

compressed capsule; elongate obovoid striated seeds with elongate epidermal cells. The species is closely related to *Utricularia uliginosa* Vahl, *U. graminifolia* Vahl and the African *U. spiralis* Sm. which, however, differ in the seeds or the corolla. Seeds in *U. uliginosa* and *U. spiralis* are globose with isodiametric epidermal cells. *U. graminifolia* differs in twining scapes, larger corolla and the lower corolla-lip and spur exceeding the purplish calyx.

Bhubaneswar, in rice fields, fl. & fr. 22-xii-1971. Saxena 277.

REGIONAL RESEARCH LABORATORY,  
BHUBANESWAR,  
January 7, 1972.

H. O. SAXENA

## 28. SOME INTERESTING AND RARE PLANTS FROM MAHARASHTRA STATE

(With four plates)

During botanical explorations in the Phonda-Ambolighat area of Ratnagiri district (Maharashtra State) from the year 1965 onwards, some interesting and noteworthy plants have been collected and are being reported as additions to the Flora of Maharashtra.

The species reported here are not only new records for Maharashtra but also interesting from phytogeographic point of view as these were earlier recorded southwards from North Kanara and the present report shows their wider distribution.

While examining critically the collections from Ratnagiri district, another interesting plant *Polygonum strictum* All. collected from Mahableshwar (Satara district) was also worked out and has been reported in this paper. The collection includes two rare grasses namely, *Bhidea burnisiana* Bor and *Danthonidium gammiei* (Bhide) C. E. Hubbard, obtained in recent explorations in Ratnagiri.

In this paper, correct nomenclature, diagnostic characters of each species, collector's name, field no., habitat as well as critical notes are given.

All the specimens cited in this paper have been deposited in the herbarium of Western Circle, Botanical Survey of India, Poona (BSI).

## BORAGINACEAE

**Heliotropium cornutum** Johnst. in Contr. Gray Herb. Henr. 92 : 90, 1930 ; Fischer in Fl. Mad. Pres. Part 11 : 1883, 1936 ; Arora & Banerjee in Bull. bot. Surv. India 8 : 341-342, 1966.

Prostrate to suberect herb. Flowers white in small helicoid cymes.

Rare, as a weed, in the rice fields in association with *Heliotropium scabrum* Retz. and *Coldenia procumbens* Linn.

Arora & Banerjee (loc. cit.) reported this plant as endemic to South Kanara (Mysore State). The present collection is an extension of distribution further north along the Western Ghats and is also a new record for Maharashtra.

*Specimens examined.* Ghotge, Kudal taluka, Kulkarni 107868.

## SCROPHULARIACEAE

**Bacopa floribunda** (R. Br.) Wettst. in Engl. & Prantl Pflanzenfam. 4(3b) : 77, 1895. *Herpestis floribunda* R. Br. Prodr. 442, 1810 ; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 4 : 273, 1884. *Moniera floribunda* Cooke, Fl. Bomb. Pres. 2 : 286, 1904.

A delicate erect herb, 8-10 cm tall. Flowers pedicellate. Capsules long, subglobose. Seeds oblong, truncate at both ends.

Rare, on wet sandy soil associated with *Cyanotis* sp.

Cooke (loc. cit.) states 'The occurrence of this plant in the Bombay Presidency is somewhat doubtful. Woodrow reports its occurrence from S. Kanara. Law has in his Herbarium Kew, specimens from Kanara and Mysore and of these the Kanara ones are most probably also from S. Kanara'. The present records show extension of distribution through Goa (Rolla Rao 1969, unpublished).

*Specimens examined.* Deobag, Malvan, Kulkarni 121336.

## POLYGONACEAE

**Polygonum strictum** All., Auct. Syn. 42, 1773 et Misc. Taur. 5 : 94, 1774-76 ; Wt. Icon. t. 1800, 1852 ; Dandy in Taxon 19(4) : 623, 1970. *P. minus* Huds. Fl. Angl. 148, 1762 ; Meissn. in DC. Prodr. 14 : 111, 1857 ; Hook f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 5 : 36, 1886 ; Gamble Fl. Mad. Pres. Part 7 : 1189, 1925.

Annual herb, rooting at nodes. Stipules sparsely strigose, ciliate. Flowers, minute, pink. Bracts stiff, ciliate on the margins. Perianth eglandular.

Rare, in water logged soil.

This species has been earlier reported from Nilgiris and Palni hills in south India. This report is an extension of distribution and a new record for the State.

*Specimens examined.* Near lake, Mahableshwar, *Ansari* 67688.

#### POACEAE

**Coelachne simpliciuscula** (Wt. & Arn.) Munro & Benth. in Journ. Linn. Soc. Bot. 19 : 93, 1881 ; Bor, Grass. Burma, Ceylon, India, Pak. 576, 1960. *Coelachne pulchella* R. Br. var. *simpliciuscula* Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 7 : 270, 1896 (non R. Br. 1810).

Suberect or trailing annual grass. Spikelets in speciform panicles, with short usually ascending branches.

Rare, near the streams or nallahs in association with *Centella asiatica* (L.) Urban.

