

A NEW SPECIES OF EUPHORBIA FROM SOUTH INDIA

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ABSTRACT

A new species of *Euphorbia* by name *E. senguptae* Bal. et. Subr., sp. nov., collected from Guvvalacheruvu, Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh, South India, has been described.

Euphorbia senguptae Bal. et Subr., sp. nov., in sect. *Anisophyllum* Roep. affinis *E. longistyla* Boiss., a qua tamen differt limbi glandulis integris, foliis acutis, ovato-ellipticis cordatisque, stipulis interpetiolaribus unitis, capsulis alte depresso-carinatis.

Herba erecta, 2.4-5.0 dm. alta, dichotome ramosa, caule lignoso luteo, ramulis ultimis filiformibus. *Folia* opposita, ovato-oblonga, acuta, serrulata, 0.4-2.4 × 0.2-1.4 cm., floralia vero minora, nec disticha nec imbricantia; stipulae interpetiolares, incisae, squamosae; spatia internodia longa. *Involucra* terminalia, turbinate, glabra, viridescens, 1-2 mm. longa; pedicelli breves, 0.5-3.0 mm. longi; involucri segmenta acuta, pilosa ad margines. *Glandulae* 4, ad sinus segmentorum involucri, cyathiformes, pedicellatae, pediculis puberulis; limbus integer, hyalinus, oblongo-ovatus, ± 0.75 mm. longus, ad apicem minute sinuatus, glaber, roseo-purpureus. *Flores* ♂ dispositi in fasciculos 5, quorum singuli 5-7-flori, pedicellis brevibus, bracteolis cyathio adnatis 3-lobatis, lobis pilosis; antherae 2-loculares, loculis subglobosis, dehiscentes transverse. *Flores* ♀ longe pedicellati; ovarium ± 1.5 mm. longum, ± 1.0 mm. latum, 3-loculare; styli 3, simplices, usque ad basin liberi; stigmata capitata, ovulo unico in singulis loculis, pendulo. *Capsula* carinata, 3-4 mm. longa, 2-3 mm. lata, dehiscens loculicide et septicide, columella persistente.

Semina tetragona, transverse bis terve sulcata, ± 2 mm. longa, ± 1 mm. lata, purpureo rubra colore.

Herbaceous, erect, 2.4-5.0 dm. tall, dichotomously branching, stem woody, yellowish, ending branchlets filiform. Leaves opposite, ovate-oblong, acute, serrulate 0.4-2.4 cm. long, 0.2-1.4 cm. wide, floral leaves smaller, not distichous or imbricating; stipules interpetiolar, incised, scaly; internodes distant. Involucre terminal, turbinate, glabrous, greenish, 1-2 mm. long; pedicel short, 0.5-3.0 mm. long; involucre lobes acute, margins hairy. Glands 4, in the sinuses of involucre lobes, cup-shaped, stalked, puberulous around the stalk; limb of glands entire, hyaline, oblong-ovate, ± 0.75 mm. long, tip minutely sinuate, glabrous, pinkish-purple. Male flowers arranged in 5 fascicles, each 5-7 flowered; pedicels short; bracteoles simple; last bracteoles adnate to the cup, three lobed, lobes hairy; anthers two-celled, cells subglobose, transversely dehiscent. Female flowers long stalked; ovary ± 1.5 mm. long, ± 1.0 mm. wide, 3-celled; styles 3, simple, free to the base; stigma capitate; ovules one in each cell, pendulous. Capsule keeled, 3-4 mm. long, 2-3 mm. wide, dehiscent loculicidally and septicidally leaving a persistent columella. Seeds tetragonous, transversely 2-3 furrowed, ± 2 mm. long, ± 1 mm. wide, purple-red in colour (Figs. 1-11).

Euphorbia senguptae Bal. & Subr.

1. Bases of branches not velutinous.
2. Leaves acute, ovate-elliptic cordate, auricled on one side.
3. Stipules united, interpetiolar, incised deeply.
4. Limb of glands broad, entire, minutely sinuate at tip.
5. Capsules deeply depressed-keeled.

Euphorbia longistyla Boiss.

1. Bases of branches velutinous.
2. Leaves obtuse, oblong-elliptic, not cordate at base.
3. Stipules free, not interpetiolar, incised minutely.
4. Limb of glands palmatifid to the base.
5. Capsule not deeply keeled.

HOLOTYPE: Guvvalacheruvu, Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh, 800 m., 6-10-1958, K. Subramanyam and N. P. Balakrishnan 6820, deposited in Southern Circle Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore. Accession no. 13349.

