

A NEW SPECIES OF LICHEN FROM WEST BENGAL

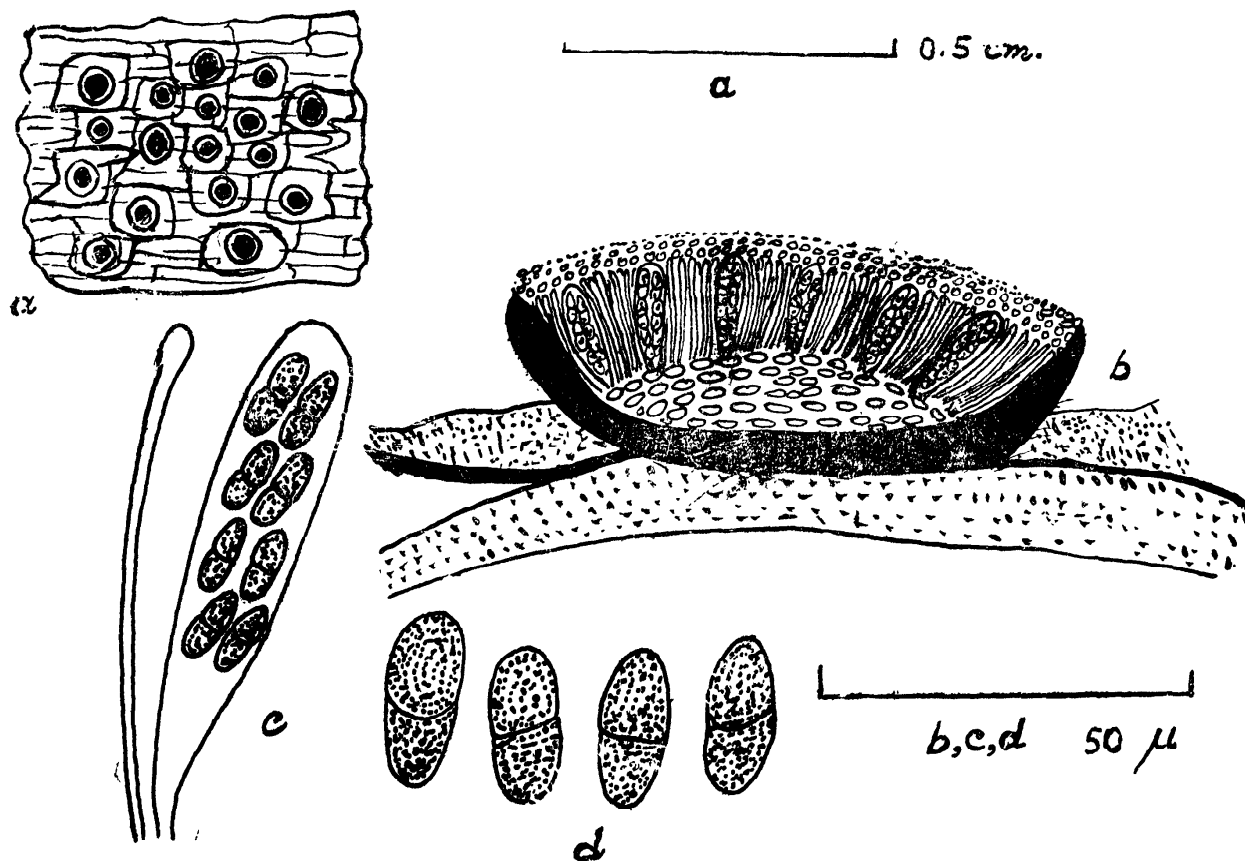
Buellia subramaniana K. N. Roy Chowdhury sp. nov.

Thallus tenuis, pallide viridulus, areolatus. Apothecia nigra 0.5-0.25 mm in diametro, partim immersa ad adnata, discus planus, cristis angustis. Hymenium hyaline ad flavido-brunneum, paraphyses distinctae, capitatae, non ramosae. Hypothecium flavido-brunneum. Sporae ovoideae vel ellipsoideae, $13-15 \times 6 \mu$ metientes, 2-loculares, pallide flavido-brunneae.

Chemistry: Thallus: Jodo non reagens.
KOH profunde flavidus.
CaCl non reagens.
Pd non reagens.

Hymenium: Gelatina jodo penitus
Cyaneus.

