

Abutilon indicum (Linn.) Sweet ssp. *albescens* (Miq.) Borss. var. *australiense* Hochr.

Figs. 1-7: 1. A branch. 2. Calyx split open showing dorsal side. 3. Petal. 4. Androecium. 5. Gynoecium. 6. Mericarp. 7. Seed.

Flowers axillary, solitary. *Pedicels* 2-8 cm long, accrescent, jointed near the apex, covered with stellate and simple hairs. *Involucral bracts* absent.

Calyx 1.5-2 cm long, campanulate, velutinous by minute stellate hairs outside, densely tomentose within, 5-parted; segments 1-1.5 cm long, narrowly ovate, acute or acuminate; tube very short, slightly inflated. *Petals* $\pm 2 \times 1.7$ cm, yellow, adnate below the staminal tube, broadly obovate, truncate, obtuse or emarginate. *Staminal tube* ± 7 mm long, conical at base with stellate hairs; upper part tubular, glabrous; stamens many, free above, filaments ± 6 mm long, anthers monothecous. *Ovary* ± 4 mm in diam., depressed globose, stellate hairy; carpels 15-19; ovules 2 or more in each cell; styles as many as carpels, free above, united to form a column to half the length at the base, styler column ± 4 mm long; stigma capitate. *Schizocarps* $\pm 1 \times 2$ cm, depressed globose, indented at apex; mericarps 15-19, flat, reniform from side, long acute at apex, dorsally tomentose by stellate hairs. *Seeds* $\pm 2.5 \times 2$ mm, two or more in each mericarp, reniform, covered with stellate hairs (Figs. 1-7).

Specimens examined: ANDHRA PRADESH: Nalconda Dt., Nagarjunasagar, Krishna river bank, 16 Dec. 1959, *Sebastine* 9803 (MH).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author is highly grateful to Dr. J. van Borssum Waalkes, Hortus De Wolf, Holland for confirming the identity of the specimen and for valuable comments.

M. CHANDRABOSE
Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore

A NEW *OPHIORRHIZA* LINN. (RUBIACEAE) FROM SOUTH INDIA

Ophiorrhiza tirunelvelica Henry & Subr. sp. nov.

Herba ramosa, caulibus decumbentibus, ad basim nonnihil lignosis, tenuibus, minute ferrugineo-puberulis. Folia ad 8.4×3.2 cm, linearis-lanceata vel elliptico-lanceata, membranacea, supra glabra, infra glauca, ad nervos aliquantum puberula, breviter ad apicem acuminata, ad basim angusta; petioli ad 2.4 cm longi, minute ferrugineo-puberuli; stipulae interpetiolares, deciduae. Flores in inflorescentias cymas, terminales vel axillares dispositi; pedunculus ad 5 cm longus, tenuis. Calycis lobi 5, minores, persistentes. Corolla alba, tubulosa,

ad faucem dense pilosa; tubus 5-6 mm longus; lobi 5, $3-4 \times 1$ mm, ovato-oblongi, acuti vel acuminati, recurvi. Stamina 5, ad corollae tubum inserta, inclusa; filamentis gracilibus; antheris linearibus. Dicus glandulosus, lobi 2, majoribus. Ovarium 2-loculare, ovulis numerosis, placenta basalia, ascendente; stylus filiformis; stigma 2, planum. Capsula $2-3 \times 4-5$ mm, obcordata, compressa, coriacea, puberula. Semina minuta, angularis.

Typus *Henry* 17419A et isotypi *Henry* 17419B-F lecti ad Godaiyar, dist. Tirunelveli in statu Tamil

Nadu, die 2-9-1963; typus positus in CAL, isotypi in MH; paratype *Henry* 17422A-F lecti eodem in loco, positi in MH.

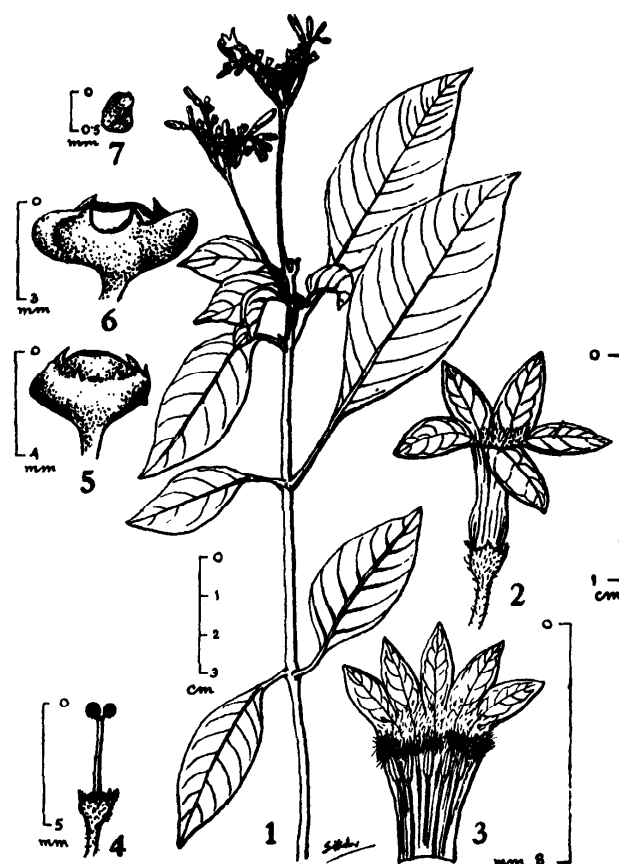
Much-branched, decumbent herbs, somewhat woody at base; stems slender, minutely rusty-puberulous. Leaves up to 8.4×3.2 cm, linear-lanceate to elliptic-lanceate, membranous, glabrous above, glaucous beneath (nerves somewhat puberulous), shortly acuminate at apex, narrowed at base; petioles up to 2.4 cm long, minutely rusty-puberulous; stipules interpetiolar, caducous. Flowers secund on branches of axillary or terminal, solitary, rusty-puberulous cymes; peduncles up to 5 cm long, slender. Calyx-lobes 5, small, persistent. Corolla white, tubular, throat densely hairy; tube 5-6 mm long; lobes 5, each $3-4 \times 1$ mm, ovate-oblong, acute or shortly acuminate, recurved. Stamens 5, inserted on corolla-tube, included; filaments slender; anthers linear. Disc epigynous, glandular, of 2 large lobes. Ovary 2-celled; ovules many on basal ascending placentas; style filiform; stigmas 2, flattened. Capsules $2-3 \times 4-5$ mm, obcordate, compressed, coriaceous, puberulous, girt by calyx-limb. Seeds minute, angled. (Figs. 1-7)

The holotype *Henry* 17419A (CAL), isotypes *Henry* 17419B-F (MH) and paratypes *Henry* 17422A-F (MH) were collected near Upper Godaiyar in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, on 2-9-1963.

This species is probably allied to the Malayan *Ophiorrhiza rosacea* Ridley. Our specimens could not be matched with any of the *Ophiorrhiza* species as represented in MH, CAL, LE and K.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England and Dr. I. T. Vassilzenko, Curator of the Herbarium, Komarov Botanical Institute, Leningrad, U.S.S.R., for providing



Ophiorrhiza tirunelvelica Henry & Subr.

Figs. 1-7: 1. Flowering branch. 2. Flower. 3. Corolla split opened. 4. Gynoecium. 5 & 6. Fruits. 7. Seed.

facilities to examine the specimens of *Ophiorrhiza* as represented in their herbaria. We are also indebted to Dr. D. B. Deb for his valuable opinion on our specimens, and to Dr. M. P. Nayar for the latin rendering of the description.

A. N. HENRY AND K. SUBRAMANYAM
Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta

[*BULBOPHYLLUM PILULIFERUM* KING & PANTL.—A NEW RECORD FOR ASSAM

In one of the numerous floristic explorations, in the evergreen forests near Jowai, in Jaintia Hills, Assam, during May, 1965, an abundant epiphytic orchid, with inconspicuous flowers growing on trunks of *Quercus* and *Cinnamomum*, was collected and on subsequent detailed analysis was found to be

Bulbophyllum piluliferum King & Pantl., a species first described from Sikkim on a single specimen and hitherto unknown from Assam. Hence, this is the first record for Assam and a second locality for the species. A search in Central National Herbarium revealed two earlier collections from Jaintia Hills.