

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE FLORA OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The floristic account of 55 taxa belonging to 44 genera under 29 families hitherto not reported from Solapur district of Maharashtra are enumerated here of which 2 taxa are endemic to India. Nine photographs are also provided for field identification.

Keywords: Flora, Solapur, Maharashtra, Additions

INTRODUCTION

Solapur is one of the 35 districts of Maharashtra having an area of about 14844.6 sq.km. It lies between the latitudes 17° 10' - 18° 32' N and longitudes 74° 42' - 76° 15' E. The district has 11 Talukas and is surrounded by Ahmednagar and Osmanabad districts in the north, Osmanabad and Gulbarga (Karnataka State) in the east, Sangli and Bijapur (Karnataka State) in the south and Pune and Satara districts in the west. The temperature varies between 46°C-9°C with an average annual rainfall of about 545.4 mm.

During floristic survey in and around Ujani wetland (lying on the border of Solapur, Ahmednagar and Pune districts of Maharashtra), large number of plant specimens were collected from Solapur district and identified. Of these 55 taxa turned out to be new distributional records for the district. These are not recorded by Sharma & al., (1996); Singh & Karthikeyan, (2000); Singh & al., (2001) and Almeida, (1996-2003) from the district.

These taxa are arranged alphabetically under their respective families which are arranged as per Bentham & Hooker system (1862-1883). The specimens are deposited in the Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Western Regional Centre, Pune (BSI).

SYSTEMATIC ENUMERATION

CLEOMACEAE

Cleome felina L.f., Suppl. Pl. 300. 1782.

Ujanigaon, S. K. Das Das 179520.

Note : It is endemic to Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamilnadu Pondicherry.

TILIACEAE

Corchorus deccanensis H.B. Singh & Viswan. in Taxon 39: 341. 1990. *C. velutinus* Pardeshi in Indian Bot. Repr. 1: 63, f.1.1982 *non wild* 1957.

Chikalthan, S. K. Das Das 187009.

GERANIACEAE

Monsonia senegalensis Guill. & Perr., Fl. Seneg. Tent. 1: 131.1831.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 180996.

LEGUMINOSAE : PAPILIONOIDEAE

Alysicarpus vaginalis (L.) DC., var. **stocksii** Baker in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 158. 1876.

Wangi (No. 3), S. K. Das Das 179501.

Note : It is endemic to Maharashtra and Gujarat.



Plate 1. A. *Cleome felina* L.f; B. *Nechamandra alternifolia* (Roxb.) Thwaites; C. *Alternanthera philoxeroides* (Mart.) Griseb; D. *Ceratophyllum demersum* L.; E. *Ottelia alismoides* (L) Pers.; F. *Ludwigia adscendens* (L.) H. Hara; G. *Spirodela polyrhiza* (L) Schleid; H. *Cyperus alopecuroides* Rottb.; I. *Pennisetum polystachion* (L.) Schult.

Indigofera coerulea Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. Carey, 3: 377. 1832.

Chikalthan, S. K. Das Das 187006.

LEGUMINOSAE : CAESALPINIOIDEAE

Senna uniflora (Mill.) H.S. Irwin & Barneby in Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 35(1): 258. 1982; *Cassia uniflora* Mill., Gard. Dict. ed. 8, no. 5. 1768, non Spreng. 1820.

Dahigaon, S. K. Das Das 182068A.

LEGUMINOSAE : MIMOSOIDEAE

Prosopis juliflora (Sw.) DC., Prodr. 2: 447. 1825.

Ramewadi, S. K. Das Das 180919.

ONAGRACEAE

Ludwigia adscendens (L.) H. Hara in J. Jap. Bot. 28 (10): 291. 1953.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 179655.

RUBIACEAE

Spermacoe ocymoides Burm.f., Fl. Indica 34, t. 13, f. 1. 1768.

Ramewadi, S. K. Das Das 179591.

ASTERACEAE

Sonchus asper (L.) Hill, Herb. Brit. 1: 47. 1769.

Ujanigaon, S. K. Das Das 179522.

