EXTENDED DISTRIBUTION OF AN ENDEMIC SPECIES OF *CAREX* L.

Clarke (1894) described *Carex fuscifructus* on the basis of a single collection made by him from Assam and he (1898) mentioned it as endemic. Kukenthal (1909) considered this species as a doubtful synonym of *Carex aristata* R. Br. ssp. *orthostachys* (Mey.) Kukenth. Rao and Verma (1980) amended the description of *Carex fuscifructus* on the basis of some recent collection from Assam and treated it as an endemic and good species.

A careful scrutiny of the specimens of the genus *Carex* L. available in the herbarium of Botanical Survey of India, Northern Circle, Dehradun (BSD), revealed its occurrence in north-west Himalaya also. [Kashmir, Shopyian, 9.6.1959 *Rao* 9376 (BSD)].

The range of distribution of this species, therefore extends from north-west Himalayas to Assam.

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CYMBIDIUM MACRORHIZON LINDL.—AN ENDANGERED ORCHID FROM MADHYA PRADESH

During the plant collection tours to the Amarkantak Plateau, Madhya Pradesh a delicate, leafless, terrestrial orchid was collected near the 'Son' stream at Sonmuda in flowering condition. It was growing in humus on slopes in moist and shady situations. It had no leaf but only flowers and looked very ornamental. The study of the plant revealed that it was *Cymbidium macrorhizon* Lindl. which has a restricted distribution, *viz.* in North-west Himalaya, Sikkim, Khasi and Naga Hills in India and in Thailand (Duthie, 1906 ; Pradhan, 1979 ; Jain & Sastry 1980). Lindley based this species on a collection of Royle from Kashmir. The present location of this orchid is very far from its earlier known range of distribution. Probably the plant has escaped the notice of the plant collectors because of its short life-period, and occurrence in difficult habitat and climatic conditions.

Regarding the rarity of this species Duthie (*l. c*) remarked "it has been collected in the Ranjit Valley but not since 1879." Even in its areas of distribution the plant is quite scarce. At Sonmuda only a few plants were found growing. It could also not be collected from the neighbouring districts of Bilaspur, Raigarh, Raipur, Rewa etc. The author also visited Elephant Fall, Shillong, from where it had been earlier collected in 1951 ; but could not find a single plant in its vicinity. Recently this orchid has been collected from Mairang in West Khasi Hills.

Jain & Sastry (1980) have recognized the horticultural importance of this orchid which is threatened due to the habitat destruction. If somehow made to survive under cultiva-