ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *DICHANTHIUM PALLIDUM* (HOOK. F.) STAPF EX C. E. C. FISCHER IN NORTHERN INDIA

Recently the authors came across an interesting specimen of grass, collected from Mirzapur, U.P., which was kept under *Dichanthium caricosum* (Linn.) A. Camus. A critical examination of the said specimen proved it to be *Dichanthium pallidum* (Hook. f.) Stapf ex C. E. C. Fischer, a species hitherto unrecorded from Northern India.

Another specimen (*U. C. Bhattacharyya*, BSD 18331) from the same locality was sent to Kew Herbarium for determination and the identity was confirmed by Kew vide their letter of 18.1.74 with the remark "Despite Bor's remark of the species being endemic to Nilgiri hills, it has been collected from West Bengal, 24 Parganas *viz. Clarke* 34467a (K) and from Nellore *viz. Bourne* 2433(K).

The said species is readily distinguishable from *Dichanthium caricosum* (L.) A. Camus by its creeping habit and solitary inflorescence.

Specimens examined: UTTAR PRADESH: Mirzapur, *U. C. Bhattacharyya* 12857; Mirzapur Kutwa, *U. C. Bhattacharyya* 13640; Sirsa, Mirzapur, *U. C. Bhattacharyya* 18331 (BSD).

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NOTES ON *CRATOXYLUM FORMOSUM* SSP. *PRUNIFLORUM* (KURZ) GOG. (HYPERICACEAE SENSU STRICTO)

The taxon *Cratoxylum formosum* ssp. *pruniflorum* (Kurz) Gog. (Figs. a-i) is so far known only from Burma, Thailand and South China down to Cambodia. This is recorded for the first time from India occurring in Priphema (25.45 N and 93.58 E) of Naga hills in Nagaland. A detailed description with relevant synonymy and references, brief notes on typification and affinities are provided.

Cratoxylum formosum ssp. **pruniflorum** (Kurz) Gog. in Blumea 15(2): 469. 1967. *Cratoxylum pruniflorum* (Kurz) Kurz in J. As. Soc. Beng. 43(2):84, 1874 et For. Fl. Brit. Burma 1:84. 1877. *C. prunifolium* Dyer in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 1: 258. 1874; Pierre, Fl. For. Coch. 1: t. 52. 1882; Gagn. Not. Syst. 1: 19. 1909; Craib, Fl. Siam En. 1: 113. 1925. Corner in Gard. Bull. Str. Settl. 10: 24. 1939. *Tridesmis pruniflora* Kurz in J. As. Soc. Beng. 41(2): 293. 1872.

Medium sized trees upto 15 m tall, pubescent to rusty tomentose when young. *Leaves* 4-8 (-13) × 1-4.5 cm, oblong to lanceolate, rarely obovate, acute to obtuse rarely rotund at apex; petiole 3-6 mm long. *Flowers* in axillary peduncles only, light pink to red, 2-2.5 (-3) cm across. *Sepals* 6-6.5 × 2-2.2 mm, oblong to nearly obovate, pubescent. *Petals* 1.1-1.25 × 0.35-0.4 cm, obovate, distinctly fringed at the upper half. *Stamens* in each phalanges 25 to 30; anthers 0.2-0.3 mm long, oblong with apical connective glandulose. *Hypogynous scales* 0.7-0.8 mm, short and truncate. *Capsule* 1.3-1.5 × 0.6-0.65 cm, ovoid. *Seeds* 5-5.5 × 2-2.5 mm obovate, winged unilaterally, 54-58 seeds per capsule.

Flowers: March-May; Fruits: June onwards.