

A NEW VARIETY OF *GENIOSPORUM PROSTRATUM* FROM MADRAS STATE

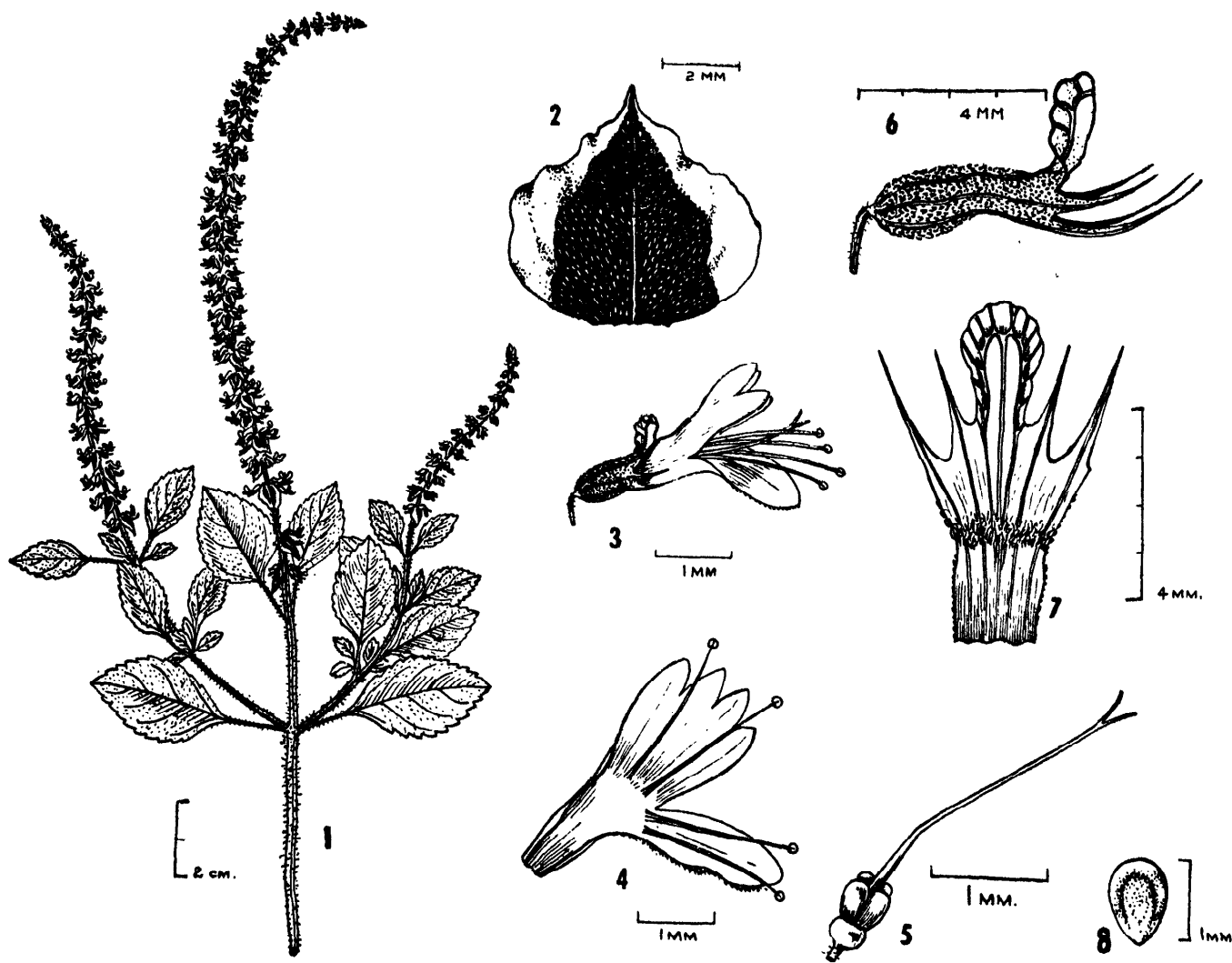
K. RAMAMURTHY AND K. M. SEBASTINE

*Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore****Geniosporum prostratum* Benth. var. *longiracemosum* Ramamurthy et Sebastine var. nov.**

Accedit ad *G. prostratum* Benth., a quo tamen differt foliis multo latoribus, gracilibus, ovato-ellipticis; petiolis et racemis longioribus; bracteis membranaceis, ad margines translucidis, viridibus ad medium, deltoideis, sparse pilosis; calycis lobis lateralibus lanceolatis et aristatis.

Herba erecta, 40-50 cm alta, culmo tetragono, pubescente. *Folia* gracilia, 5-9 cm longa, distanter jugata, 1-2 x 4-6 cm, longe-petiolata, ovato-elliptica, serrata, disperse pilosa in utraque pagina, fastigata

ad basin. *Racemi* tenues, elongati, 10-30 cm longi, verticillis propinquis; bracteae sessiles, membranaeae, hyalinae ad margines, virides ad medium, deltoideae, sparse pilosae, glandulosopunctatae. *Calyx fructifer* 4-5 mm longus, subcampanulatus, costatus, foveolatus, extus pilosus, in fauce ornatus annulo pilorum. Calycis dens superior oblongo-subtruncatus laterales vero lanceolati et aristati; bini dentes inferiores (interdum terni) lanceolati et aristati. *Corolla* alba, 3 mm, labio superiore 4-lobo; labium inferius obovatum, obtusum, superiore multo longius. Labium inferius pilosum extus. *Stamina* 4, exserta, didynama, declinata, filamentis liberis, in-

Figs. 1-8 : *Geniosporum prostratum* Benth. var. *longiracemosum* Ramam. et Seb.

1. Branch showing inflorescence. 2. Bract. 3. Typical flower. 4. Corolla split open, showing stamens. 5. Pistil. 6. Fruiting calyx. 7. Fruiting calyx split open, showing a ring of hairs in the throat and awned calyx teeth. 8. Seed.

appendiculatis, disco tumescente, gibbo; *ovarium* 4-partitum, stylo bifido, glabro; *nucellae* 1 mm longae, ovoideae, leves, paulum compressae, brunneolae.

Holotypus, *Sebastine & Ramamurthy 13701 A*, et isotypus *Sebastine & Ramamurthy 13701 B*, lecti and Kudiraimoli Teri R. F., in dist., Tirunelveli, in ditone Madras, die 29 novembris anni 1961 a K. M. Sebastine et K. Ramamurthy positi in herbario centrali nationali, ad Calcuttam (CAL), isotypi alii, *Sebastine & Ramamurthy 13701 C-F*, positi in herbario regionis australis, Bot. Surv. India ad Coimbatore.

***Geniosporum prostratum* Benth. var. *longiracemosum* Ramamurthy and Sebastine var. nov.**

Allied to *Geniosporum prostratum* Benth. but differs chiefly in having much broader, thin, ovate elliptic leaves, longer petiole; lengthier racemes; bracts membranous, transparent at margin and greenish in the middle, deltoid, sparingly pilose; the two lateral calyx teeth lanceolate and awned.

Erect herb 40-50 cm high; stem subtetragonal, pubescent throughout. Leaves thin, 5-9 cm long, in distant pairs, 1-2 x 4-6 cm, long petiolated, ovate elliptic, serrate, scattered pilose on both sides of

the lamina, base tapering. Racemes slender, elongated, 10-30 cm long, whorls close; bracts sessile, membranous, hyaline margin and greenish in the middle portion, deltoid, sparingly pilose, gland dotted. *Fruiting calyx* 4-5 mm long, subcampylulate, ribbed, pitted, hairy outside and with a ring of hairs in the throat. The upper calyx tooth is oblong subtruncate, 2 lateral teeth lanceolate and awned, the 2 lower teeth (sometimes 3 present) lanceolate and awned. *Corolla* white, 3 mm, upper lip 4 lobed; lower lip obovate, obtuse, rather longer than the upper. Lower lip outside hairy. *Stamens* 4, exerted, didynamous, declinate, filaments free, inappendiculate, disc swollen, gibbous; *ovary* 4 partite; style bifid, glabrous; *nutlets* 1 mm long, ovoid, smooth, slightly compressed, brownish.

The holotype of this variety *Sebastine & Ramamurthy 13701 A* and the isotype *Sebastine & Ramamurthy 13701 B* collected at Kudiraimoli Teri R. F., Tiruchendur Taluk, Tirunelveli District, Madras State on 29-11-1961 by K. M. Sebastine and K. Ramamurthy have been deposited in the Central National Herbarium, Calcutta; the isotypes *Sebastine & Ramamurthy 13701 C-F* have been deposited in the Regional Herbarium, Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore.