucurbitaceae. *Kew Bull.* 19 : 215-223, 1965.
- NAIR, N. C. AND V. J. NAIR. Some new records for the Punjab Plains II. *Bull. bot. Surv. India* 6 : 69-71, 1964.