Sori indusiate, broadly subcarinate, infundibuliforme, winged, mouth dilated above and subrevolute in the middle, receptacle extruded (Plate-I. Figs. 1 - 3).

Specimens examined : INDIA-SOUTH NICOBAR ISLANDS : GREAT NICOBAR : 41 km N-S, Galathea, 30.7.1984, *Sanjappa et al.* 18124 (CAL). PHILIPPINE ISLANDS - Luzon, May 1916, *s.l.* 16169, distributed by Elmer, Accession No. 3175 (CAL); Catabig river; Samar, Feb.- March, 1916 *G.Edano* 24880 (CAL).

Earlier records : Philippines; Java.

The species can be easily distinguished by the presence of distinct, erect rhizome; winged and fascicled stipes, quadripinnatifid lamina, infundibuliform sori and presence of the glandular hairs on the lower surface.

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BOOK REVIEW

Saxena, H.O. & M. Brahmam, The flora of Orissa Vol. 1. Ranunculaceae to Fabaceae. Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar-751 013, Orissa, India and Orissa Forest Development Corporation Ltd., Bhubaneswar-751 001, Orissa, India, April 1994, pp.I-LXIV, 1-633, 1 map and 16 plant drawings (HB). Vol.2. Rosaceae to Martyniaceae. *Ibid.*, April 1995, pp.635-1322, 35 plant drawings (HB). Vol.3. Acanthaceae to Commelinaceae. *Ibid.*, December 1995, pp.1323-2008, 16 plant drawings (HB). Vol.4. Flagellariaceae to Poaceae ; Gymnosperms and Pteridophyta ; Statistical analysis of the flora ; Bibliography ; General indices. *Ibid.*, March 1996, pp.2009-2918, 8 plant drawing, (HB). Price Rs.800.00 for complete set of 4 volumes. Available from the Divisional Manager, Plantation (A) Division, Orissa Forest Development Corporation Ltd., Plot No.217/ 218, Satya Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India.

The title book running in four volumes, deals with the flora of Orissa State which is endowed with a rich and varied flora due to its diversified topography and other physical features. The need for a comprehensive flora of Orissa has been felt eversince its formation in 1936. Haines' Botany of Bihar and Orissa (1921-25) written some 70-75 years back has not only become nomenclaturally outdated but the entire southern part of Orissa remained outside its territorial boundaries. Mooney (1950) too, did not include this southern part of Orissa in his Supplement to the Botany. Gamble's Flora of the Presidency of Madras (1915-36) made only stray references to the collections from southern Orissa.

Total 2727 species of Angiosperms, Gymnosperms and Pteridophytes, including 166 species of cultivated plants have been described in

the book. Arrangement of the families is broadly according to Bentham and Hooker's System of Classification except for Gymnosperms which have been dealt after Angiosperms. Concept of delimiting the families is after J. Hutchinson (The Families of Flowering Plants. 1973). Systematic treatment follows usual pattern with the keys to the families, genera and species ; descriptions of the families and genera. Account of species includes the valid name with the original reference, common synonyms and references to J.D. Hooker's Fl. Brit. India ; Haines' *Bot.* Bihar & Orissa and its Supplement by Mooney ; Gamble's Fl. Madras ; standard floristic works of the neighbouring region (Steenis, Fl. Males. and Dassan. & Fosberg, Rev. Handb. Fl. Ceylon) ; monographs and taxonomic revisions and standard published illustrations, followed by vernacular names (Oriya, Hindi, Telugu, Bengali, English and local tribal names), detailed description, notes on occurrence in the area, phenology and distribution in India and world. Taxonomic notes and important uses have been given in some cases. Old collections of plants from Orissa present in other Indian herbaria were also examined by the authors and a good number of species reported by the previous authors from Orissa on the basis of wrongly or doubtfully identified specimens have been excluded or listed as doubtful.

Nomenclature of the taxa is fairly up-to-date and eight new combinations of plant names have been made. Line drawings of plants, though only 75 in number, are good and of mostly interesting plants generally not illustrated in the classical works on Indian Botany. The lists of endemic and threatened plants of the area is an useful addition from conservation point of view.

Except for some spelling mistakes, the printing and overall getup of the volumes are quite good. The price is very reasonable. The book is an outcome of authors' dedicated work over a long period. The exhaustiveness of the work and fairly up-to-date nomenclature of the taxa make the book a contribution of high order. I am sure it will fully meet the longfelt need of a comprehensive flora of the State and would be a valuable asset to the libraries.

B. P. CHOUDHURY