

NEW SPECIES OF *SAXIFRAGA* FROM ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

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***Saxifraga assamensis* Wadhwa sp. nov. (Fig. 1)**

Ad sectionem Ciliatae Haw. pertinent, planta a *Saxifraga brachypoda* Don, axillis foliorum superiorum bulbills carentibus, a *Saxifraga gouldii* Fischer, marginibus petalorum pilis glanduliferis carentibus, a utraque pedicellis glabres, calyces extus glabresed in dimidio distali margine pilis glanduliferis instructa differt. A

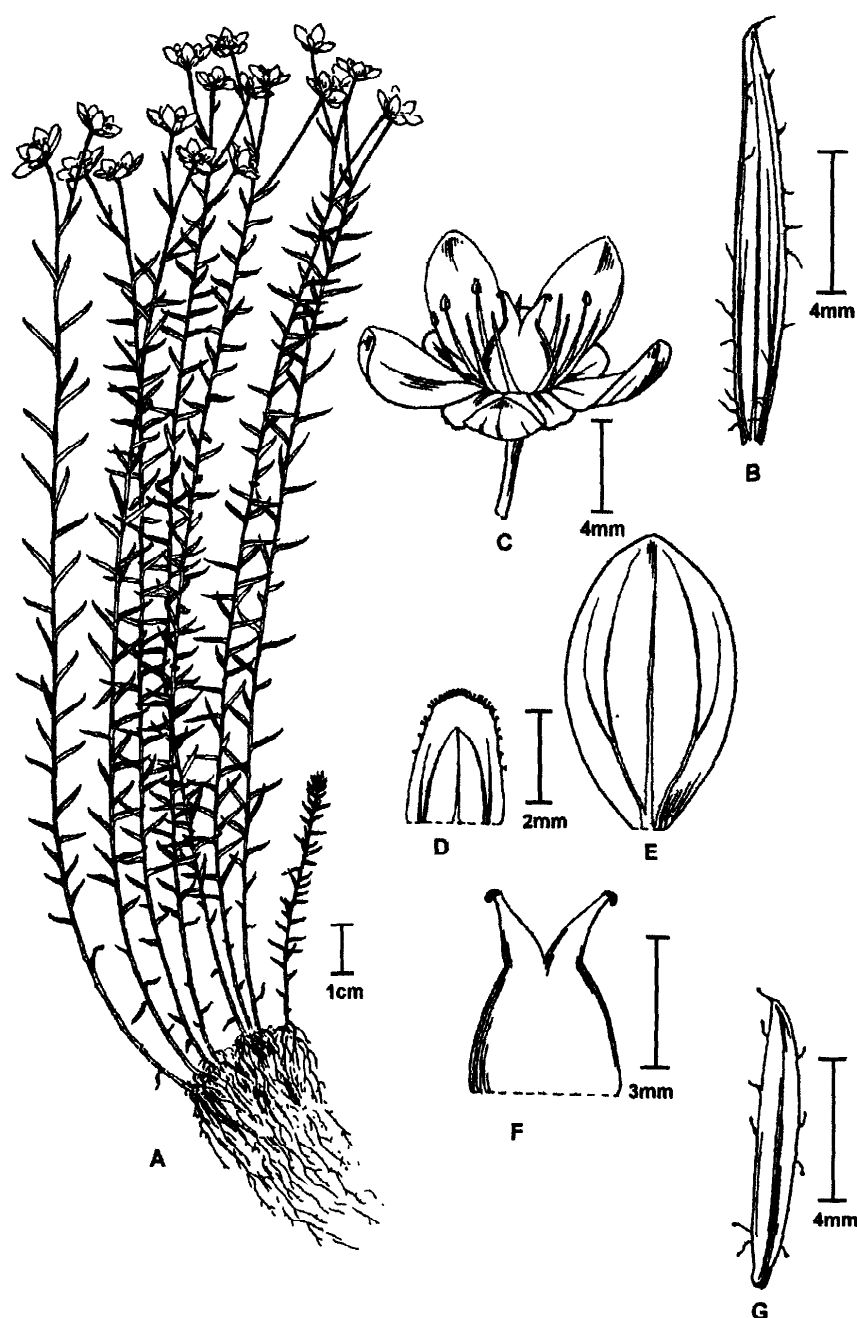


Fig.1. *Saxifraga assamensis* Wadhwa : A. Habit; B. Leaf; C. Flower; D. Sepal; E. Petal; F. Carpel; G. Bract.

Saxifraga wardii W.W. Sm. floribus erectis nec nutantibus petalis elliptic, glandulosis marginibus calyce extus glabro differt.

Holotypus : Indiae: Arunachal Pradesh, 28° 15' N, 96° 40' E, 3600-3900 m., 1.10.1928, *F. Kingdon Ward* 8683 (K).

Plants caespitose, 20-26 cm tall, slender, glabrous, the basal 2-4 cm part almost naked, with remnants of old leaves, the upper profusely leafy. Leaves alternate, lax, linear-lanceolate, 6-12 mm long 1.3-1.4 mm wide, those of the middle part of stem longer than the rest, acute, margin spinulose, the spinules of upper leaves, gland-tipped, nerves 3, the lateral ones almost parallel to the mid-rib, upper surface bright green, the lower somewhat silvery sheen, atleast when dry. Inflorescence racemose. Flowers usually 2, sometimes 3, rarely one, 1.2 cm across, golden yellow; peduncle 2.4-2.8 cm long, glabrous. Bracts like leaves, but smaller. Sepals broadly ovate, 3 mm long, 2.2 mm wide, obtuse, glabrous, margin from apex to the middle part with stipitate glands. Petals elliptic, 7-8 mm long, 4.4-4.6 mm wide, without glands or hairs, 3-nerved, lateral nerves bifid. Stamens 10, c.1/2 the length of the petals. Ovary ovoid, 3.3 mm broad; styles 1.6 mm long, divaricate. Fruit ovoid. Seeds oblong, brown.

Fls.: Oct.

Distribution : India : Arunachal Pradesh, Endemic.

Habitat.: On rocks on open alpine slopes.