Eight Angiosperm Species, Additions to Flora of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, India

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INTRODUCTION

During our recent floristic explorations in different localities of South Andaman Islands, we could collect and identify eight angiosperm species which were found additions to the flora of Andaman and Nicobar Islands after Pandey & Diwakar (2008) and updated literature review (including Sinha, 1999; Prasad, PRC et al., 2009; Prasad et al., 2013, Naik et al., 2014; Bhemalingappa et al., 2015). The species are Alpinia calcarata (Haw.) Roscoe, Alternanthera ficoidea (L.) Sm., Datura innoxia Miller, Euphorbia deccanensis V.S. Raju, Ipomoea triloba L., Leucas cephalotes (Roth) Spreng., Rothia indica (L.) Druce, Solanum sisymbrifolium Lam., are being reported as new distributional records for Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT


Prostrate perennial herb; stems to 1 m long. Leaves lanceolate, spathulate, elliptic-oblanceolate or ovate-suborbicular, to 5 × 1.2 cm, narrowed at base into petiole. Spikes, sessile, axillary, usually solitary, globose or ovoid, white; bracts less than half of tepals. Tepals 5, lanceolate-acute; outer 3, 3-nerved, inner 1-2-nerved, pungent; margins chartaceous, pilose or hispid. Pseudostaminode margins fimbriate; stamesn 5, anthers 5; seeds 1 mm.

Fl. & Fr.: July- January.

Distribution: India, Tropical America; introduced elsewhere. India- Througout.
Habitat: Naturalised. Common in sandy soils, along road sides and in waste lands.
Specimens studied: India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Andaman - Wandoor 47529 MCN & BR, 21.03.2014 (SKU).

Ipomoea triloba L. Sp. Pl. 1: 161. 1753. (Plate-1) (Fig. 1: b) CONVOLVULACEAE
Annual prostrate or twining herbs, to 50 cm. Stems glabrous or sparsely pubescent. Leaves broadly ovate to circular outline, to 7 × 6 cm, glabrous or sparsely pilose, margin entire, deeply 3-lobed, base cordate; petiole to 5 cm. Flowers in dense umbellate cymes or rarely solitary; peduncle to 5 cm. Sepals unequal, margins fimbriate; corolla pink or pale purple, funnelform, glabrous; limb obtusely 5-lobed; stamens and pistil within. Capsules globular, bristly pubescent, apiculate, 2-loculed, 4-valved. Seeds to 4 mm, glabrous, dark brown.

Fl. & Fr.: Oct - December. Common name: Little Bell

Distribution: India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, North America, Pacific Islands; Introduced elsewhere (Roskov et al., 2014). India: Throughout
Habitat: Rare, along roadsides and wastelands.

Euphorbia deccanensis V.S. Raju in Taxon 34: 519. 1985. (Plate-1) (Fig. 1: c) EUPHORBIACEAE
Decumbent erect herbs, entirely glabrous. Leaves oblong-lanceolate, oblique at base, distantly serrate to entire, acute to acute-mucronate at apex, up to 3 × 0.5 cm. Cyathial terminal orin axils of upper leaves, solitary or in pairs; glands 4, transversely oblong or cupular, red; white or pink with are spot. Maleflorets: pedicels to 1.5 mm long; anthers subglobose; femaleflorets: gynophores 3 mm long. Fruits subglobose, glabrous; seeds smooth, pale brown.

Fl & Fr.: Aug - Apr.

Distribution: India to Indo-China (Roskov et al., 2014). India-South India
Habitat: Rare, on hill tops in open areas.
Specimens studied: India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Andaman - Mundapahad 47606 BR & MCN 24.08.2014 (SKU).

Rothia indica (L.) Druce, in Bot. Exch. Club Soc. Brit. Isles. 3:423.1914. (Plate-1) (Fig. 1: d) FABACEAE-FABOIDEAE
Annual diffuse herb, to 30 cm; branchlets hirsute; stipules lanceolate. Leaves 3-foliolate, to 4 cm; leaflets oblong-lanceolate, 2-2.5 × 0.5-0.7 cm, pilose, base attenuate, apex acute, entire. Flowers solitary or in pairs, leaf-opposed or extra-axillary. Sepals to 6 mm, lobes triangular; corolla yellow, standard petal abaxially pilose on midline. Pods linear-narrowly oblong, to 6 × 0.2 cm, compressed, densely hairy, spine-tipped; many-seeded; seeds brown, D-shaped.

Fl. & Fr.: June-Nov.

Distribution: Asia-Australia. India-Throughout
Habitat: Rare, in waste lands and along seashores.
Specimens studied: India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Andaman, Hutbay, 48161 MCN 27.12.2014 (SKU).

