

A NEW SPECIES OF SAXIFRAGA FROM TIBET

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Saxifraga nayarii Wadhwa *sp. nov.* ad sectionem *Hirculum* (Haw.) Tausch. pertinens, ex affinitate *Saxifraga kingdonii* Marquand et *S. latiflorae* Hook. f. & Thoms., sed ab illa foliis inferioribus lanceolatis, brevipetiolatis, superioribus omnibus ellipticis, floribus magnis usque 2.4 cm diametro, petalis suborbicularibus differt, ab hac habitu caespitoso, floribus semper solitariis, magnitudine formaque foliorum corollaeque diversa distat, utraque planta magna et caule inferne fuscopiloso distincta.

Planta caespitosa ; radices densae. Caulis adscendens, simplex, 20-28 cm altus, pilis fuscis inferne sparse, superne densius obtectus. Folia inferiores lanceolata in petiolum brevem attenuata, 1-1.75 cm longa, 0.3-0.4 cm lata, pilis fuscis in nervis marginibusque magis conspicuis obtecta, superiora sessilia, omnia elliptica non orbiculata, subdecurrentia, 2.7-2.9 cm longa, 1.1-1.3 cm lata, superne fusca, subtus pallide viridia, apice acuta, pilis glanduliferis minutis fuscis in nervis marginibusque magis conspicuis obtecta. Flores terminales, solitarii, magni usque 2.4 cm diametro. Pedunculus 1.5-2.0 cm longus, pilis glandulosis obtectus. Lobi calycis ovati, 5-8 mm longi, 4-6 mm lati, acuti, 8-9-nervi, extus pilis minutis glanduliferis fuscis praesertim in nervis marginibusque obtecti. Corolla flava, croceo-punctata ; petala suborbicularia, 7-10 mm longa, 6-8.5 mm lata, septinervia, non unguiculata. Stamina quampetala fere triens breviora ; filamenta subulata, glabra ; antheyae reniformes. Ovarium subglobosum, ± 7 mm latum ; styli parvi ; stigma capitatum. Capsula matura

non visa.

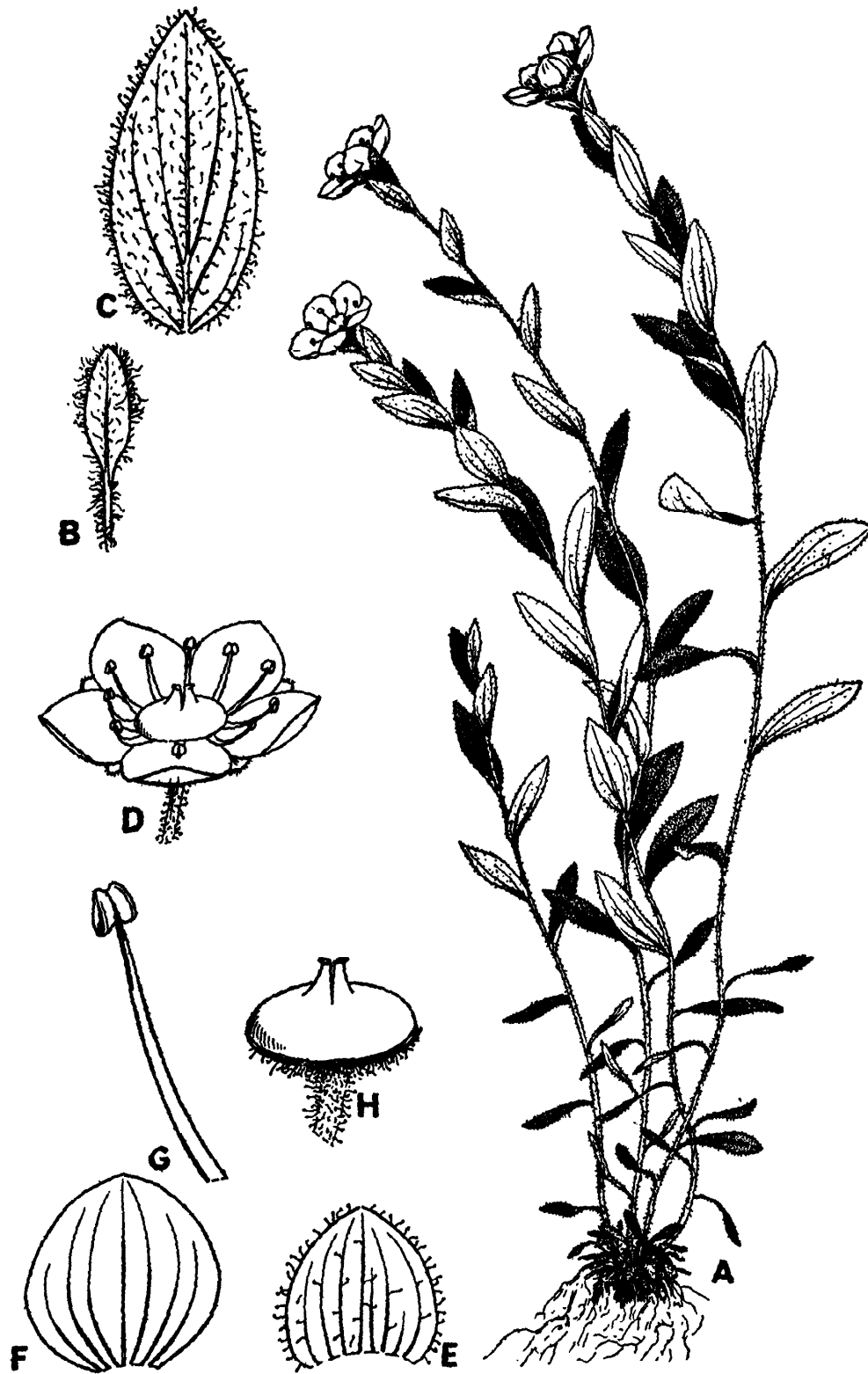
S. E. TIBET : Nyima La, Kongbo, 4270 m ; calyx green, corolla yellow, spotted orange, on rocks ; 27 August, 1947, *F. Ludlow, G. Sherriff & H. H. Elliot* 14447 (Holotypus BM, Isotypus UPS) ; Rip La, 4575 m ; flowers orange, on cliffs, rocks and turf slopes ; 12 September 1935, *F. Kingdon-Ward*, 12336 (BM & UPS) ; valley of the Seinghku—28°10'N, 97°20'E, 3965-4270 m ; flowers orange with a few reddish-orange spots at the base, in moss on bare rock slabs ; 9 October 1926, *F. Kingdon-Ward* 7567 *p.p.*—marked as A only—(K).

This belongs to section *Hirculus* (Haw.) Tausch. and is related to *Saxifraga kingdonii* Marquand and *S. latiflora* Hook. f. & Thoms., but differs from the former in lower leaves lanceolate, shortly petiolate, upper leaves always elliptic, flowers large up to 2.4 cm in diameter, petals suborbicular and from the latter in caespitose habit, flowers always solitary, shape and the size of the leaves and corolla and from both the species in large plants and stem with brown hairs in the lower part.

This taxon has been named after Dr. M. P. Nayar, Director, Botanical Survey of India, for his contribution to the Indian Botany.

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Saxifraga nayarii Wadhwa sp. nov.

Figs. A-H : A. Habit $\times 1.35$. B. Lower leaf $\times 3.40$. C. Upper leaf $\times 3.40$. D. Flower $\times 3.40$. E. Sepal $\times 5.60$. F. Petal $\times 5.60$. G. Stamen $\times 13.50$. H. Ovary $\times 6.75$. [Drawn from the type by Miss Eleanor Catharine].