

Seidenfäden, Denmark). The comparative studies of both the species along with the fresh collection from Manipur (Baishya, 1981) revealed their conspecificity. The present report thus records the genus *Dickasonia* Williams from India for the first time. Therefore, a detailed description is provided here to help in its further discovery in the country.

Dickasonia vernicosa Williams in Bot. Mus.

Leaflet. Harv. Univ. 9, 2 : 37-40. 1941.

Kalimpongia narajitii Pradhan in Orchid

Digest 41 (5) : 171-174. 1977, *Syn. nov.*

Habit of *Panisea* L. Small epiphyte, 7-15 cm high. *Pseudobulbs* 1-3 cm long, ellipsoid, clustered on a slender creeping rhizome, 1-leaved, rarely 2-leaved (type). *Leaves* plaited, elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, narrowed to a short petiole, 3-12 × 0.5-2.5 cm, margins undulate. *Scape* lateral, from the base of the pseudobulbs, erect or drooping; *raceme* 2-7-flowered. *Flowers* snow-white, small, usually unilateral (type); *sepals* broader than the petals, 3-5-nerved, *dorsal sepal*

10-14 × 3-3.5 mm, *laterals* keeled, 11-14 × 3-3.5 mm; *petals* 0.9-1.1 × 2.5-3 mm, 3-nerved; *lip* entire, simple, sessile, obovate, obtuse, apiculate, margins finely erose, united with the column almost up to its apex, 8-10 × 2.5-5 mm, 5-nerved, deflexed; *column* 3-4 mm long, erect, shortly spurred, broader and winged at apex; *anther cap* almost orbicular, 2-celled; *pollinia* 4, 2 in each cell, yellow, caudicle attached to a formed semilunar gland (viscid mass). *Capsule* 6-ridged, 2 cm long with stalk.

Flowering : March-April.

Distribution : BURMA : Kyanksit chaung; Chin Hill District and Haka (Type in Herb. Ames No. 57363). INDIA : Hengshi Village and Ukhrul, Manipur.

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REFERENCES

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PRADHAN, U. C. A new monotypic genus from India in *Orchid Digest*. 1977.

