BULL. BOT. SURV. INDIA
Vol. 26, Nos. 1 & 2 : pp. 125-126, 1984

ELAEAGNUS KANAII MOMIYAMA — AN ADDITION TO THE INDIAN FLORA

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While revising the family Elaeagnaceae the authors came across two herbarium sheets (no. DD 10699 and BSD 11779) kept under *E. umbellata* Thunb. and *E. latifolia* Linn., respectively. Both the specimens were studied critically and found that they exactly tally with the protologue and illustration, Fig. 4 of *E. kanaii* Momiyama (1973). This taxon is reported here for the first time from India. A short description with illustration is provided below for easy identification. It can be distinguished from the allied species by the following key :

a. Spinescent, flowers 3-9, fruit not apiculate :
  b. Perianth lobes 1.5 mm long, pedicel short, fruit ellipsoid, bony, yellow ... *E. umbellata*
  b. Perianth lobes 4.5 mm long, pedicel elongate, fruit globose, pear-shaped, fleshy, red ... *E. latifolia*
a. Not spinescent, flowers 1-3, fruit apiculate ... *E. kanaii*

Elaeagnus kanaii Momiyama in Momiyama et Hara in *J. Jap. Bot.* 48 (9) : 257-267, 1973.

Shrubs, branched, angular, 2 mm diam., covered with silvery or dark brown scales when mature. Leaves 5.1 cm × 2.5 cm to 6.9 cm × 3.5 cm, large, evergreen, elliptic, ovate-elliptic, rarely obovate-elliptic, acuminate, base obtuse or acute, papery-membranous, dull yellow upperside, silvery beneath ; petioles 8-16 mm, pale yellow, silvery, midrib elevated. Flowers in axillary clusters 1-3 in fascicle, green yellow, silvery glabrous, slightly drooping, calyx tube 3.5-4.5 mm long, 4-lobed, angular, 1.5 mm, hairy. Anthers 1.8 mm, long, linear-oblong, serrated, apiculate, filament 0.5 mm long, erect, styles *ca* 8.5 mm long copious stellate hairy, stigma curved, ovary ellipsoid. Fruits 1.1-1.4 cm × 0.5-0.8 cm, ellipsoid, oblong or ovate, covered with silvery scales, yellow, pointed beaked. Nut oblong or ovate-oblong, tapering at both ends, yellow or brown, 8 ribbed, pedicels 1.2-2.2 cm long, slender, silvery.

Both the specimens cited here are from Uttar Pradesh, Kumaon possibly bordering Nepal and there is every possibility of this species migrating from Nepal to India or vice-versa.

Specimens examined : Kumaon, Jipti (2500 m) 11.6.1960, *T. A. Rao* 11779 (BSD) and Uttar Pradesh, Blume Range (1500 m) 11.1.1915 *Sambhunath* and *Joshi* 10699 (DD).

Distribution : INDIA (Kumaon) and NEPAL.

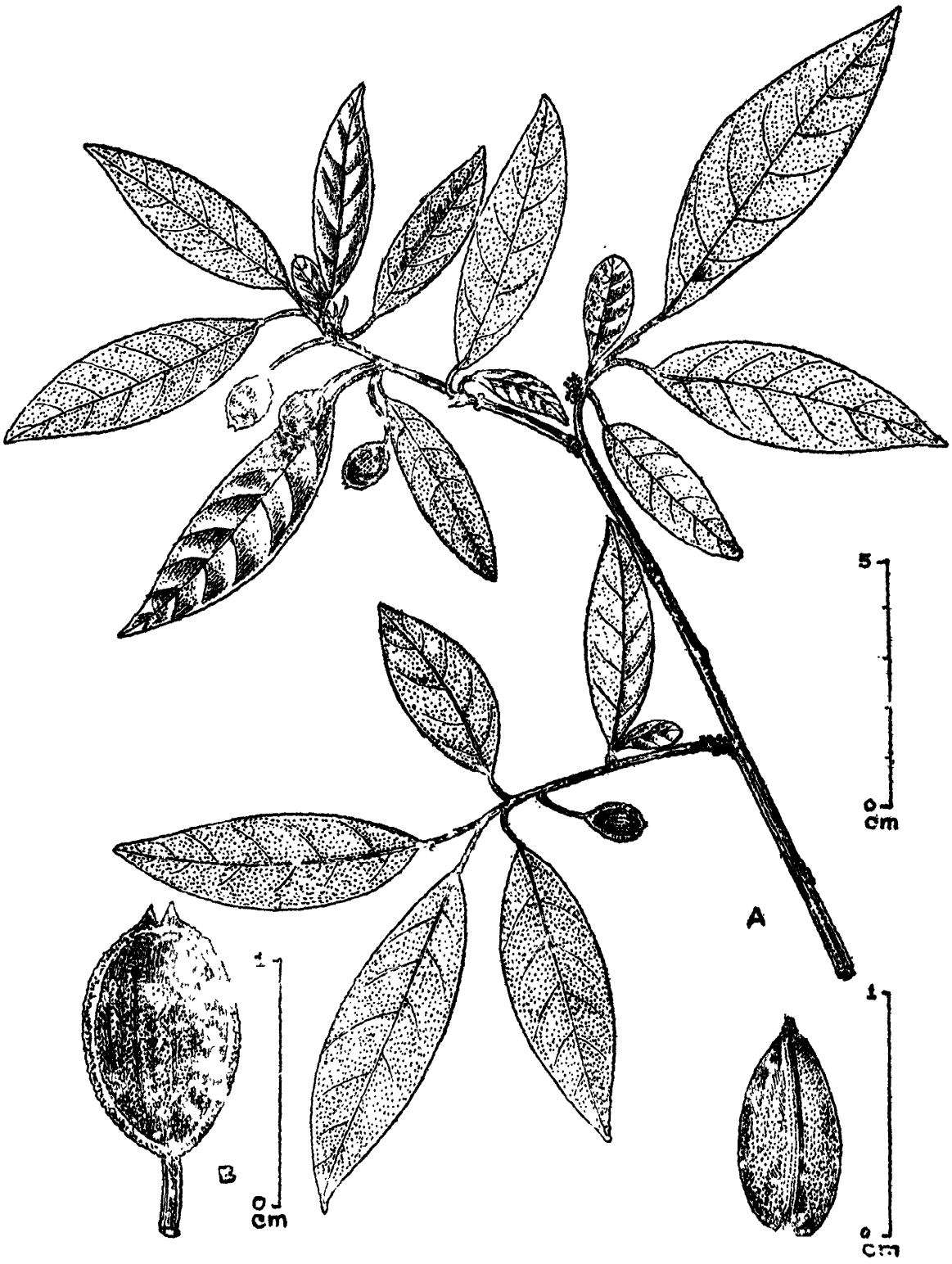
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors are thankful to the authorities of Forest Research Institute (DD), Dehra Dun for permission to consult their herbarium.

REFERENCE

MOMIYAMA, Y. AND H. HARA. The genus *Elaeagnus* of Eastern Himalayas. *Journ. Jap. Bot.* 48(9) : 257-267, 1973.

Date of receipt : 27.11.84. Date of acceptance : 12.3.85



Figs. A-C : A. Twig with fruits. B. Fruit. C. Seed.