Ramanapenta, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh,

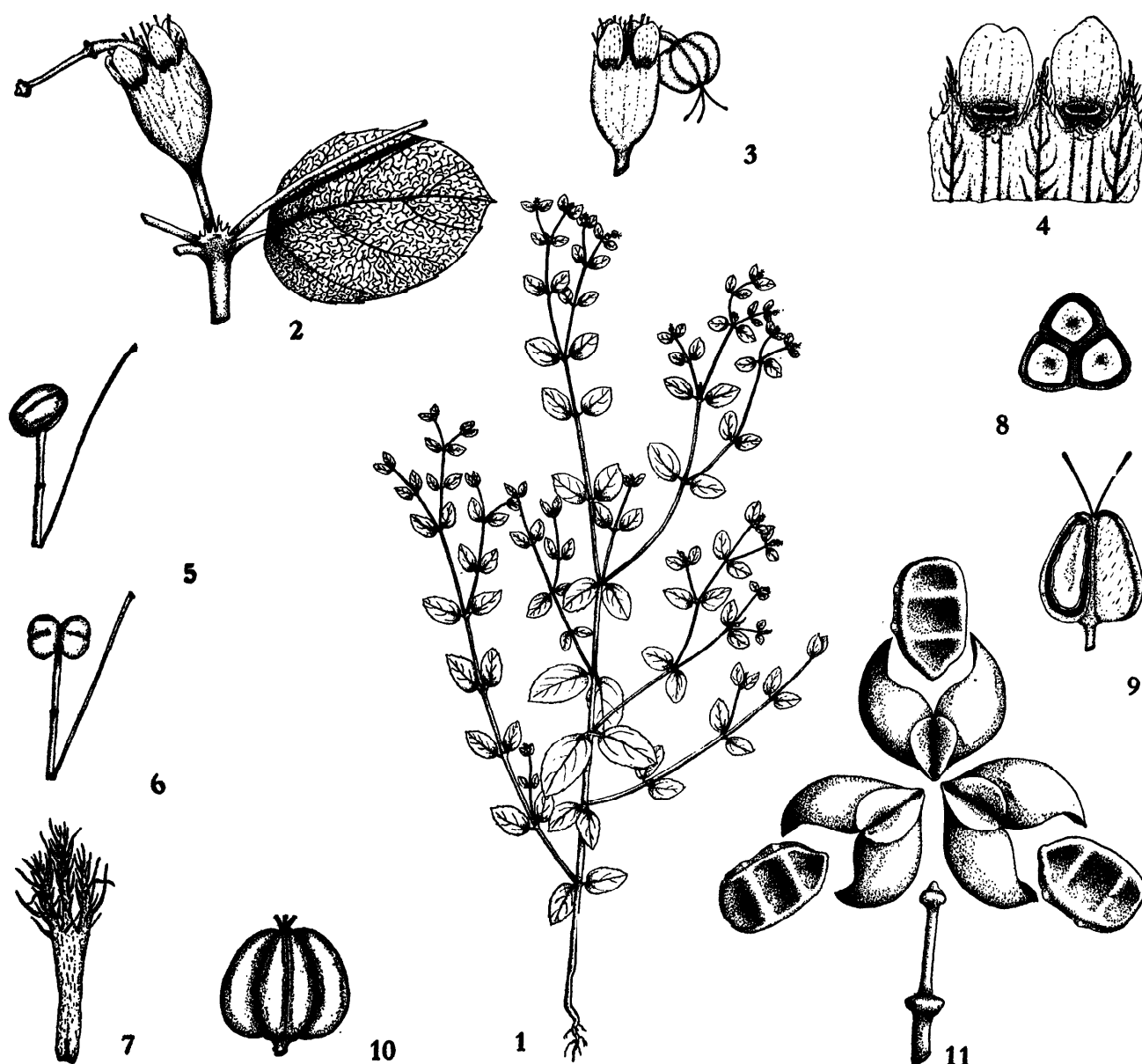
27-8-1917, K. Rangachari 14953, Madras Herbarium.

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Euphorbia found in Kew Herbarium. We also thank Rev. Fr. H. Santapau, S.J. of the St. Xavier's College, Bombay for the Latin diagnosis.



Euphorbia senguptae Bal. et Subr.

Fig. 1. habit $\times 25$; Fig. 2. a node showing leaf, stipule, branches and involucre $\times 5$; Fig. 3. involucre showing limb of glands and fruit $\times 5$; Fig. 4. a portion of involucre showing glands with entire limbs and involucre lobes between them $\times 7.5$; Fig. 5-6. two views of male flower $\times 10$; Fig. 7. peripheral bracteole $\times 10$; Fig. 8. T.s. of ovary $\times 6$; Fig. 9. L.s. of ovary $\times 6$; Fig. 10. capsule $\times 2.5$; Fig. 11. dehiscent capsule with columella, valves and seeds $\times 4$.