

THE GENUS *CRUPINA*—AN ADDITION TO INDIAN COMPOSITAE

During a survey of Kashmir flora, I came across a species of family Compositae which is not reported in the existing floristic records of India. The species was identified as *Crupina vulgaris* Cass. by the authorities of Central National Herbarium, Sibpur. This interesting taxon seems to be a recent introduction in Kashmir forests as it is also reported to occur in some dry grassy hills of South-east European countries. The genus comprises of about 3 species and is not so far reported from Indian sub-continent.

The description based on the specimens collected from Chishma Shahi forests in Kashmir is given hereunder. The specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of Regional Research Laboratory (Br.), Srinagar-5, Kashmir.

***Crupina vulgaris*** Cass. Dict. Sc. nat. 12: 68. 1818; Polunin in Fls. Europe 460. 1969.

Annual herbs. Stem 50-80 cm, erect, slender, branched, narrowly grooved and gla-

brous. Leaves sessile, alternate, pinnately cut into narrow linear upto 5 cm long sparsely toothed segments, teeth sharp; lowermost segments the smallest. Flower heads narrowly cylindrical upto 3 cm long in apical, branched, leafless cymes with 25 disc florets. Involucral bracts many-seriate, outermost smaller, 0.4-1.7 cm long, fine tipped, smooth, 3-7 veined, papery and regularly overlapping. Disc florets protruding out of the involucral bracts, corolla tube deeply 5-segmented, stamens syngensis forming a tube round the style which is concealed within. Receptacle with long hairs. Achenes elongated 3-4 mm long, somewhat pointed near the base, deep brown, pappus brownish as long or longer than the achene.

*Flowering and Fruiting*: May-July.

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## FIVE UNREPORTED ORCHIDS FROM NORTHERN DISTRICTS OF W. BENGAL

5 species of epiphytic orchids gathered in a general botanical collection in Jalpaiguri & Darjeeling districts of West Bengal during March-April, 1973 and October-November, 1976, proved to be new records. A search in the large collections of the Central National Herbarium revealed none of these from W. Bengal. Neither K. M. Matthew in his preliminary list of plants from Kurseong [Bull. bot. Surv. India 8(2): 158-168. 1966], nor S. K. Mukerjee in his

Orchids of the plains of North Bengal [*Ibid* 14 (1-4): 92-103. 1972] have included these. Excepting for *Panisea uniflora* which is known from Sikkim and the Khasi Hills in Meghalaya and *Eria stricta* in Eastern Himalaya, Khasi and Naga Hills, the others have a hitherto known general distribution range in the subtropical Western and Eastern Himalayas, and in some of the mountainous areas of the North-Eastern Region (former ASSAM), particularly Khasi Hills, Meghalaya and Naga Hills, Nagaland. Accordingly, these are now reported,

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with relevant notes. The specimens are in CAL & BSIS.

#### JALPAIGURI DISTRICT

**Bulbophyllum affine** Lindl. Gen. Sp. Orch. 48. 1830.

Pseudobulbs oblong cylindrical; rhizome stout; leaves 1 oblong, obtuse; flowers solitary, white, with red streaks.

Tondu forest, 12 km from Sulkapara, 15. 3. 1973, *B. Krishna* 243.

#### DARJEELING DISTRICT

**Bulbophyllum odoratissimum** Lindl. Gen. Sp. Orch. 55. 1830.

Pseudobulbs subcylindric; rhizome slender; leaves 1 short, obtuse, notched; flowers fragrant, yellow, in a globose head, atop a scape lateral to and about as long as the leaf.

Bhanjang forest, 17. 10. 1976, *B. Krishna* 2096.

**Cymbidium giganteum** Lindl. Gen. Sp. Orch. 163. 1833.

Pseudobulbs large, ovoid, sheathed with leaf-bases; leaves several, long, traplike; scape stout, several-flowered, arched; flowers large, brownish, with ciliate, purple-blotched, yellow lip.

Bhanjang forest, 17. 10. 1976, *B. Krishna* 2109.

**Eria stricta** Lindl. Coll. Bot. t. 41B. 1821.

Pseudobulbs cylindric; leaves 2, ovate, acute; spikes secund; flowers small, white, woolly.

Latpancher, 23. 3. 1973, *B. Krishna* 352.

**Panisa uniflora** (Lindl.) Lindl. Fol. Orch. 2. 1854.

Pseudobulbs small, ovoid, sheathed, crowded, scape short 1-2 flowered; flowers, creamy; lip with 2 small brown blotches.

Andheri jhora, 23. 3. 1973, *B. Krishna* 343.

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#### NOTES ON RARE PLANTS FROM KHASI HILLS, MEGHALAYA

During a recent collection trip to Khasi Hills Distt., Meghalaya, the authors have collected two plants which on scrutiny are found to be rare and interesting, and are represented by only a few herbarium specimens collected about 100 years back. Considering their rarity the detailed descriptions with illustrations based on living as well as herbarium materials are given. The

specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of the Botanical Survey of India, Shillong.

**Salvia saxicola** Wall. ex Benth. in Wall. Pl. Rar. i, 68, 1830; J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. Ind. 4: 655, 1885; Kanjilal *et al.* Fl. Assam, 3: 518, 1939; *S. saxicola* Wall. Cat. 2147, 1828.

Small herbs. Rootstock woody. Leaves 3.5-4.7 × 4-5 cm, radical, ovate, oblong or rounded, cordate, coarsely crenate margins, lower surface hirsute along the veins and