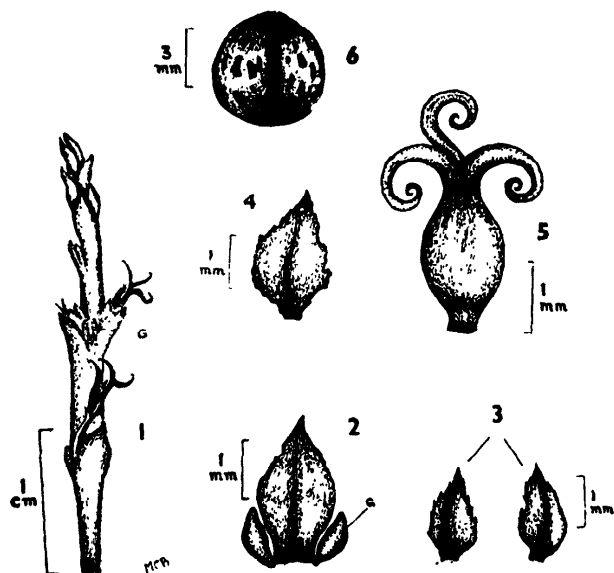


ovate, entire or serrate acute or acuminate, thickly coriaceous, uniflorous, with two large glands at the



Excoecaria robusta Hook. f.

Figs. 1-6: 1. Female spike. 2. Bract with two glands at its sides; (G-Gland). 3. Bracteoles. 4. Sepal. 5. Gynoecium. 6. Seeds.

sides. *Bracteoles* $\pm 2 \times 1$ mm, two, ovate, acute, irregularly dentate, coriaceous. *Sepals* $\pm 2.5 \times 2$ mm, three, subequal, obliquely ovate, acute, irregularly dentate, chartaceous. *Ovary* 3-celled; styles 3, stout, long, shortly connate at base, spreading, recurved, entire; ovules solitary in each cell. *Seeds* ± 6 mm in diameter, subglobose, mottled, estrophiolate; testa crustaceous.

Specimens examined: TAMIL NADU: Coimbatore Dt., Anamalais, Udumanparai, 30 April 1903, C. A. Barber 5725 (Acc. Nos. 48681, 48689 to 48692) (MH); Anamalais, between Poonachi and Monica, 26 May 1903, C. A. Barber 5972 (Acc. Nos. 48686, 48688) (MH). Madurai Dt., Sirumalai, 23 August 1913, Rangachari 9080 (MH). Nilgiris Dt., Sispara ghat, 1915, Beddome Acc. No. 48678 (MH). Tiruchirappalli Dt., Kollimalai, Selur to Valaram, 28 June 1916, Rangachari 13005 (MH).

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ABUTILON INDICUM (LINN.) SWEET SSP. *ALBESCENS* (MIQ.) BORSS. VAR. *AUSTRALIENSE* HOCHR.—A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA

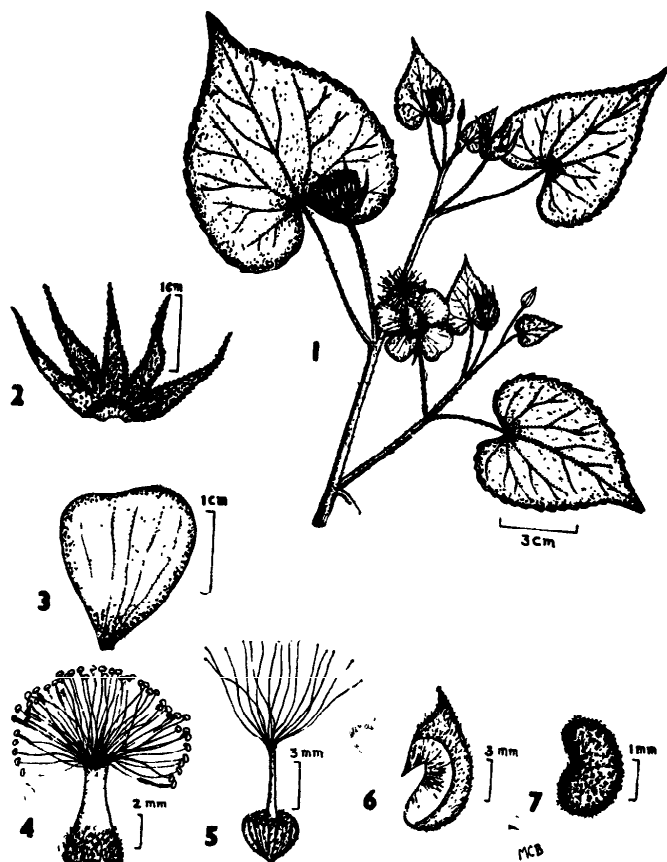
This paper records the occurrence of this variety from India for the first time. van Borssum Waalkes (1966) in his recent revision of 'Malesian Malvaceae' indicates the distribution of this variety from Malesia, Australia (Northern Territory, Queensland) and New Caledonia. Further, while confirming the specimen (*Sebastine* 9803) sent to him for examination he states in a communication, "Your specimen is the first one of that segregate which I have seen from India." Thus the common occurrence of this variety on the banks of Krishna river, Nagarjunasagar, Nalconda Dt., Andhra Pradesh turns out to be new record for India. This variety differs from the typical variety of *A. indicum* (Linn.) Sweet as follows:

<i>A. indicum</i> (Linn.) Sweet ssp. <i>indicum</i> var. <i>indicum</i>	<i>A. indicum</i> (Linn.) Sweet ssp. <i>albescens</i> (Miq.) Borss. var. <i>australiense</i> Hochr.
1. Calyx much shorter than the schizocarp; segments 3-4 mm long, ovate.	1. Calyx as long as or even longer than the schizocarp; segments 1-1.5 cm long, narrowly ovate.
2. Mericarps shortly acuminate at apex	2. Mericarps long-acute at apex.