This species has been reported from South Kanara downwards from an altitude of 600-1825 m. Of late, it has also been collected from Londa in Belgaum district (Mysore State) by the Botanical Survey of India. The present record is a northward extension of its range.

*Specimens examined.* Solia jungle, Chaukul (10 km from Ambolighat), *Kulkarni* 108631 ; Londa, *Ansari* 78597.

**Dimeria hohenackeri** Hochst. ex Miq. in Verh. Nederl. Inst. 3 : 35, 1851 ; Bor, Grass. Burma, Ceylon, India, Pak. 142, 1960. (Plate I).

Annual grass, 20-30 cm high, golden yellow. Spikelets parallel to rachis, delicate.

Rare, on rocky plains in association with *Dimeria stapfiana* C. E. Hubb. and *Cyperus* sp.

This species is distinguished from other closely allied species, namely *D. stapfiana* on the basis of parallel arrangement of spikelets on the rachis.

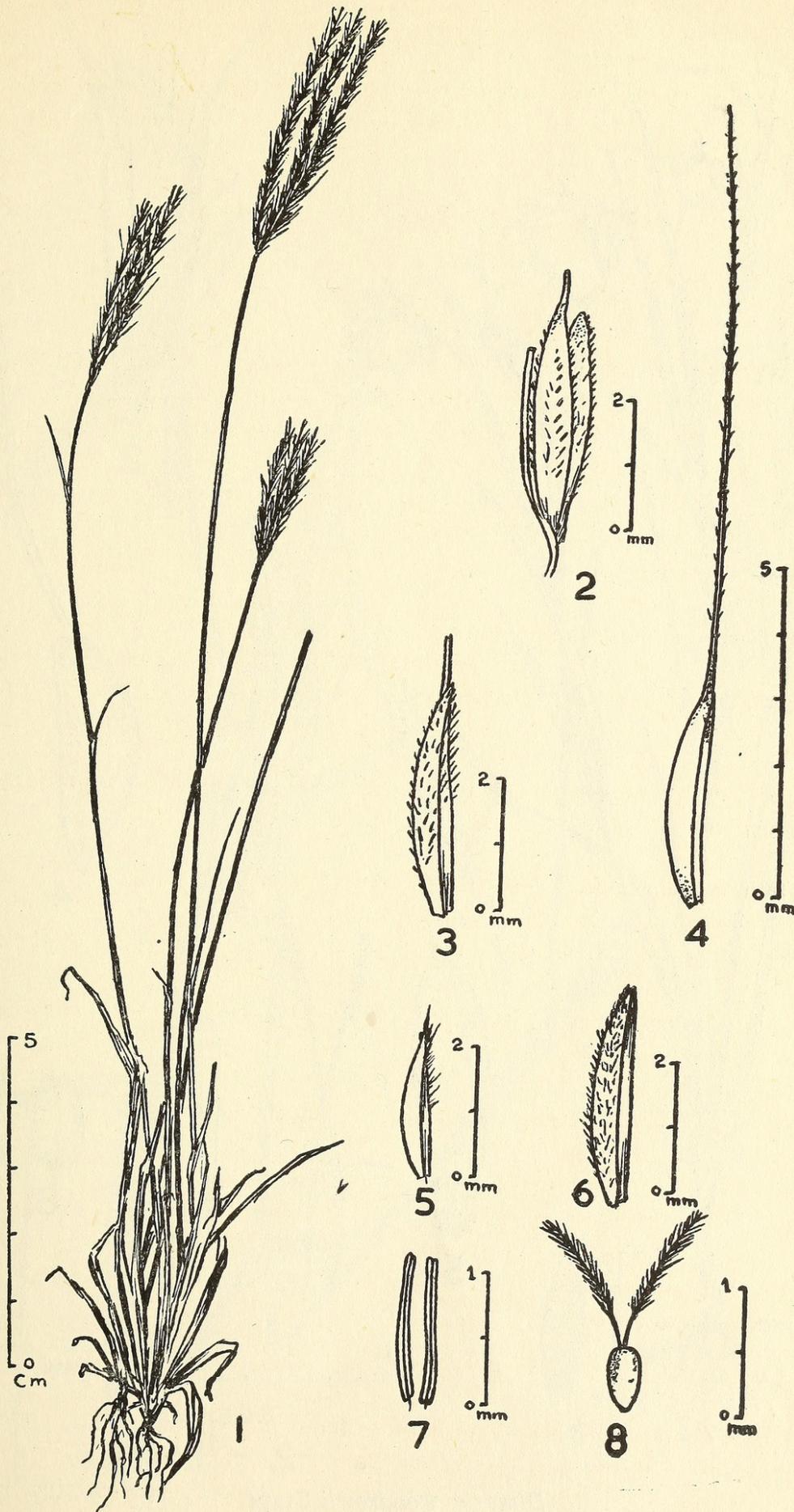
Bor (loc. cit.) mentions this species as endemic to Mangalore (Mysore State). There is every possibility of its occurrence between Mangalore and Ambolighat but it has escaped the attention of botanists so far. Besides being a distributional record, the present report is also a new record for Maharashtra.