ENDEMIC SPECIES OF *OPHIORRHIZA* L. (RUBIACEAE) FROM EASTERN INDIA

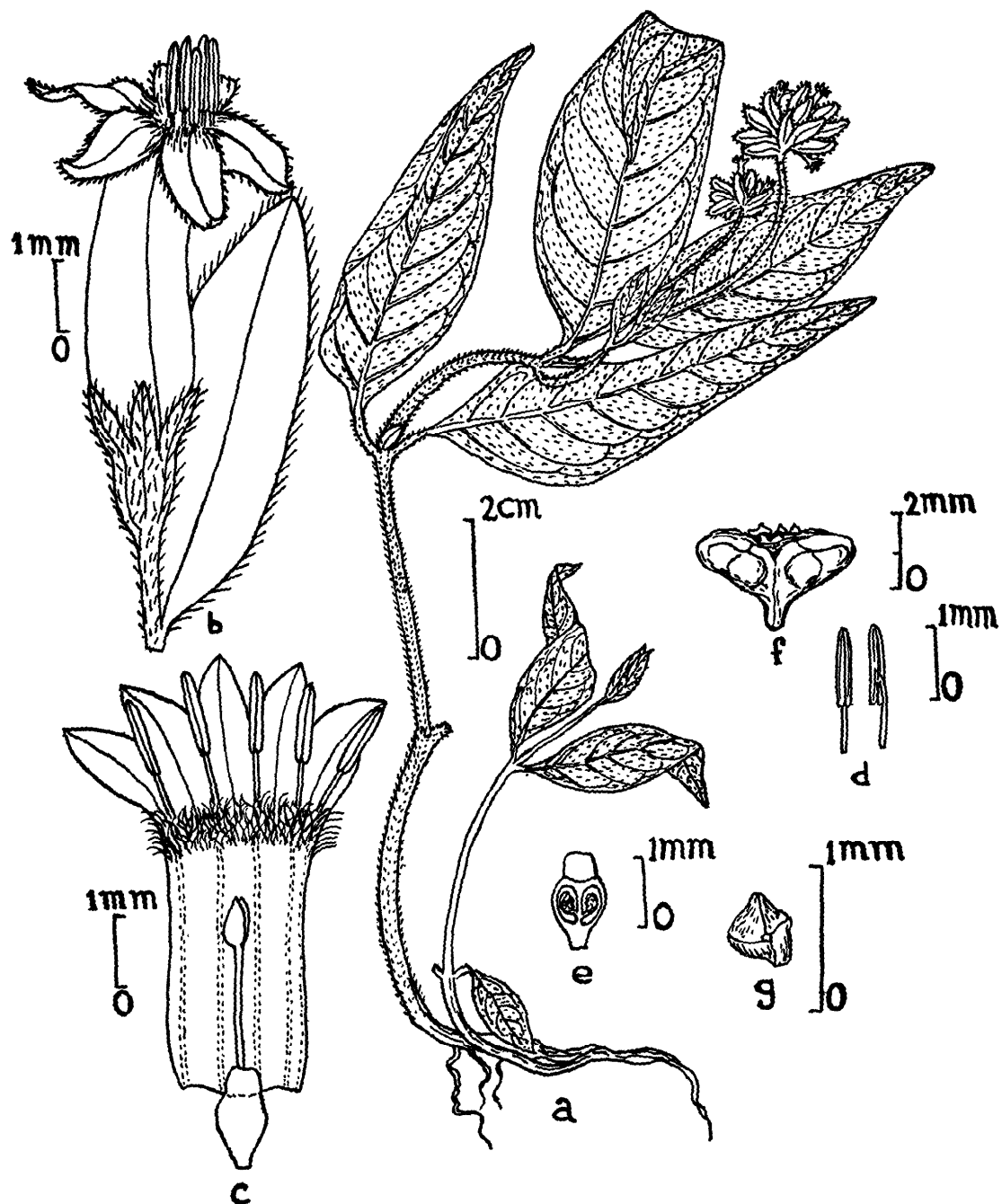
In course of taxonomic revision of the genus *Ophiorrhiza* L. (Rubiaceae) in India, status of different species regarding endemism, distribution, frequency of collection etc. have come to light. The present note describes two such endemic species which are represented in the herbaria by few collections and deserve attention.

Ophiorrhiza subcapitata Wall. ex Hook. f.

Fl. Brit. Ind. 3 : 83. 1880; Kanjilal et al. Fl. Assam 3 : 42. 1939; Balakrishnan, Fl. Jowai 1 : 248. 1981 (Figs. a-g).

This species was originally collected by W. Gomez residing at Sylhet and most pro-

bably from Meghalaya in 1819. Wallich's (Cat. 6238) citation of locality as Sylhet is erroneous, as it is found in Meghalaya, and not in Sylhet. The second collection was made by J. D. Hooker & T. Thomson in Aug. 1850 from the Khasi Hills, 900-1200 m, the exact locality not being mentioned and the third by R. K. Das (34956 ! CAL) in June 1911 from Mausmai, Khasi Hills. After a lapse of about forty years it was collected from Pynursla, 1200 m in August 1949 by W. N. Koelz (23421 ! L). The last collection was made by Balakrishnan (42550 ! CAL) in May 1965 from Jowai. It is evident from the history of exploration

