

**COLURA ACUTIFOLIA AST (HEPATICAE) - NEW TO
INDIAN BRYOFLOTA**

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The genus *Colura* Dum. is represented by four species in Indian bryoflora, viz., *Colura calyptrifolia* (Hook.) Dum., *C. tenuicornis* (Evans) Steph., *C. ari* Steph. (Lal, 1977, 1980) and *C. acroloba* (Mont.) Ast (Udar & Awasthi, 1985). The first two species are known from the Eastern Himalaya, while the last two species have been recorded from the Andamans only. The present communication reports one more species of this rare genus from Arunachal Pradesh, Eastern Himalaya. The species is identified as *Colura acutifolia* Ast, previously known from Borneo and Sumatra only. It occurs epiphyllously on palm leaves in humid and shady places of Doimukh forest area in Papam Pare district (Lower Subansiri) of the state.

Colura acutifolia Ast in Rev. Bryol. Lichenol. 22 : 281. 1953. *Colura javanica* sensu K.I. Goebel in Ann. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg 39. 1928. t. 3, 20 & 12 t.1. 1928 (non Steph., 1916).

Epiphyllous. Plants 10-12 mm long. Leaves c. 1.5 mm long; lobes spreading with 8 teeth formed of a single or 2-4 cells; lobules form a conical sac; terminal part triangular formed of 3 or sometimes 5-8 cells; sometimes sac ends in a bilobed structure, sac guarded by a valvular closing apparatus, the clapet; clapet c. $100 \times 70 \mu\text{m}$ formed of 32 cells (14 central & 18 peripheral), on the median part there is a single median basal cell; hayline papilla present; margin cells of the lobe $40-55 \times 22-28 \mu\text{m}$; middle cells thin-walled, trigones and intermediate thickenings prominent. Amphigastria distant, bilobed; lobes entire, 0.35 mm long, 4-celled at base; disc at the base of amphigastria present. Fertile plants not seen.

Ecology : Grows epiphyllously on palm leaves in humid and shady places. Rare.

Earlier records : Borneo, Sumatra.

Specimen examined : Arunachal Pradesh : Papam Pare district, Itanagar : Doimukh forest area, 50-100 m, epiphyllous on palm leaves, 10-4-1990, J. Lal 440 (ARUN; BSA - Bryo.).

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