OCCURRENCE OF *CYPERUS PEDUNCULATUS* (R. BR.) KERN. FROM GUJARAT

The sedge *C. pedunculatus* (R. Br.) Kern. (syn. *Remirea maritima* Abul.) is so far recorded only from sea shore by Cooke (1908) and Shah (1978). In recent years it (Figs. 1 & 2) was detected as quite common in deserted paddy fields from Memnagar-Sarkhej and coastal line of Nalsarovar in Ahmedabad district. The site is famous for its abode for migratory birds. Dr. Akhtar Hussain (CIMPO) writes : For Nalsarovar water the sodium absorption ratio is 19 and also conductivity to gather this water for irrigation purposes falls under the C_4-S_3 group of the alkaline pH. Therefore the plants occurring must be salt tolerant as evident from reports of analysis of soil and water of the area. The plant is common with *Aeluropus lagopoides* Trin. on saline strand. The other associates are *Ipomoea pes-caprae* (L.) R. Br., *Scaevola taccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb., *Spinifex littoreus* (Burm. f.) Merr. and *Cressa cretica* L.

In 1971, Rao and Das opined : However its reported occurrence by Shah (1963, 1964) in the inland paddy fields in Gujarat is a case of mistaken identity. In 1973 Rao wrote to me : The reported occurrence of a coastal species like *Cyperus pedunculatus* (R. Br.) Kern. in an inland area would be very interesting from a distributional point of view. The said plant has a very restricted distribution in coastal India and is remarkable for its sand binding capacity. However, in 1976 again Rao wrote : There is no shadow of doubt in its identification. I am very glad to see your specimen from Gujarat.

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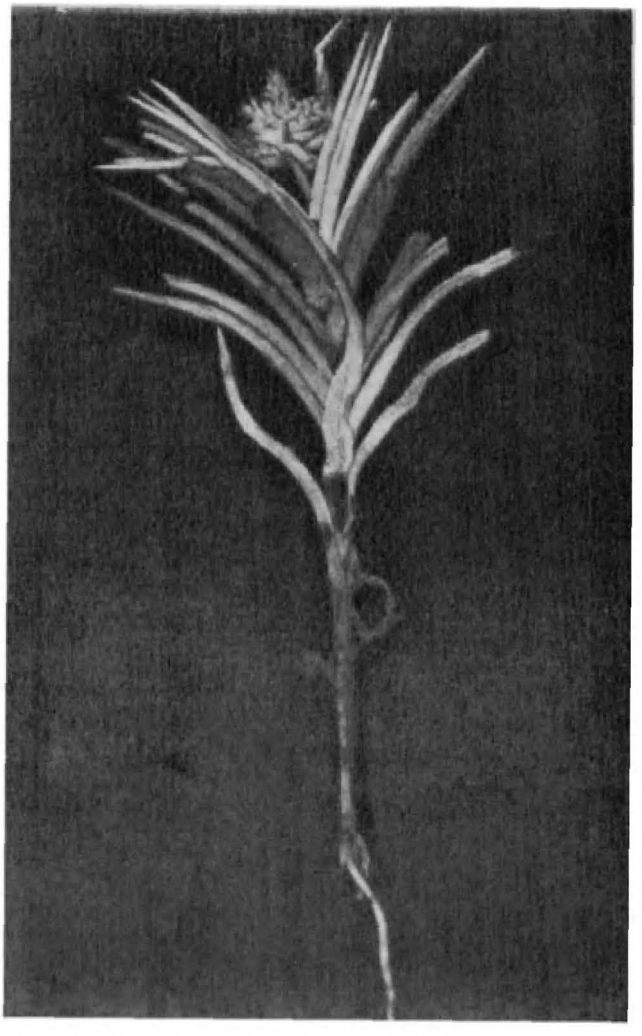


Fig. 1. *Cyperus pedunculatus* (R. Br.) Kern., entire plant × 1.

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