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Oxystelma esculentum (L.f.) R. Br. in Mem. Wern. Soc. 1: 40. 1809 (1811) ex Schult. in L., Syst. Veg. 6: 89. 1820. *Sarcostemma secamone* (L.f.) Bennet in Indian Forester 95: 692. 1969, nom. illegit. Ujanigaon, S. K. Das Das 183897.

GENTIANACEAE

Canscora alata (Roth ex Roem. & Schult.) Wall., Numer. List 4363. 1831. *Canscora decussata* (Roxb.) Roem. & Schult., Mant. 3: 229. 1827.

Wangi (No. 2), S. K. Das Das 179639.

BORAGINACEAE

Heliotropium indicum L., Sp. Pl. 1: 130. 1753.

Wangi (No. 3), S. K. Das Das 182096.

SOLANACEAE

Solanum torvum Sw., Prodr. 47. 1788.

Murmainagar, S. K. Das Das 180986.

Withania somnifera (L.) Dunal in DC., Prodr. 13(1): 453. 1852.

Ketur, S. K. Das Das 179690.

ACANTHACEAE

Justicia quinqueangularis J. Koenig ex Roxb. var. **peplodes** (Nees) C.B. Clarke in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 537. 1885.

Ketur, S. K. Das Das 182057.

Justicia simplex D. Don, Prodr. Fl. Nepal. 118. 1825.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 180849.

Rungia crenata T. Anderson in J. Linn. Soc., Bot. 9: 518. 1867.

Dahigaon, S. K. Das Das 187022.

LAMIACEAE

Leucas nutans (Roth) Spreng., Syst. Veg. 2: 743. 1825.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 187013.

NYCTAGINACEAE

Boerhavia plumbaginea Cav., Icon. Pict. Pl. Rar. 2: 7, t. 112. 1793.

Ketur, S. K. Das Das 179689.

AMARANTHACEAE

Alternanthera bettzickiana (Regel) G. Nicholson, Ill. Dict. Gard. ed, 1, 59. 1884.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 180852.

Note : It is also found as ornamental forms in garden borders.

Alternanthera philoxeroides (Mart.) Griseb. in Abh. Konigl. Ges. Wiss. Goettingen 24:36.1879.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 187084A.

Note : Plant is eaten by cattle and used as a pot herb and in salads. It is also used as delicious leafy vegetable in Assam, West Bengal and Bihar.

EUPHORBIACEAE

Croton bonplandianus Baill. in Adansonia 4: 339. 1864.

Dahigaon, S. K. Das Das 180994.

Note : Seeds yield a fatty oil having drying properties.

Euphorbia heyneana Spreng., Syst. Veg. 3: 791. 1826.

Wangi (No. 1), S. K. Das Das 187025.

CERATOPHYLLACEAE

Ceratophyllum demersum L., Sp. Pl. 2: 992. 1753.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 183824A.

HYDROCHARITACEAE

Hydrilla verticillata (L.f.) Royle, Ill. Bot. Himal. Mts. t. 376. 1839.

Wangi (No. 2), S. K. Das Das 179650.

Note: When the plant is abundantly found it is used as manure.

Nechamandra alternifolia (Roxb.) Thwaites, Enum. Pl. Zeyl. 332. 1864.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 179654.

Ottelia alismoides (L.) Pers., Syn. Pl. 1: 400. 1805.

Chikalthan, S.K. Das Das 179633A.

Vallisneria natans (Lour.) H. Hara in J. Jap. Bot. 49: 136. 1974.

Kugaon, S. K. Das Das 179621A.

Note : The plant is used as a stomachic and for leucorrhoea (Chopra *et al.*, 1956).

LILIACEAE

Chlorophytum tuberosum (Roxb.) Baker in J. Linn. Soc. Bot. 15: 332. 1876.

Dahigaon, S. K. Das Das 182083.

Note: Leaves are used as vegetable and roots used in Ayurvedic medicine.

PONTEDERIACEAE

Eichhornia crassipes (Mart.) Solms in A. DC. & C. DC., Monogr. Phan. 4: 527. 1883.

Kugaon, S. K. *Das Das* 180863.

Notes: The plants are used as manure and for fattening pigs.