Leucas cephalotes (Roth) Spreng. In L., Syst. Veg. 2:743. 1825. (Plate-1) (Fig.1: e) LAMIACEAE
Annual erect herb, to 75 cm; branchlets quadrangular, hispid. Leaves ovate-lanceolate, to 8 × 3 cm, membranous, pubescent, base cuneate, apex obtuse, crenate-serrate; petiole to 1 cm. Flowers in dense terminal globose heads, white; heads to 4 cm across; bracts narrowly lanceolate, overlapping. Calyx tubular, pubescent, mouth slightly oblique. Corolla white. Nutlets ovoid-trigonal.


Distribution: Afghanistan, India to China.
Habitat: Rare waste lands and sandy areas. Associated with Commelina benghalensis and Micrococa mercurialis.

Datura innoxia Miller, Gard. Dict. (ed. 8). No. 5. 1768. (Plate-1) (Fig.1: g) SOLANACEAE
Annual erect herb, to 1 m; branchlets green, densely pubescent. Leaves broadly ovate, to 18 × 11 cm, pubescent, base oblique-cuneate, apex acuminate, sinuate-dentate; petiole to 6 cm. Flowers solitary, axillary terminal, white; pedicel to 2.5 cm long, reflexed in fruit with brownish tomentum. Calyx 5-lobe, inflated towards base. Corolla tube to 18 cm long and limb, 9 cm across. Capsules globose, to 5 cm across, dense spiny; many-seeded; seeds reniform, compressed, brown, reticulate.

Fl & Fr.: May-Oct. Common Name: Downy Thorn Apple
**Distribution:** More or less throughout the world except high latitudes.

**Habitat:** Rare in waste lands. Associated with *Senna occidentalis* and *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*.

**Specimens studied:** India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Andaman Islands – Neil Island 47732 MCN 7.9.2014 (SKU).

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Fig. 1: a) Alternanthera ficoides b) Ipomoea triloba c) Euphorbia deccanensis d) Rothia indica e) Leucas cephalotes f) Datura inoxia g) Solanum sisymbriifolium h) Alpinia calcarata
**Solanum sisymbriifolium** Lam., Tabl. Encycl. 2: 25. 1794. (Plate-1) (Fig. 1: g) **SOLANACEAE**

Shrubs, to 1.5 m; stems and branches with sticky glandular hairs; spines very sharp, bright orange-red to brown-yellow. Leaves alternate; lamina ovate-oblong, to 20 × 10 cm, deeply pinnatisect or pinnatifid with prominent spines on midrib and veins, sparsely stellate-hairy above, densely beneath. Inflorescence internodal, racemes with 1-10 flowers. Calyx to 6 mm long, hairy; corolla white, creamish or blue, rotate, to 5 cm across. Berries globose, to 2 cm across, with enlarged and reflexed calyx, greenish, bright red when ripe; seeds many, reniform.

**Fl. & Fr.:** Throughout the Year. **Common name:** Sticky Night-shade

**Habitat:** Rare along roadsides and in waste lands.

**Distribution:** India, China, Central and South America, Africa, Australia. India: throughout

**Specimens studied:** India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Andaman (PBR-Chatham) 17.12.2014, MCN & BR 48110 (SKU).

**Alpinia calcarata** (Haw.) Roscoe, *Trans. Linn. Soc. London* 8: 347 1807. (Plate-1) (Fig. 1: h) **ZINGIBERACEAE**

Rhizomatous herbs; pseudostems to 1.5 m. Leaves sessile, simple, alternate, to 32 × 5 cm, lanceolate, acuminate, long-pointed, glabrous, hairy along the margins. Flowers in 5-10 cm long terminal panicles; rachis velvety; bracteoles to 1.5 cm. Calyx split one-side, apex 3-toothed. Corolla tube white, segments free tinged with pink, oblong-spatulate, pubescentoutsidet; staminodes 3, reduced to minute filaments, the larger one petaloid, emarginated, glabrous and shining on both surfaces; Anther filaments to 1.2 cm. Capsules globose, red, 3-locules.

**Fl. & Fr.:** Feb - May.

**Distribution:** India to Indochina, Sri Lanka.

**Habitat:** Rare in waste lands. Associated with *Annona glabra* and *Lantana camara*.

**Specimens studied:** India, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Andaman Islands-Bathubasti 46510 MCN & BR 08.02.2014 (SKU).

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Authors gratefully acknowledge department of Biotechnology, New Delhi (BT/PR12954/NDB/52/146/2009) for financial assistance. We thank Dr. P. Singh, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata for encouragement. We are grateful to Prof. K. N. Ganeshaiah, Dr. M. Sanjappaand Dr. C. Murugan, Principal Investigators of the collaborative DBT Project and our research colleagues working in the same project for their helpand cooperation. Thanks are due to Andaman&Nicobar Islands Forest Department for according permission for field work.

**REFERENCES**


How to Cite this Article: