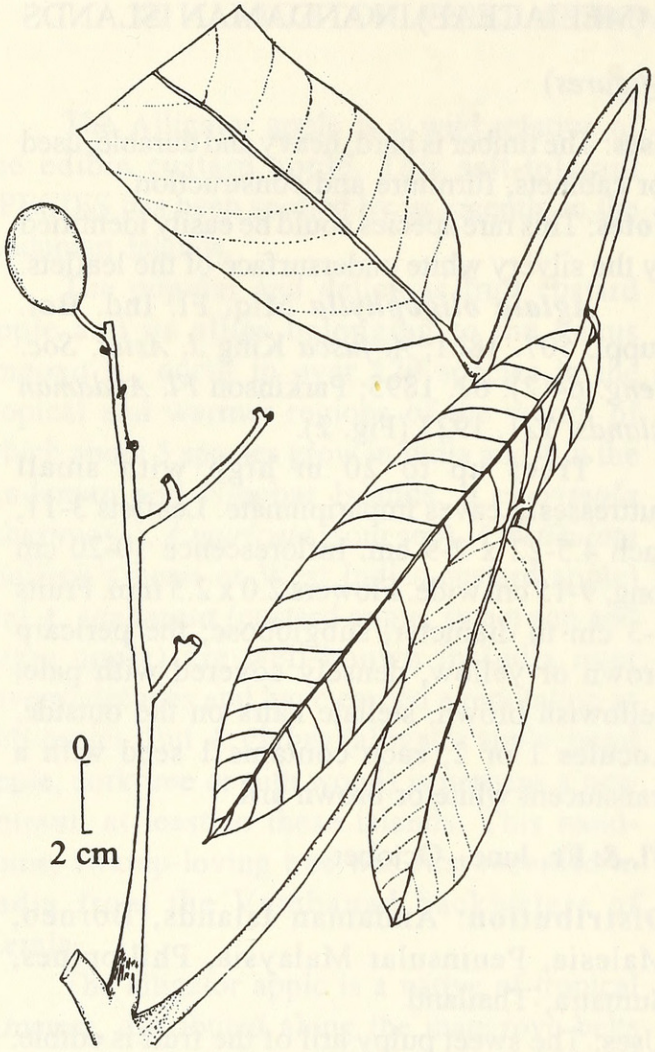


Fig. 1: *Aglaia argentea* Bl.

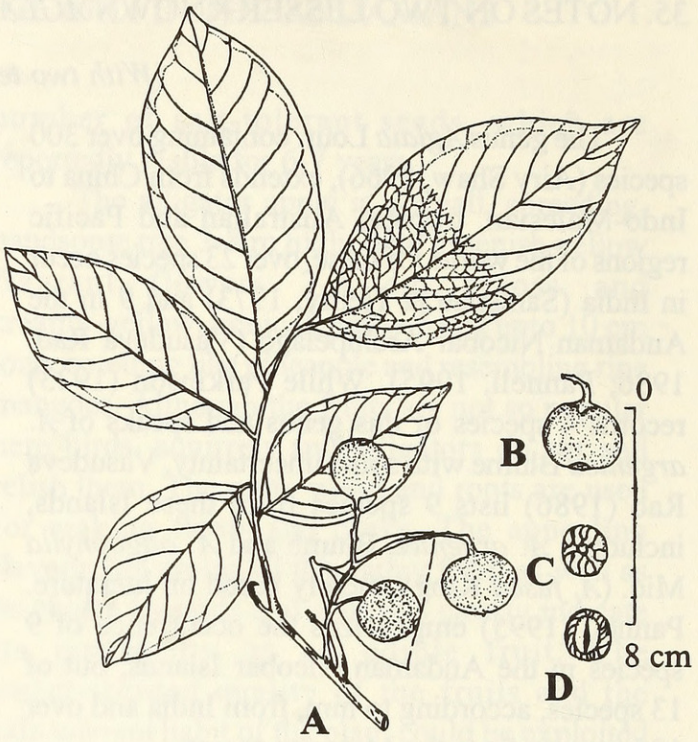


Fig. 2: *Aglaia oligophylla* Miq.
A. Habit B. Fruit C. Seed (dorsal view) D. Seed (ventral view)