COMMELINACEAE

Cyanotis axillaris (L.) D. Don ex Sweet, Hort. Brit. 430.1826.

Kugaon, S. K. *Das Das* 187014.

ARACEAE

Colocasia esculenta (L.) Schott in Schott & Endl., Melet. Bot. 18. 1832.

Ujanigaon, S. K. *Das Das* 182052A.

LEMNACEAE

Spirodela polyrrhiza (L.) Schleid. in Linnaea 13: 392. 1839.

Kugaon, S. K. *Das Das* 179614A.

Wolffia arrhiza (L.) Horkel ex Wimm., Fl. Schles. ed. 3, 140. 1857.

Kugaon, S. K. *Das Das* 188006.

POTAMOGETONACEAE

Potamogeton crispus L., Sp. Pl. 1: 126. 1753.

Kugaon, S. K. *Das Das* 179653.

NAJADACEAE

Najas graminea Delile, Descr. Egypte, Hist. Nat. 2: 282, t. 50, f. 3. 1813.

Ketur, S. K. *Das Das* 179677.

Najas indica (Willd.) Cham. in Linnaea 4: 501. 1829.

Dahigaon, S. K. *Das Das* 182093.

CYPERACEAE

Bolboschoenus maritimus (L.) Palla subsp. **affinis** (Roth) T. Koyama in Brittonia 31: 284. 1979.

Undergaon, S. K. *Das Das* 187100.

Cyperus alopecuroides Rottb., Descr. Pl. Rar. 20: 1772 & Descr. Icon. Rar. Pl. 38, t. 8, f. 2. 1773.

Wangi (No. 2), S. K. *Das Das* 179648.

Cyperus articulatus L., Sp. Pl. 1: 44. 1753.

Ujanigaon, S. K. *Das Das* 179530.

Cyperus laevigatus L., Mant. Pl. 2: 179. 1771.

Katraj, S. K. *Das Das* 187070.

Cyperus nutans Vahl, Enum. Pl. 2: 363. 1805.

Undergaon, S. K. *Das Das* 180914.

Eleocharis atropurpurea (Retz.) J. Presl & C. Presl, Reliq. Haenk. 1: 196. 1828.

Wangi (No. 1), S. K. *Das Das* 180875.

Eleocharis geniculata (L.) Roem. & Schult., Syst. Veg. 2: 150. 1817.

Kugaon, S. K. *Das Das* 187037A.

Fimbristylis aestivalis (Retz.) Vahl, Enum. Pl. 2: 288. 1805.

Katraj, S. K. *Das Das* 187068.

Fimbristylis bisumbellata (Forssk.) Bubani, Dodecanthea 30.1850.

Sugaon (East), *S. K. Das Das* 179505.

Fimbristylis cymosa R. Br., Prodr. 228. 1810.

Kander, *S. K. Das Das* 180872.

Fimbristylis microcarya F. Muell., Fragm. 1: 200. 1859.

Kugaon, *S. K. Das Das* 180866.

Fuirena ciliaris (L.) Roxb., Hort. Bengal. 81. 1814 & Fl. Ind. 1: 184. 1820.

Dahigaon, *S. K. Das Das* 187019.

Kyllinga brevifolia Rottb., Descr. Icon. Rar. Nov. Pl. 13, t. 4, f. 3. 1773.

Wangi (No. 2), *S. K. Das Das* 180874.

Kyllinga bulbosa P. Beauv., Fl. Oware 1: 11, t. 8, f. 1. 1805.

Kugaon, *S. K. Das Das* 18201.

POACEAE (GRAMINEAE *nom. cons.*)

Brachiaria mutica (Forssk.) Stapf in Prain, Fl. Trop. Afr. 9: 526. 1919.

Kugaon, *S. K. Das Das* 180862.

Bothriochloa kuntzeana (Hack.) Henrard in Blumea 3: 456. 1940. *Dichanthium kuntzeana* (Hack.) S.K. Jain & Deshp. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 20: 134 (1978) 1979.

Kugaon, *S. K. Das Das* 180861.

Pennisetum polystachion (L.) Schult., Mant. 2: 146. 1824.

Ujanigaon, *S. K. Das Das* 183896.

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