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# SESHAGIRIA ANSARI ET HEMADRI (ASCLEPIADACEAE) FROM MAHARASHTRA STATE, INDIA—ADDITIONAL DATA

Recently the authors have described in a brief note, a new genus *Seshagiria* Ans. et Hem. in Indian Forester 97(3): 126-127, 1971 along with a plate wherein it was not possible to provide relevant data in details. Such details on characters and other interesting aspects together with a plate are now being presented in this paper to enable other botanists to locate this species in other parts of India too.

**Seshagiria sahyadrica** Ansari et Hemadri in Ind.

For. 97: 126-127, t. 1, f. 1-9, 1971 (Plate 1).

A perennial twiner, 2-4 m long. Stem twining, slightly woody, terete, branching and glabrous. Leaves variable, opposite, petiolate, ovate-acuminate or ovate-oblong, 7-12 × 3.5-6.5 cm, rarely upto 19 × 9 cm, entire, base broadly cordate with a few glands at the base of midrib on the upper side, 6-8 nerved; petiole 2-4.5 cm long, grooved, slightly ciliate along the margins. Inflorescence few to many-flowered sub-axillary or lateral sub-umbellate cymes; peduncles 1-3.5 cm long, puberulous, terete; pedicels capillary, puberulous, 1.5-2.7 cm long; calyx 5-partite, lobes 0.3 cm long, ovate, acute, ciliate along the margins; corolla vinaceous purple, ± fleshy, 1.5-2.0 cm long, divided near to the base, rotate; lobes over-lapping to the right at the base, twisted to the left linear-elongated, ± 0.2 cm wide

in the middle, tapering towards the slightly bent tip, broadening at the base upto 0.5 cm wide, with reflexed margins. Corona double; the outer cupular, fleshy, 5-lobed, forming cavities at the base with the staminal column; the inner corona of 5 dilated fleshy, subglobose masses, more or less 1/2 the length of staminal column and adnate to its base on one side and the outer corona lobes on the other side (or in between the staminal column and outer corona lobes). Anthers 5 with white, inflexed, membranous tips. Gynostegium 0.5 cm long. Pollen masses in all 10, pendulous, oblong, pale yellow, waxy, attached to the corpusculum by distinct caudicles. Carpels 2, glabrous, fleshy many-ovuled, free, usually one abortive. Follicles usually ± 8 × 2.5 cm, ovate-lanceolate, glabrous with warty protuberances all over. Seeds many, ovoid compressed ± 0.8 × 0.5 cm, prominently marginate; coma white, ± 2.5 cm long.

*Flowering*: May (end)-August.

*Fruiting*: August-October.

*Vernacular name*: Khobar-doda.

The twining stem and branches provide a strong fibre. As in the case of *Glossonema variens* (Stocks) Benth. the green immature fruits are relished by the local people.

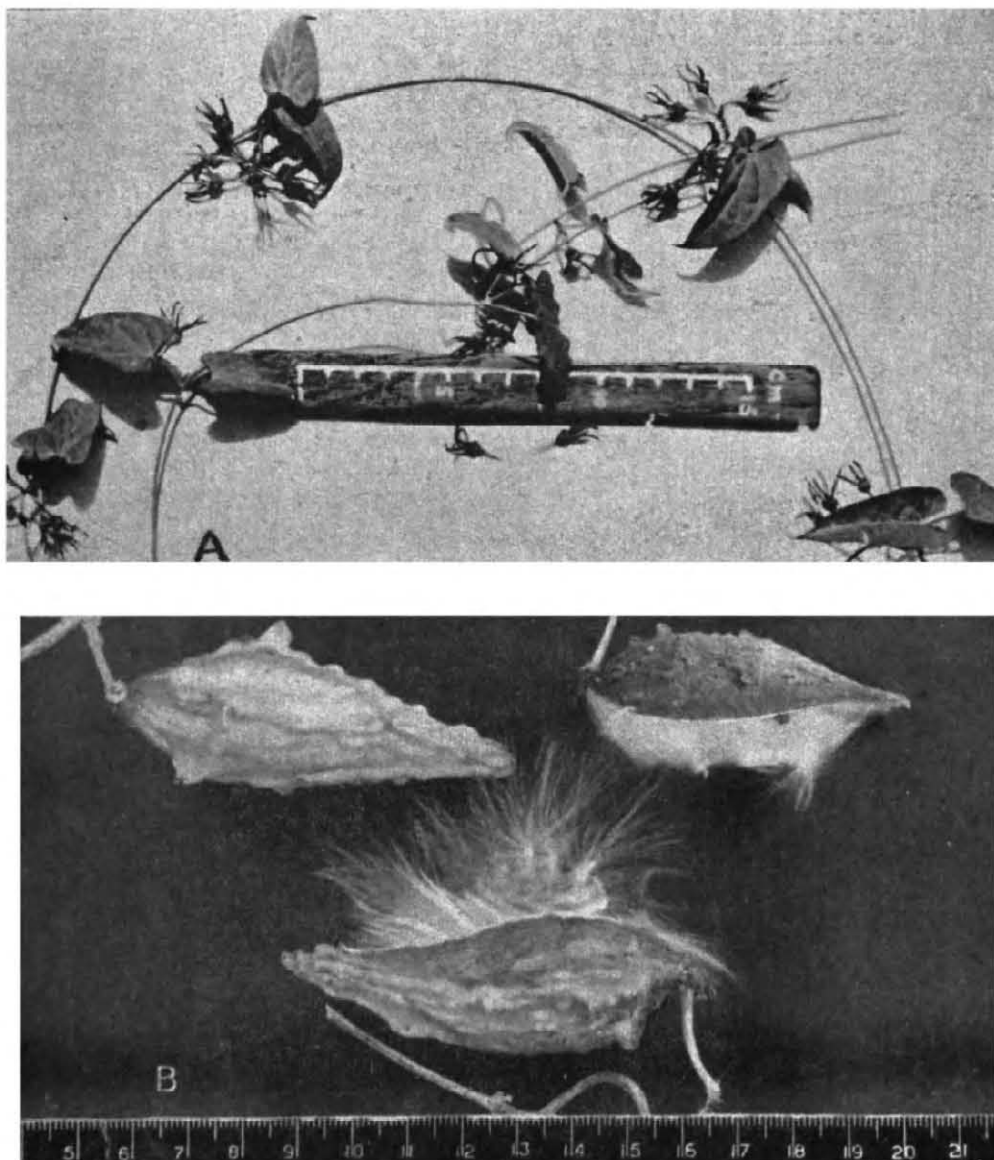


Plate 1 : *Sashagiria sahayadrica* Ans. et Hem.  
A. Part of the climber in flowers. B. Mature follicles.

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