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36. *CROTALARIA BURHIA* BUCH.-HAM. (FABACEAE) — A NEW RECORD FOR MAHARASHTRA

While botanizing in Wade, Jalgaon dist., Maharashtra, a curious undershrub caught my attention. On closer examination, it turned out to be *Crotalaria burhia* Buch.-Ham., a fabaceous taxon. It has not been reported from Maharashtra, and is being reported here for the first time. The taxon being a denizen of desert regions, occurs in Baluchistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan (Sind) and part of India (Cooke, 1958). In India, it is distributed criss-crossing state boundaries like Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh (Bhandari, 1978). The present locality lies in the northwestern part of the Deccan Plateau of Maharashtra and is

adjacent to Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. This represents an extended distribution into Maharashtra, wherein more or less isoclimatic conditions prevail. Voucher specimens are housed in the Herbarium, P.G. Department of Botany, L.K. Dr. P.R. Ghogrey Science College, Dhule, Maharashtra.

Crotalaria burhia Buch.-Ham. (in Wall. Cat. 5386. 1831-32 (nom.nud.)) ex Benth. in Hook. Lond. Journ. 2:474. 1834 (cum descript.); Dalz. & Gibs. Bombay Fl. 54. 1861; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 2:66. 1876; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bombay 1:311. 1958 (Repr. ed.); Shah, Fl. Gujarat 1:193. 1978; Bhandari, Fl. Indian Desert 1:111. 1978; Shetty & Singh, Fl. Rajasthan 1:216. 1987.

Rigid, profusely branched undershrub, branches interlacing, hoary, striate. Leaves deciduous, simple, exstipulate, subsessile, oblong, 1.4-3.5 x 0.3-0.8 cm, obtuse, rarely mucronate, silky, adpressed hairy, pale green. Flowers in terminal, 5-8 cm long racemes, pedicel short, bibracteolate; calyx hairy, 0.6-0.8 cm long, calyx-teeth lanceolate, acute; corolla yellow, streaked red, standard ovate, 0.6 x 0.5 cm, clawed, woolly, wings oblong, 0.5 x 0.2 cm, keel incurved, free towards apex, 0.7 x 0.5 cm, stamens 10, monadelphous, anthers heteromorphic; pistil unicarpellate, style hairy on one side, curved, stigma oblique; pods pilose, beaked, ovoid, seed 1-2, brown, bean shaped, compressed.

Flowers and Fruits: December-April.

Distribution: along the banks and sandy bed of river Girna at Wade and its vicinity.

Specimens examined: Wade (dist. Jalgaon): 1935, 1938.

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37. ON THE COLOURS OF THE FLOWERS OF *BAUHINIA VARIEGATA* L. (LEGUMINOSAE: CAESALPINIOIDEAE)

During a visit to the Ajodhya hills in Purulia dist. of West Bengal in the second week of February 1987, I came across a few cultivated trees of *Bauhinia variegata* L. near the Ajodhya Forest Rest House. They were flowering, with either the usual reddish purple flowers or only the pure white ones. On one of the trees with pure white flowers, I observed that in most of the flowers the uppermost petal was completely reddish purple on one side of the median line, while in others a small portion of the uppermost petal was longitudinally striped with reddish purple. I had not come across this kind of colouration in any published literature so far.

December 23, 1997 S. BANDYOPADHYAY
Botanical Survey of India,
P.O. Botanic Garden,
Howrah 711 103.

On revisiting the same locality in February 1998, the interesting colouration in the uppermost petal of the flowers was found not to be present in the particular tree. Furthermore, all the petals were more reddish purple than white and a deep blotch of reddish purple colour was also present in the middle of the uppermost petal, as found in the reddish purple flowers.



Patil, D A. 1998. "Crotalaria burhia Buch.-Ham. (Fabaceae): A new record for Maharashtra." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 95, 372–373.

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