*Specimens examined.* Mangaon, *Kulkarni* 106428.

**Dimeria woodrowii** Stapf in Hook. Icon. Pl. sub tab. 2312, 1894 ; Bor, Grass. Burma, Ceylon, India, Pak. 144, 1960. (Plate II).

Annual grass. Spikelets awned. Rachis of each raceme coiled into a hoop.

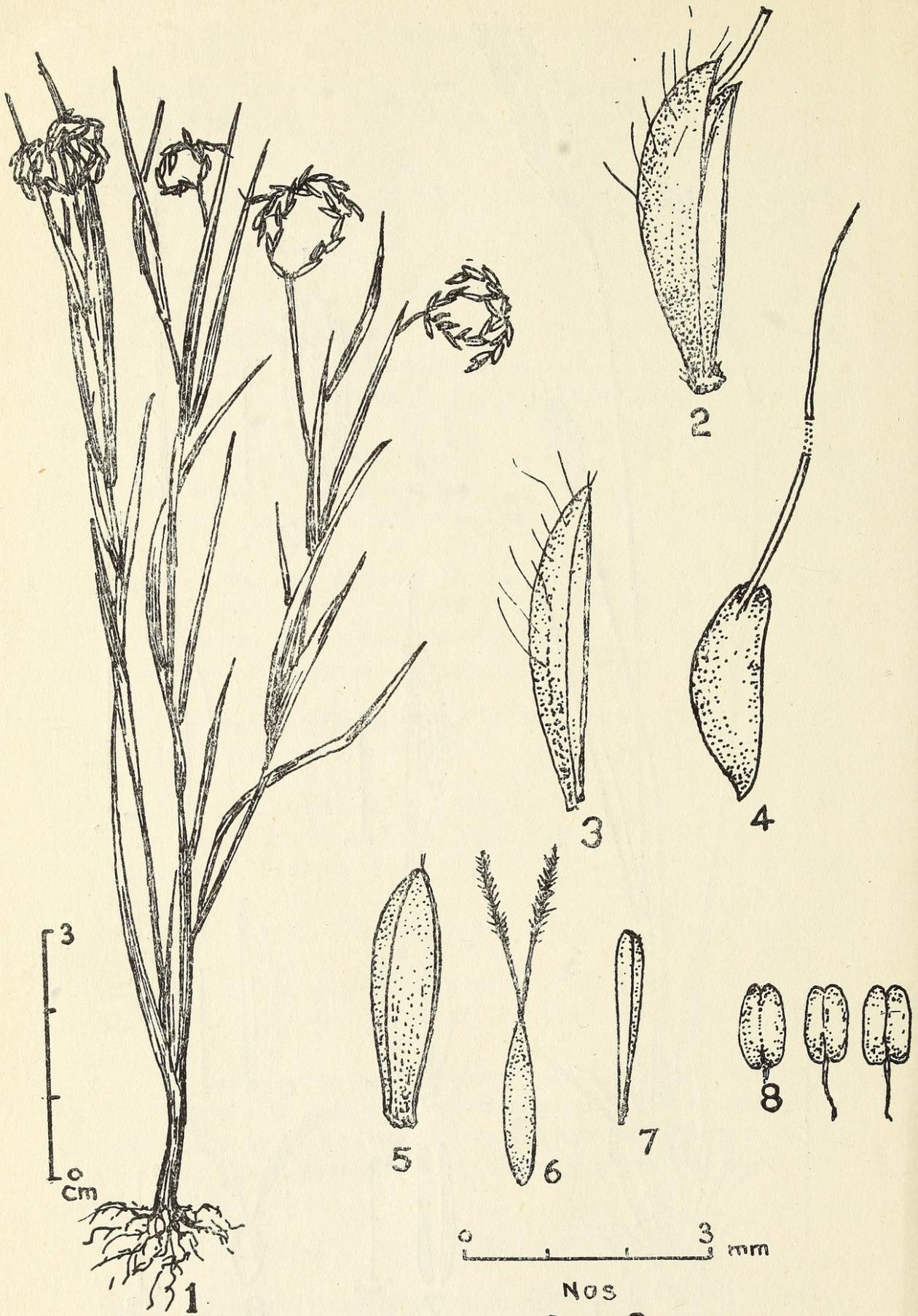
Kulkarni & Wadhwa : Plants from Maharashtra



*Dimeria hohenackeri* Hochst. ex Miq.

1. Whole plant ; 2. Spikelet ; 3. Upper glume ; 4. Upper lemma ;  
5. Lower lemma ; 6. Lower glume ; 7. Stamens ; 8. Ovary with style  
and stigma.

Kulkarni & Wadhwa : Plants from Maharashtra



*Dimeria woodrowii* Stapf

1. Whole plant; 2. Spikelet; 3. Upper glume; 4. Upper lemma; 5. Lower glume; 6. Ovary with style and stigma; 7. Lower lemma; 8. Stamens.



Kulkarni, B G and Wadhwa, B. M. 1973. "Some Interesting and Rare Plants from Maharashtra State." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 70, 234-238.

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