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A NEW SPECIES OF *SPIRAEA* L. (ROSACEAE) FROM HIMACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

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Spiraea chambaensis Purohit et Panigrahi sp. nov.

Spiraea chambaensis sp. nov. *S. cantoniensis* Lour. affinis caulibus erectis, floribus longi-pedicellatis in corymbis simplicibus in ramis foliaceis, petallis carpellisque sessilibus, sed differt bracteolis foliosis, foliis ovato-oblongis, inflorescentiis, tubis floralibus, sepalis intus, carpellisque omnino pubescentibus.

Holotypus lectus ad Satrundi in Chamba dist. Himachal Pradesh die 13 Jul. 1964 *N. C. Nair* 32392 (BSD).

Spiraea chambaensis Purohit et Panigrahi sp. nov. Figs. 1-6.

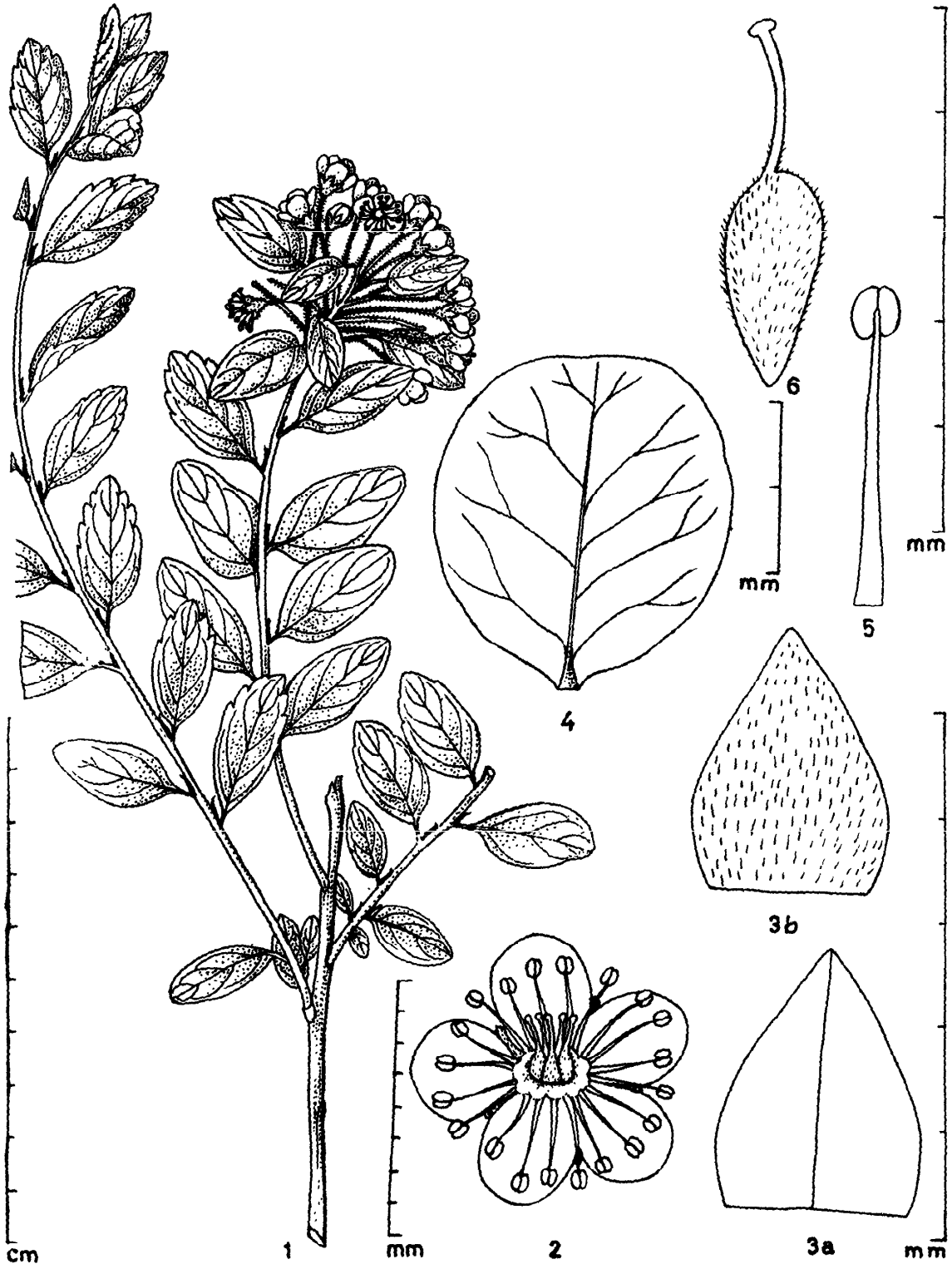
Shrub ; branches angled, reddish brown, glabrous with axillary buds 2.0-3.5 mm long, flat, linear, pointed, glabrous. *Leaves* simple, exstipulate, alternate ; lamina 1.5-3.2 × 0.8-1.8 cm, ovate-elliptic to ovate-oblong, cuneate to obtuse at base, apices obtuse, rarely acutish, entire or 5-9-toothed restricted to the upper half of the lamina, both surfaces alike, glabrous but the young leaves pubescent on the veins beneath ; petioles 2-3 mm long, glabrous, furrowed above. *Inflorescence* a simple corymb, 3.8 cm long, 4.0 cm broad, pubescent, 16-flowered, pedicels 1.5-3.3 cm long, pubescent ; *bracteoles leafy,* entire or 2-toothed at apices, ovate-elliptic-oblong, glabrous. *Flowers* bisexual, 8-10 mm across, white. *Floral tubes* campanulate, 2.0-2.5 mm long, villous on both the outer and the inner surfaces. *Sepals* 5, 2.0-2.5 × ± 2 mm, ovate-triangular, acute, outer surface glabrate and inner surface villous with red woolly hairs, erect to spreading. *Petals* 5, 3.5-4.0 × 3.0-3.5 mm, ± orbicular, sessile, glabrous. *Stamens* c. 20, 2.5-3.5 mm long, shorter than the petals, filaments glabrous, filiform, broader towards the base, anthers dorsifixed. *Nectar ring* (disc) prominent, with thick conspicuous glands. *Carpels* 5, free, 1.5-2.0 mm long, villous ; styles ± 1.5 mm long, subterminal, glabrous except at the base, stigma discoid. *Ripe carpels* not seen.

Holotype : INDIA. Himachal Pradesh : Chamba dist., Satrundi, 3100 m, 13 July 1964, fl., *N. C. Nair* 32392 (BSD).

The species is allied to *S. cantoniensis* Lour. of the subg. *Nothospiraea* Zabel *emend.* Dostal in having erect stems with glabrous leaves, long-pedicelled flowers borne in simple corymbs on leafy branchlets, petals and carpels sessile. However, it differs from *S. cantoniensis* in having leafy bracteoles, ovate-oblong leaves, the inflorescence, floral-tubes, sepals and carpels pubescent. In *S. cantoniensis* Lour. the leaves are rhombic-lanceolate to oblong ; inflorescences, floral tubes and sepals glabrous ; the bracteoles minute (1.0-1.5 mm long) and the carpels glabrous except at the inner suture.

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Spiraea chambaensis Purohit et Panigrahi sp. nov.

Figs. 1-6 : 1. A leafy branch with axillary buds and inflorescence. 2. Flower (front view). 3a. Sepal (dorsal view). 3b. Sepal (ventral view). 4. Petal showing venation pinnate with forked lateral veins. 5. Stamen with filament swollen at base and dorsifixed anther. 6. Villous carpel with a basally pubescent style and discoid stigma.