

CORRECT NAME OF TRICHOSANTHES HIMALENSIS CLARKE. VAR. INDIVISA CHAKRAVARTY.

Kundu in his revision of the Indian species of *Hodgsonia* and *Trichosanthes* (1943) described a new variety *Trichosanthes ovigera* Blume var. *sikkimensis* from Sikkim Himalayas. The type of this variety e.g. C. B. Clarke No. 36925a, October, 1884, is available in the Central National Herbarium. This variety is distinguished from the type in having the leaves very slightly puberulous on the upper surface and in structure of the fruit and seeds. Chakravarty in his monograph on the Indian Cucurbitaceae (1959) has removed this variety from *Trichosanthes ovigera* Blume, and placed it under *Trichosanthes himalensis* Clarke, stating that the fruit and the characteristic drum-shaped seeds of this variety match exactly with *Trichosanthes himalensis* Clarke while the seeds of *Trichosanthes ovigera* Blume, are obliquely obovate. For this variety he proposed a new epithet *Trichosanthes himalensis* Clarke var. *indivisa* and thereby making *Trichosanthes ovigera* Blume var. *sikkimensis* Kundu, a synonym of the above-mentioned new variety.

In accordance with the priority rule of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, the oldest

varietal epithet should have been retained and the new combination should have been called *Trichosanthes himalensis* Clarke var. *sikkimensis*. The correct nomenclature and synonym are given below.

Trichosanthes himalensis Clarke var. *sikkimensis* (Kundu) Thothathri Comb. nov. Basynym: *Trichosanthes ovigera* Blume var. *sikkimensis* Kundu. Synonym: *Trichosanthes himalensis* Clarke var. *indivisa* Chakravarty.

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1. KUNDU, B. C.—A revision of the Indian species of *Hodgsonia* and *Trichosanthes* *J. Bomb. nat. Hist. Soc.* 43: 383, 1943.
2. CHAKRAVARTY, H. L.—Monograph on Indian Cucurbitaceae. *Rec. bot. Surv. India* 17 (1): 51, 1959.
3. International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, Paris, 1954.

NEW PLANT RECORDS FROM NORTH KANARA

The present note deals with three new plant records for North Kanara i.e., *Achyranthes aquatica* R. Br., *Hibiscus cancellatus* Roxb., and *Polygonum viscosum* Ham. The species assume importance because of their rare occurrence along the western ghats and to the best of author's knowledge they are being reported from this area for the first time.

Achyranthes aquatica R. Br. (Hooker F.B.I. IV, 730 p., 1885): The species has been earlier reported from the eastern regions of India, i.e., North Circar, Ganjam, Coromandel Coast, Assam, while the present material was collected from Katur (North Kanara) during a tour to that area in November 1957.

Description: A moderately tall, rather robust aquatic herb, 64 to 120 cms. in height; stem striated, hollow, strigosely hairy; leaves 4.5 cms.-10.0 cms., nervation more prominent beneath; flowers in terminal glistening spikes; bracts small, scarious, ovate-acuminate; bracteoles 2, thin and papery; flowers sessile, large for the genus and about 1.25 cms. in diameter; perianth shining with a thickened base; perianth segments 5, variable in thickness and length, hard, green, bristle tipped; one exterior segment longer than the rest four; stamens 5, staminodes fimbriate, alternating,

anthers reddish when mature; ovules suspended from long funicles. The species flowers during rainy season and fruits in Nov.-Dec. Bharatnalli, Katur, North Kanara (Jain, 28280; 21-11-57).

Hibiscus cancellatus Roxb.: The species has not been described by Cooke (1903), Duthie (1903), and Gamble (1915), in their respective floras. Its earlier reports are from Simla hills and plains of Punjab, Chota Nagpur, Samhalpur, Kumaon and Nepal.

Description: Plant herbaceous; clothed with bristly shining orange brown hairs; leaves variable in size and shape, 8 cms.-15 cms. by 7 cms.-12 cms. or so, lower leaves usually unlobed, upper with 3-5 long narrow lobes, base cordate, obtuse and crenately toothed, with petioles upto 10 cms., stipules linear, flowers large, in terminal racemes, bracteate, bracts 2, peduncles upto 5 cms., bracteoles linear, hairy, 2-3 cms. long; corolla yellow; anthers scattered; fruit a subglobose capsule, 2-3 cms. long, densely covered with yellowish rusty hairs; bracteoles upto 12; filiform, persistent, 2 cms.-3 cms., long, hairy. Seeds numerous reniform, black. Flowers from Aug. to Nov. Fruits from Oct. to Jan.

Haines describes three forms of this species, and the