yellowish-pink to bluish pink in distant pairs along a filiform, leaf opposed rachis. Calyx teeth equalling the first joint of pod. Pods 4-6 jointed, compressed, sub-moniliform, reticulately veined. Scarce.

JODHPUR: along Jaisalmer road near Tolesar, *A. N. Singh* 4350.

Flowers & fruits: August.

Eleocharis congesta D. Don, Prod. Fl. Nep. 41. 1825; Clarke, in Hook. f., Fl. Br. Ind. 6: 630. 1894.

Erect tufted herb, nearly 10 cm tall, in marshy places. Stem striate. Sheath appressed, purplish at base. Spikelets ovoid, solitary, terminal. Glumes membranous, ovate, lanceolate, 1-nerved. Bristles brown, scabrid. Nuts trigonous. Common.

JODHPUR: Banganga river bed, near Bilara, *A. N. Singh* 3523.

Flowers & fruits: February.

Samolus valerandi Linn., Sp. Pl. 171. 1753; Hook. f., Fl. Br. Ind. 3: 506. 1882; Duthie, Fl. Up. Gang. Pl. 2: 7. 1911.

A glabrous annual herb in moist shady places, in rocky soil. Stem erect (rarely horizontal), upto 50 cm tall. Leaves rosulate, spathulate, apiculate at base, alternate spathulate to obovate-elliptic above. Flowers white, in axillary and terminal racemes, pedicelled. Pedicels geniculate at the insertion of a small bract at or above the middle. Calyx tube hemispheric, half adnate to ovary, 5-toothed. Corolla lobes imbricate. Stamens 5, alternating with scaly staminodes. Ovary globose, half inferior. Scarce.

BILWARA: Mandalgarh forests along Bijolia Road, *A. N. Singh* 7164.

Flowers & fruits: February.

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A. N. SINGH

CENTRAL NATIONAL HERBARIUM,
BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
HOWRAH-711 103,
July 3, 1979.

30. NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *AGROSTIS NERVOSA* NEES EX TRIN. IN WESTERN HIMALAYA

During a collection tour of Rudranath bugyal (an alpine-medow) of District Chamoli (North Garhwal) U.P. an interesting grass was obtained. It was identified as *Agrostis nervosa* Nees ex Trin. syn. *A. Clarkii* Hook. f. Hook, f.; in Fl. Br. Ind. 7: 257 (1896) mentioned the occurrence of this grass from North Western Himalaya without precise locality.

Bor, N. L. in Kew Bull. (1954) 459-60, states, "This grass is exceedingly common in Sikkim but strangely enough the Type comes from Western Himalaya and is the only gathering from the areas".

Bor (1960) in Grassess Burma, Ceylon, India and Pakistan: 388 does not indicate its occurrence in Western Himalaya.

This note now presents the precise locality of this grass in Western Himalaya, i.e. Rudranath bugyal, alt. 4000 m. District Chamoli (North Garhwal), U.P., where it is gregarious in open grassy hill slopes of alpine pastures.

This grass is relished by sheep and goats.

Specimen examined: Joshi, D. N., 87 (30-8-1976) Rudranath, 4000 m., District Chamoli (North Garhwal), U.P.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY,
GOVT. (POST GRADUATE) COLLEGE,
GOPESHWAR, CHAMOLI 246 401,
June 4, 1979.

B. C. L. SAH
D. N. JOSHI[1]

[1] *Present Address*: Forest Research Institute & Colleges, P.O. New Forest, Dehra Dun-248 006. (U.P.).

31. ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *CLEOME FELINA* L. f. (CLEOMACEAE) IN MAHARASHTRA

(*With six text-figures*)

Hooker f. & Thoms. (1872) and Gamble (1916) have recorded the occurrence of *Cleome felina* L. f. from Deccan and Carnatic areas in South India. This species has not been recorded earlier by Cooke (1901-08) or Haines (1916) from areas that fall under Maharashtra State. A critical study of this species collected from Chandrapur district reveals that *Cleome felina* L. f. is often confused with *Cleome chelidonii* L. f. especially in the vegetative condition, though both are easily distinguishable in flowering or fruiting stage. The former is characterised by slender woody root system, densely clothed with bristly hairs all over, small pink flowers and short compressed striate capsules while the latter has got robust fleshy root system, is less hairy, has comparatively large rosy flowers and long slender terete, often constricted, capsules.

The earlier collections (*R. K. Bhide s.n.*, *Rolla S. Rao* 85280; *K. V. Billore* 116179) housed in the herbarium of Western Circle (*BSI*) identified as *Cleome felina* L. f. are in vegetative condition and on scrutiny they are referable to *Cleome chelidonii* L. f. only. The plant collected from Manikgarh hills, Lakkadkote area, Chandrapur district (*Malhotra* 140127) is *Cleome felina* L. f. and is a new record for Maharashtra State extending its distribution further north.

In view of its rarity and absence of any known published illustrations for the plant, a line drawing is provided along with a brief description.

Cleome felina L. f. Suppl. 300. 1781; Hk. f. & Thoms. in Fl. Brit. India 1: 170. 1872; Gamble Fl. Pres. Madras 1 : 41 (29) : 1915.

An appressedly hairy herb. Leaves usually trifoliate, obovate. Flowers small 0.5 cm, corolla pink, bristly, hairy on the back. Stamens usually 50. Capsules 2-3 cm equal or slightly longer than the pedicel, compressed striate. Seeds reniform, yellowish brown, spiny tubercled.



Sah, B. C. L. and Joshi, D N. 1980. "Note on the Occurrence of Agrostis nervosa in Western Himalaya India." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 77, 360–361.

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