

A new locality of recently described new species *Pancratium telanganense* (Amaryllidaceae) from central India

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मध्य भारत से प्राप्त हाल ही में वर्णित पेंक्रेटियम तेलंगनेंस (अमरिलिडेसी) नामक नवीन प्रजाति का एक नवीन प्राप्ति स्थल

मुजफ़्फ़र शेख, अर्जुन प्रसाद तिवारी, अच्युता नंद शुक्ला एवं राम लखन सिंह सिकरवार

सारांश

भारत में तेलंगाना राज्य के महबूबनगर जनपद से हाल ही में अन्वेषित व वर्णित नवीन प्रजाति पेंक्रेटियम तेलंगनेंस सैडस. (अमरिलिडेसी) की मध्य प्रदेश के खांडवा जनपद से पायी गयी है। इस आलेख के द्वारा यह जानकारी उपलब्ध करायी गयी है।

ABSTRACT

Pancratium telanganense Sadas. (Amaryllidaceae), a recently described new species from Mahabubnagar district of the Telangana state, India is reported here a new locality from Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh.

Keywords: *Pancratium telanganense*, Amaryllidaceae, Madhya Pradesh, India

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Pancratium* L. belongs to family Amaryllidaceae and consists of c. 24 species mainly distributed in the Africa, Canary Island, West Africa, Mediterranean, Namibia and tropical Asia (Mabberley 2008; De Castro & al. 2012; Govaerts 2019). In India, the genus is represented by 12 species viz., *Pancratium bhramarambae* Sadas., *P. biflorum* Roxb., *P. donaldi* Blatt., *P. longiflorum* Roxb. ex Ker Gawl., *P. nairii* Sasikala & Reema Kumari, *P. parvum* Dalzell, *P. sanctae-mariae* Blatt. & Hallb., *P. telanganense* Sadas. *P. triflorum* Roxb., *P. verecundum* Aiton and *P. zeylanicum* L. (Sadasivaiah & Karuppusamy 2018; Mastakar & Dash 2020). The genus *Pancratium* is characterized by its perennial bulbs, white fragrant flowers, perianth tube and corona, formed by the basal connection of the staminal filaments (Sadasivaiah 2016).

During the course of floristic exploration of the flora of Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh state in 2019, the first author located this species near Pamakhedichandgarh range forest area to the Kali dev and Bhet Kheda area. A few individuals with bulb in vegetative stage were collected and planted in pots. In June 2020, the plants were observed in flowering. After critical study the plant was identified as *Pancratium telanganense* Sadas., a recently described species from the Nallamala hills of Telangana state. The present collection of this species from Madhya Pradesh shows its extended distribution forming an additional locality. The herbarium specimens are deposited at Botanical Survey of India, Central Regional Centre, Allahabad (BSA).

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Pancratium telanganense Sadas., Species (India) 19: 136. 2018. (Fig. 1)

