

Duchesnea indica (Rosaceae): An addition to the flora of Odisha, India

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ABSTRACT

Duchesnea indica (Andrews) Focke is reported first time for Odisha from Similipal Biosphere Reserve. A detailed description with nomenclature, photograph, notes on occurrence and distribution of this taxon are provided for easy identification.

Keywords: *Duchesnea indica*, New record, Rosaceae, Similipal.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Duchesnea* Smith belonging to the family Rosaceae is distributed throughout the World (Weber, 2003). A few interesting specimens of *Duchesnea* were collected from National Park range of Similipal Biosphere Reserve, Odisha. After critical study with relevant literature (Hooker, 1878; Haines, 1921-25; Kanjilal *et al.*, 1934; Saxena & Brahmam, 1994 and Singh *et al.*, 2001) they are identified as *Duchesnea indica* (Andrews) Focke. This taxon is reported from North east and Southern regions of India and its occurrence from Similipal Biosphere Reserve hence form a new distributional record for Odisha State. Detailed description along with photograph, occurrence in Similipal, phenology and distribution is provided for easy identification.

Taxonomic treatments:

Duchesnea indica (Andrews) Focke in Engl. & Prantl., Nat. Pflanzenfam, III. 3: 33. 1888 ; Hora & Ohashi, Fl. E. Himalaya 120.1966. *Fragaria indica* Andrews, Bot. Rep. 7: t. 479.1807; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 2: 343.1878; Kanjilal *et al* Fl. Assam 2: 203.1938; Deb in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 3: 258. 1961. **Fig. 1.**

Perennial herbs. Rhizome robust, stolons 1-3, upto ca 100 cm long, thin, pilose. Leaves digitately trifoliate; leaflets obovate to rhombic-oblong, 2- 4 x 1-2 cm, base cuneate, margins serrate, apex acute, strigose above and below on the nerves only. Petioles 1-4 cm long; stipules oblong-lanceolate, upto 1 cm long. Flowers solitary on long axillary peduncles, yellow, 1-4 cm in diameter. Sepals 5, ovate, margin ciliolate, apex acute; epicalyx segments obovate, longer than sepals, apex 3 lobed. Petals 5, obovate, 1-1.5 x 0.8-1.2 cm, rounded at apex. Stamens 20-25. Carpels numerous, free. Aggregate fruits ripening red, shining, 1- 2.5 cm in diameter, spongy. Achenes small, ovoid, glabrous, pitted.

Flowering: August-September; **Fruiting:** September-November.

Habitat: Occasional in Semi evergreen forests.

Distribution: Afganistan, Bhutan, China, India (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Odisha, Manipur, Mizoram) Japan, Nepal.

Specimens examined: INDIA, **Odisha:** Similipal Biosphere Reserve, Ganapati, 14.09.2013, T. Kar & A.K. Nayak 681 ; **Manipur :** Kongpokpi, D.B. Deb 960 (CAL) ; **Mizoram :** Kawnpui-Lungdai, D.K. Singh 93038.



Fig. 1: *Duchesnea indica* (Andrews) Focke

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