

A few additions to the flora of Palamu division of Jharkhand state

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Abstract

Present paper deals with an addition of three plant species namely *Peperomia pellucida* (L.) H. B. & K. Nov.(Piperaceae), *Centratherum punctatum* Cass. (Asteraceae) and *Clerodendrum splendens* G. Don (Verbenaceae) new records to Palamu Division of Jharkhand State.

INTRODUCTION

Jharkhand state is newly formed state of India. It is formed from original Bihar state. Three districts namely Palamu, Latehar and Garhwa included in the Palamu division of Jharkhand state and covered with rich forest area of different flowering plants and non flowering plants. Floristic studies from this region carried out by few researchers (Haines, 1925; Sarma and Sarkar, 2002). Recently some additions are being made to the flora of this Palamu division (Bagga, 2016; 2017; Bagga *et al.*, 2017; Bagga, 2018).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During an ethnobotanical exploration of Palamu division was carried out and, some interesting plants collected from Daltanganj City. These collected plant species identified by pertinent literature (Almeida, 1998; Singh & Karthikeyan, 2000; Singh *et al.*, 2001; Yadao and Sardesai, 2002), etc. After critical investigations the plants species was identified as *Peperomia pellucida* (L.) H. B. & K. Nov. (Piperaceae), *Centratherum punctatum* Cass. F.(Asteraceae) and *Clerodendrum splendens* G. Don (Verbenaceae) new records to Palamu Division. Voucher

specimens were deposited in the herbarium of department of Botany, N.P. University, Daltanganj, Jharkhand.

1.Family- Piperaceae

Peperomia pellucida (L.) H. B. & K. Nov. Gen. Sp. 1: 64. 1815; Yuncker in Ann. Miss. Bot. Gard. 37: 79. 1950; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bombay 3: 21. 1958 (Repr.). *Piper pellucidum* L. Sp. Pl. 30. 1753.

Description - Erect, succulent herbs, 8.15 cm tall. Leaves 0.6 . 1.8 x 0.3 1.2 cm, broadly ovate, shining above, base rounded or cordate. Flowers pale green, solitary, sunk in fleshy green rachis. (Fig.01)

Flowering & Fruiting: August.September.

Ecology: Moist, Marshy areas in Garden.

Location: Daltanganj City **Status:** Not Common

Exsiccata: Bagga/203

2.Family-Asteraceae

Centratherum punctatum Cass. F. Cuvier, Dict. sci. nat. 7:384. 1817; Hook f. Fl. Brit. India 3: 227.1882.

Description - Herb, erect, to 50 cm high with pubescent stems. Leaves simple, alternate, blade ovate to spoon-shaped, 2.5-8 cm long with a winged petiole and toothed margins. Flowers continuously through the year after maturity; flowers in stalked terminal heads surrounded by two types of bracts,

the outer larger and leaf-like, the inner small. Ray florets none.

Disk florets many, light purple, mostly 9-14 mm long, the central ones distinctly shorter than the marginal ones. Fruit a pale linear achene covered with upward pointing bristles. (Fig.02)

Flowering & Fruiting: Year around. **Ecology:** Moist, Marshy areas **Location:** Daltanganj City **Status:** Not Common **Exsiccata:** Bagga/250

3.Family- Verbenaceae

Clerodendrum splendens G. Don in Edinb. Phil. J. 9:349. 1824 non A Cheval. 1920; Bailey, Man. Cult. Pl. 845. 1949; Naik, Fl. Marathwada 2: 700. 1998.

Description - Scandent shrubs; stems tomentose. Leaves 6-10 x 4-8cm, ovate-oblong, acute at apex, cordate at obliquely rounded at base, serrate at margins, 3-5 nerved, hairy on upper surface, woolly below. Flowers are tube shaped, having a slender tube with an abruptly expanded corolla. They are scarlet and borne in dense terminal clusters. The fruit is unknowns. (Fig.03)

Flowering & Fruiting: December and January. **Ecology:** Garden plant. **Location:** Daltanganj City **Status:** Not Common but cultivated in garden. **Exsiccata:** Bagga/310

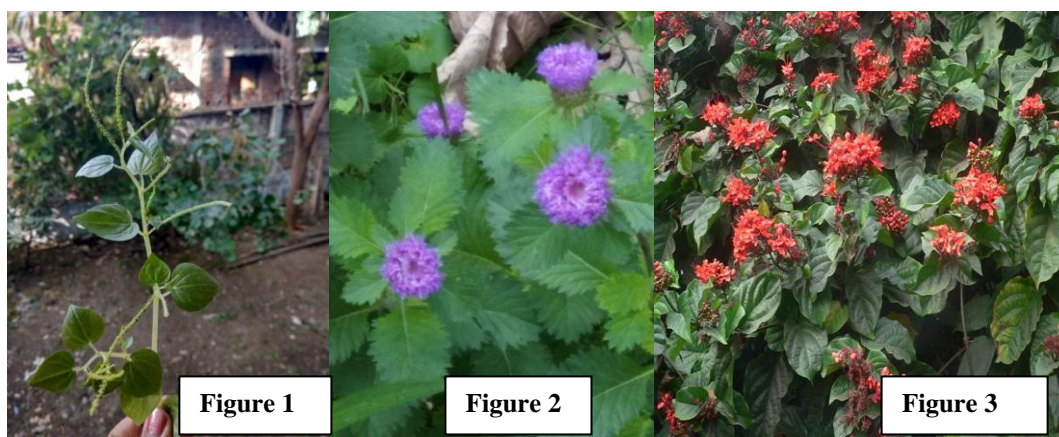


Plate. 01: *Peperomia pellucida* (L.) H. B. & K. Nov., 02) *Centratherum punctatum* Cass. , 03) *Clerodendrum splendens* G. Don.

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