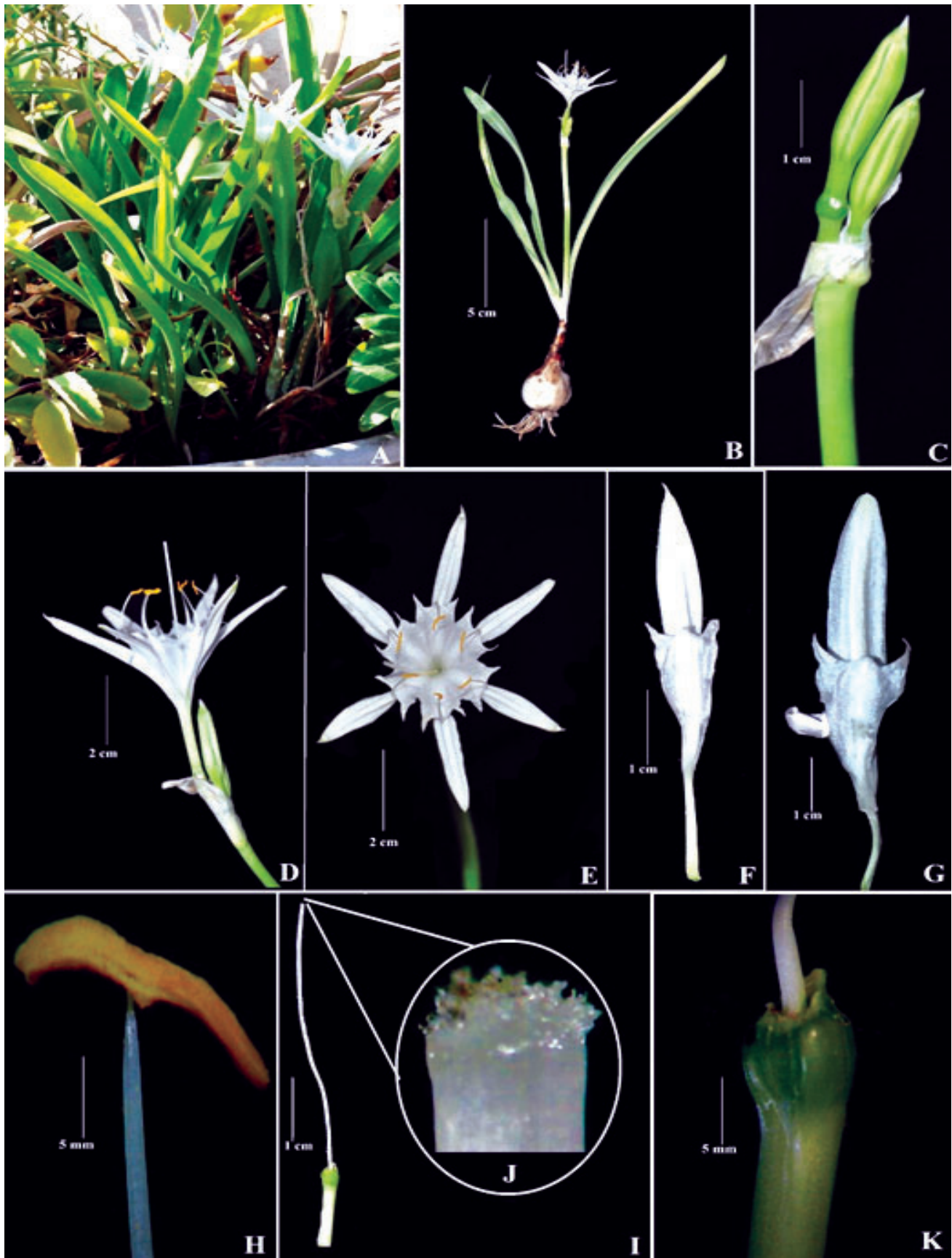


Fig.1. *Pancratium telanganense* Sadas. A & B. Habit, C. Scape showing flowering buds, D. Flowers, E. Front view of flowers, F & G. Corona, H. Stamen, I. Style with ovary, J. Papillose stigma & K. Ovary.

Perennial herb, up to 40 cm high. Bulbs solitary, globose or ovoid, 2–6.5 × 3.5–5 cm, covered with white, membranous sheath, with pale brown veins; neck cylindrical, 4–7 cm long. Roots fibrous, vermiform, curved upwards. Leaves 3–7 per plant, contemporary with flowers, bifarious, erect, sessile, imbricate at base; leaf blade broadly lanceolate-elliptic, 15–35 × 1.5–2.2 cm, tapering abruptly above, apex obtuse, margin slightly serrulate, narrowing below, greenish, glabrous. Scape solitary, shorter than leaves, 15–20 × 0.4–0.5 cm, unbranched, compressed, 3–4-flowered. Flowers white, 3–5.5 cm across, fragrant; spathe solitary, broadly ovate to lanceolate, 2–4 × 1.5 cm, bifid at apex, truncate base, membranous; pedicels 1–2 cm long, increasing on maturity, triangular, greenish. Perianth funnel shaped; tube slender, 1.5–2.2 × 0.5 cm, erect, greenish-yellow, persistent. Perianth segments 6, white with a narrow green mid-stripe outside, recurved at base to middle, deeply grooved below; outer perianth segments lanceolate, 4–5 cm long, apex acuminate, dense papillose near apex, midrib light-yellow below, 3-nerved; inner perianth segments, elliptic-lanceolate, 4–4.5 cm long, apex acute, minutely papillose at apex. Corona infundibuliform, 1–2.3 cm long, with 12 teeth between filaments; teeth 6 mm long, triangular, acuminate. Stamens 6, 1.3 cm long, inserted at the throat of perianth tube, equal; filaments filiform, 1.3 cm long, subulate, white, longer than anthers; anthers linear, falcate, 5 × 1 mm, dorsifixed, yellow. Ovary subglobose, 4–5 mm across, tricarpeal; ovules many in each locule; style c. 9 cm long, filiform, longer than anthers, white above, green at base, excluding from the corona; stigma small, capitate, 3-lobed, papillose, white. Capsules 3-angled, subglobose, 0.9–1.0 × 1.0 cm, with persistent perianth. Seeds angled, black, 4.5 mm across.

Flowering & Fruiting: June–July.

Habitat & Ecology: Occur on hilly slopes in rocky areas associated with species viz., *Chlorophytum tuberosum* (Roxb.) Baker, *Drimys coromandeliana* (Roxb.) Likhak

& P.B. Yadav, *Curculigo orchioides* Gaertn., *Ceropegia bulbosa* Roxb., *Anogeissus pendula* Edgew. and *Euphorbia caducifolia* Haines.

Distribution: INDIA (Madhya Pradesh and Telangana). ENDEMIC.

Specimen examined: INDIA: Madhya Pradesh, Khandwa district, Chandgarh range, Bhet Kheda, 22°35'62.3" N, 76°45'46.9" E, c. 270 m, 25.05.2018, *Mujaffar* 203(BSA).

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