Typus lectus a Roy Chowdhury ad Saptagram, Birati, 24-Parganas, West Bengal, India, die 16. 11. 66, et positus in herbario monadis Cryptogamicae "Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta", sub numero



Figs. a-d: *Buellia subramaniana* K. N. Roy Chowdhury sp. nov. a. Portion of thallus with apothecia. b. Vertical section of apothecia. c. Ascus with paraphyses. d. Spores.

Roy Chowdhury 350 A. Isotype 350B et 350C positi in eodem herbario et isotypus 350 positus in herbario Universitatis Vermontensis, Burlington, U.S.A.

Buellia aethalea (Ach.) Th. Fr. affinis, aed thallus pallide viridulus, apotheciis 0.5-0.25 mm in diametro, aliquae partim immersis, sporis $13-15 \times 6 \mu$.

Buellia subramaniana K. N. Roy Chowdhury sp. nov.

Thallus thin, pale greenish, areolate. Apothecia black, 0.5-0.25 mm in diameter, partly immersed to adnate, disk flat with narrow ridges. Hymenium hyaline to yellowish-brown, paraphyses distinct, capi-

tate, unbranched (fig. c). Hypothecium yellowish-brown. Spores ovoid or elliptical (fig. d), measuring $13-15 \times 6 \mu$, 2-locular, faintly yellowish brown.

Chemistry: Thallus: Iodine = -ve.

(KOH). potassium hydroxide = +ve, turns deep yellow.

(CaCl). calcium hypochlorite = -ve.

(PD). P-phenylendiamine = -ve.

Hymenium: Gelatine of hymenium turns deep blue with iodine.

Matrix: On the bark of *Spondias pinnata* (Linn. f.) Kurz

The type of this taxon Roy Chowdhury 350A was collected from Saptagram, Birati, 24-Parganas, West Bengal, India on 16th November, 1966 and is deposited in the Herbarium of the Cryptogamic unit, Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta. Isotypes 350 B and 350 C are deposited in the above herbarium and 350 is deposited in the herbarium of University of Vermont, Burlington, U.S.A.

This species is allied to *Buellia aethalea* (Ach.) Th. Fr. but differs in the following characters.

a) Thallus pale greenish.

b) Apothecia 0.5 to 0.25 mm in diameter, and a few are partly immersed.

c) Size of the spore $13-15 \times 6 \mu$.

d) KOH, +ve, turns the medulla yellowish followed with the formation of stellate and rod shaped crystals.

e) Pd, -ve.

This species is named after Dr. K. Subramanyam, the former Director, Botanical Survey of India.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SCLERANTHUS ANNUUS LINN.—A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA

Scleranthus annuus Linn. Sp. Pl. 1: 406. 1753.

Hutchinson. J., Fam. Fl. Pl. 1: 433. t. 277 (ed. 2)

1959. Muenscher, Weeds, 208. t. 32 K-M. (ed. 2)

1955. Clapham *et al.* Ecr. Fl. Br. Isles 115. (ed. 2)

1968. Fl. Eur. 1: 149. 1964.

Annual or biennial herb 2.5-25 cm high. Tap root slender. Stems ascending or decumbent, glabrous or shortly hairy, much branched. Leaves exstipulate, 5-15 (-20) mm, simple, opposite, connate at the base by their narrow scarious margins, subulate, acute, usually ciliate on the lower margins. Flowers bracteate, bracts longer than the flowers, subsessile, solitary in the forks of the stem and in terminal and axillary clusters, ca 4 mm, small, green; sepals 5, triangular, acute, glabrous, margins narrowly scarious, suberect or slightly incurved in fruit; petals 0. Stamens 10 or fewer, ditheous, situated on the calyx,

much shorter than the sepals. Ovary 1 celled, styles-2, long filiform, stigma capitate. Fruit indehiscent, hard ± 4 mm long, enclosed by the glabrous 10 furrowed and very hard perigynous tube.

TAMIL NADU (Madras state): Nilgiri Dt., on the slope of Kukal Betta Hill (1925 m), 29-11-1970, Subba Rao *et* Kumari 37399 (MH), common on the Hill slope and near fields on brown soil associated with *Wahlenbergia gracilis* Schrad. and *Senecio lesingianus* Clarke.

Distribution: Native of Europe but found in N. Africa and Asia also. Introduced in United States of America and Canada.

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