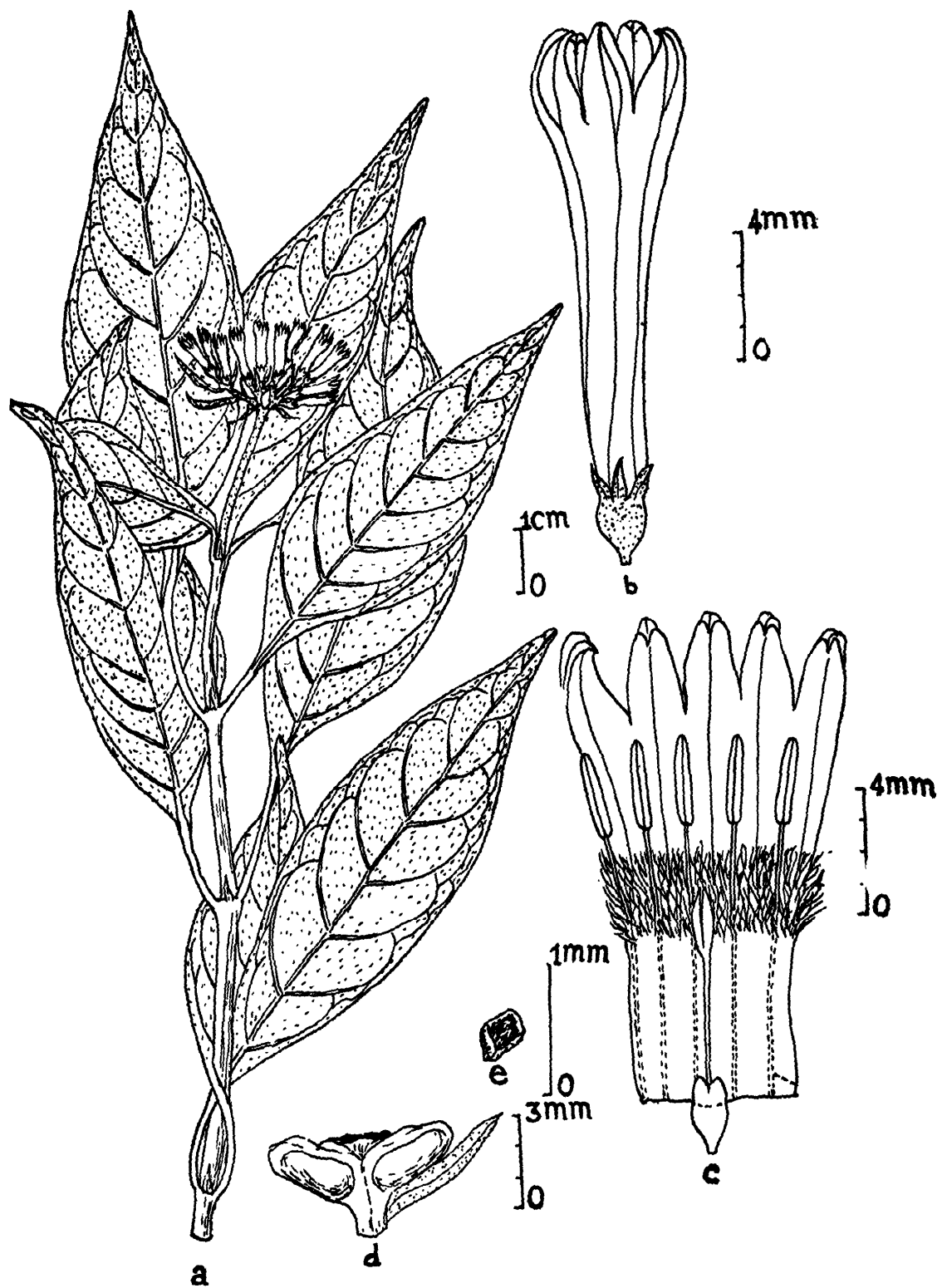


Ophiorrhiza subcapitata Wall. ex Hook. f.

Figs. a-g : a. habit. b. flower. c. flower split open. d. stamens. e. l. s. of ovary. f. fruit. g. seed.

stated above that this species is endemic to Khasi and Jaintia Hills, but scattered and rare in occurrence, being collected only five times in course of about 160 years.

It is a herb, 15-30 cm in height, with ascending, branched, hirsute stem. Leaves 3.5-15 × 1.5-5 cm, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, with 5-14 lateral nerves on either



Ophiorrhiza wattii Fischer

Figs. a-e: a. habit. b. flower. c. flower split open. d. fruit. e. seed.

side ; stipules 5-7 mm long, ovate, acuminate, entire, hirsute at midrib and margin. Inflorescence terminal, subcapitate, hirsute cyme. Flowers epigynous, 5-7 mm long, white or pale green, concealed by 5.5-9 × 2-3.5 mm, lanceolate, obtuse, pinkish (on drying), ciliate bracts and bracteoles. Corolla 4-6 mm long, infundibuliform, glabrous, lobes 5, spreading, ovate-lanceolate, hirsute at back. Stamens 5 attached at the throat of corolla. Style half the length of the corolla. Capsules 1.5-1.75 × 4-4.75 mm, obcordate, compressed, glabrous.

Fls. & Frts. : May-October.

Distribution : Khasi and Jowai Hills.

Ophiorrhiza wattii C.E.C. Fischer in Kew Bull. 1940 (1) : 34. 1940 (Figs. a-e).

This species was collected first as early as 1837 by W. Griffith (CAL) from the Khasi Hills, and then by G. Watt (6350 ! K, CAL, BSIS) from Sriohipur, 1500 m, Manipur in April 1882. The third collection was made by N. L. Bor (6750 ! K) from Shiloijopi, Naga Hill, 2500 m, in Sept. 1935. G. Gallatly also collected it from Khasi Hills. The last collection was made by W. N. Koelz (27034 ! L) in December 1950 from

Sungtum, Manipur. After that it has not been collected by anybody even though it appears to be distributed from Khasi Hills to Manipur and Naga Land.

Herbs 10-35 cm long, erect, woody at base, glabrous. Leaves 6-16.5 × 2.4-4.5 cm elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, with 9-12 lateral nerves on either side ; stipules minute, linear-lanceolate, entire, early deciduous. Inflorescence terminal corymbose, cymes, puberulous. Flowers epigynous, 13-15 mm long, white ; bracts and bracteoles similar, 4-14 mm long, linear, puberulous, persistent. Calyx lobes 1.25-2 × 0.2-0.25 mm ensiform or linear, acute, puberulous. Corolla narrowly infundibuliform with broadly ovate-oblong, shortly recurved, keeled lobes. Stamens adnate to the middle of corolla tube ; styles one-fourth of the length of corolla. Capsules 2-2.5 × 5-7 mm, obcordate, compressed puberulous.

Fl. : April to August. *Fr.* : Aug. to Dec.

Distribution : Meghalaya to Manipur and Naga Land.

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DALECHAMPIA SCANDENS L. VAR. *CORDOFANA* (HOCHST. EX WEBB) MUELL.-ARG. — A NEW RECORD FROM RAJASTHAN

While working on the flora of Jalor and Pali districts of Rajasthan, the authors came across *Dalechampia scandens* L. var. *cordofana* (Hochst. ex Webb) Muell.-Arg. which on scrutiny of literature turned out to be a new record from Rajasthan and also for the Flora of Upper Gangetic Plains (Duthie, 1903-1929).

This taxon has so far been reported from Gujarat State in India viz. Broach to Cutch (Shah, 1978) and Cutch and Kathiawar

(Chavan, *et al.* 1962). It is wide spread in north-eastern, central and southern tropical Africa and Arabia.

A short description with citations of the species is given below. The specimens collected are deposited in BSJO and CAL.

Dalechampia scandens L. Sp. Pl. 1054. 1753. var. **cordofana** (Hochst. ex Webb) Muell.-Arg. in DC. Prodr. 15, 2 : 1245. 1866 ; Andrews, Fl. A-E. Sud. 2 : 61. f. 22. 1951 ;