A detailed description with figures are given for the better understanding and easy identification of this variety.

Abutilon indicum (Linn.) Sweet ssp. ***albescens*** (Miq.) Borss. var. ***australiense*** Hochr., Ann. Cons. Jard. Bot. Geneve 6: 20. 1902; Nova Guinea 14: 159. 1924; Van Borssum Waalkes in Blumea 14(1): 175, fig. 19 a-b. 1972. 1966. *A. indicum sensu* Span., Linnaea 15: 171. 1841; ? F.v. M., Descr. Not. Pap. Pl. 4: 55. 1875; Specht, Rec. Am.—Austr. Sc. Exp. Arnhem Land 3: 258. 1958. *A. graveolens* [non (Roxb. ex Hornem.) W. & A. ex Wight] Britten, in Forbes, Nat. Wand., App. 6: 500. 1885.

Undershrubs; stems terete, branched, velutinous by minute stellate hairs, also with scattered simple hairs. *Leaves* 2.24×1.5 -13 cm, alternate, simple, orbicular or ovate, cordate at base, obtusely acuminate, minutely crenate to irregularly dentate, velutinous on both surfaces by minute stellate hairs, also with scattered simple hairs; petioles upto 13 cm long; stipules ± 4 mm long, linear, acute, caducous.



Abutilon indicum (Linn.) Sweet ssp. *albescens* (Miq.) Borss. var. *australiense* Hochr.

Figs. 1-7: 1. A branch. 2. Calyx split open showing dorsal side. 3. Petal. 4. Androecium. 5. Gynoecium. 6. Mericarp. 7. Seed.

Flowers axillary, solitary. Pedicels 2-8 cm long, accrescent, jointed near the apex, covered with stellate and simple hairs. Involucral bracts absent.

Calyx 1.5-2 cm long, campanulate, velutinous by minute stellate hairs outside, densely tomentose within, 5-parted; segments 1-1.5 cm long, narrowly ovate, acute or acuminate; tube very short, slightly inflated. *Petals* $\pm 2 \times 1.7$ cm, yellow, adnate below the staminal tube, broadly obovate, truncate, obtuse or emarginate. *Staminal tube* ± 7 mm long, conical at base with stellate hairs; upper part tubular, glabrous; stamens many, free above, filaments ± 6 mm long, anthers monothecous. *Ovary* ± 4 mm in diam., depressed globose, stellate hairy; carpels 15-19; ovules 2 or more in each cell; styles as many as carpels, free above, united to form a column to half the length at the base, styler column ± 4 mm long; stigma capitate. *Schizocarps* $\pm 1 \times 2$ cm, depressed globose, indented at apex; mericarps 15-19, flat, reniform from side, long acute at apex, dorsally tomentose by stellate hairs. *Seeds* $\pm 2.5 \times 2$ mm, two or more in each mericarp, reniform, covered with stellate hairs (Figs. 1-7).

Specimens examined: ANDHRA PRADESH: Nalconda Dt., Nagarjunasagar, Krishna river bank, 16 Dec. 1959, *Sebastine* 9803 (MH).

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A NEW *OPHIORRHIZA* LINN. (RUBIACEAE) FROM SOUTH INDIA

Ophiorrhiza tirunelvelica Henry & Subr. sp. nov.

Herba ramosa, caulibus decumbentibus, ad basim nonnihil lignosis, tenuibus, minute ferrugineo-puberulis. Folia ad 8.4×3.2 cm, linearis-lanceata vel elliptico-lanceata, membranacea, supra glabra, infra glauca, ad nervos aliquantum puberula, breviter ad apicem acuminata, ad basim angusta; petioli ad 2.4 cm longi, minute ferrugineo-puberuli; stipulae interpetiolares, deciduae. Flores in inflorescentias cymas, terminales vel axillares dispositi; pedunculus ad 5 cm longus, tenuis. Calycis lobi 5, minores, persistentes. Corolla alba, tubulosa,

ad faucem dense pilosa; tubus 5-6 mm longus; lobi 5, $3-4 \times 1$ mm, ovato-oblongi, acuti vel acuminati, recurvi. Stamina 5, ad corollae tubum inserta, inclusa; filamentis gracilibus; antheris linearibus. Dicus glandulosus, lobi 2, majoribus. Ovarium 2-loculare, ovulis numerosis, placenta basalia, ascendente; stylus filiformis; stigma 2, planum. Capsula $2-3 \times 4-5$ mm, obcordata, compressa, coriacea, puberula. Semina minuta, angularis.

Typus *Henry* 17419A et isotypi *Henry* 17419B-F lecti ad Godaiyar, dist. Tirunelveli in statu Tamil