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21. *CERASTIUM FONTANUM* BAUMG. (CARYOPHYLLACEAE) – A NEW RECORD FOR RAJASTHAN[1]

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During a plant collection visit to Chattargarh, Bikaner district, Rajasthan, we collected *Cerastium fontanum* Baumg from marshy fields. A perusal of the literature shows that this genus has not been reported from Rajasthan.

The specimens of *Cerastium fontanum* Baumg are housed in the Herbarium, Department of Botany, Govt. Dungar College, Bikaner, Rajasthan.

The identification of the species is based on the FLORA OF INDIA (Sharma, B.D. and N.P. Bala Krishnan (1993), Vol. 2, B.S.I. Calcutta)

Cerastium fontanum Baumg Soc. Zool. Bot. Fenn. "Vanamo" 18:63. 1963. Flora of India 523, Vol 2 (1993).

Herbs, laxly caespitose, hirsute throughout or glandular-pubescent upwards. Leaves sessile, oblong, elliptic to ovate, acute at apex, 1-3 x 0.3-1.0 cm, minutely hairy. Cymes glandular-pubescent; bracts herbaceous. Sepals ovate-lanceolate, 3-5 mm long, with scarious margins and glabrous apex. Petals 2-fid for 1/3 to 1/5 of length, equalling or slightly exceeding sepals. Stamens 10; filaments glabrous; anthers yellow. Capsules narrowly cylindrical, 9-12 mm long; seeds 0.5-0.9 mm, reddish brown, rugose-tuberculate.

Fl. & Fr.: April-September.

Specimens Examined: Gowsala Chattargarh near Khala. Sharma & Kantiya. 1332

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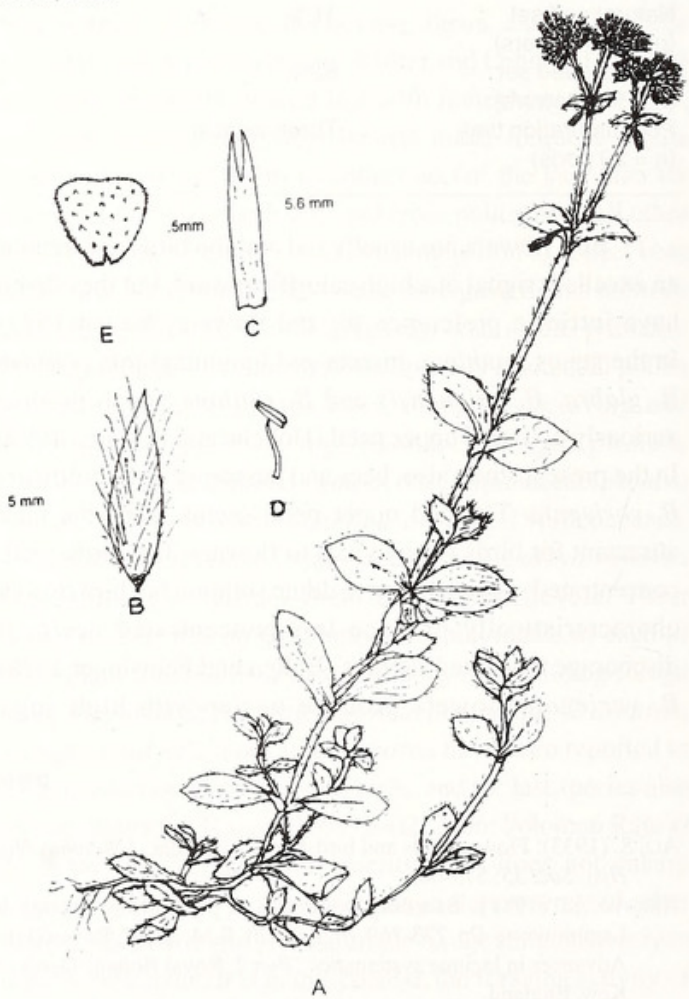


Fig. 1: *Cerastium fontanum* Baumg.
A. Plant; B. Sepal; C. Petal; D. Stamen; E. Seed



Sharma, S C and Kantiya, Jeetendra. 2008. "Cerastium Fontanum Baumg. (Caryophyllaceae) - a new Record for Rajasthan." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 105, 118–118.

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