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Bonnaya succosa (Linderniaceae): A new record to the flora of Odisha, India

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ABSTRACT

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Bonnaya succosa (Kerr ex Barnett) Eb.Fisch., Schäferh. & Kai Müll., is reported from the coastal areas of India as a new distributional record for the state of Odisha, India. The morphological description, taxonomical note, phenology, ecology & list of associated species is provided for easy identification during the field studies.

Keywords: Bonnaya, Odisha, Taxonomical characters, Coastal areas

1. INTRODUCTION

Linderniaceae family was previously belonged to the family Scrophulariaceae which disintegrated from the earlier family (Fisher et al., 2013). The assembly of these family is controversially discussed in a complex taxonomic history with a broadly defined based on the genus Lindernia Allioni. It was later splited into 13 different genera (Fisher, 1992). However, common genera are Bonnaya, Lindernia, Vandellia and Ilysanthes. (Pennell, 1935; Philcox, 1968). The above four genera are splitted considering the distinguishing character based on androecium, leaf, capsule and calyx (Yi et al., 2012). The genus Bonnaya is characterized by stamens (a single pair) and staminodes (single pair), a linear cylindrical capsule & lobbed calyx (Fisher et al., 2013). As per the previous revisions, the genus Bonnaya has two sections having 14 species. The key characters of Bonnaya are quadrangular stem, pinnate leaves oftenly, blades are linear, linear-lanceolate, elliptical, obovate or oblong, less than 6 pairs of serration to less than 16 pairs of serrations in margin; inflorescence raceme subtended by a small linear lanceolate bract. It was noticed that corolla usually pale pink, pale purple or pale blue in color with sometimes white or purple spots. Glandular hairs at the basal parts in clavate staminodes with; Capsule linear cylindrical; Seed angular with several stellate projections (Yi et al., 2012; Yi et al., 2014; Devi et al., 2021). On 24th September 2020, the authors made an observation of the Bonnaya species during the field survey that was carried out in & around the coastal areas near Konark temple and Chandrabhaga Beach, Odisha. The species was collected for taxonomical examination. Previous studies had showed that Liang Yi-Shuo and his coworkers had made revisions on genera Bonnaya and Lindernia. A critical characterization was done considering the key characters, authors have

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approached Liang Yi-Shuo for his expert opinion and as per his key we concluded that the collected specimen was *Bonnaya succosa* (Figure 1&2). A brief description of the species, photographs and associated plants are provided in this study.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The plant specimens were collected from its habitat around the Coastal areas near Konark temple and Chandrabhaga Beach, Odisha and were morphologically analysed with its key characters (Liang *et al.*, 2014). A herbarium specimen is deposited in the herbarium division of APRF, Odisha, India.



Figure 1: Habitat of Bonnaya succosa and its collection sites

3. TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Bonnaya succosa (Kerr ex Barnett) Eb.Fisch., Schäferh. & Kai Müll., Willdenowia 43(2): 221 (2013), (Figure 2).

Annual herb 3-12 cm long, slightly creeping; rarely multi branched; Stem quadrangular, fleshy, prostrate to ascending, internodes ~2cm long; Leaves opposite alternate, linear, rarely pinnately veined and often uninerved; elliptic, sessile, crenate with 2-4 teeths, glabrous; Flower solitary-axillary or sparsely racemes; often leaf opposite flowers; Bract small, linear, apex acute; Pedicel glabrous; Calyx deeply 5-lobbed, ~1.7mm long, ~0.2mm width; Corolla pale violet ~4mm long, ~4mm width, Corolla tube ~0.2mm long, ventral lip 3 with rounded lobes, adaxially broad, glabrous, white, dorsal lip obtuse at the apex, ~1.2mm width; Stamens 2; Staminodes clavate, Slightly curved, pale violet to white, ~1mm long, sparsely puberulous at base; Ovary elliptic ~ 0.1mm long, style ~ 2mm long (Figure 2).

Distribution and habitat

It is found in the low marshland below 200 m MSL. It is so far been reported from China, North-eastern Thailand and Laos. It has also been reported from Southern part of India.

Flowering September to October



Figure 2: *Bonnaya succosa,* A) Whole plant, B) & D) Flower, C) Dorsal lip, E) Ventral lip, F) Leaves, G) & I) Calyx with Pedicel and Style, H) Stem showing internodes

Specimens examined

INDIA, Odisha, Puri District, Chandrabhaga, Latitude 19°85′99″6 N Longitude 86°08′83″4E Elevation 17.37m MSL, 24th September *Sanjeet Kumar & Rajkumari Supriya Devi 40* (APRFH).

Associated flora

Some of the flora associated with *Bonnaya succosa* include *Eriocaulon quinquangulare*, *Rotala indica*, *Utricularia minutissima*, *Utricularia polygaloides*, *Utricularia caerulea*, *Utricularia bifida*, *Utricularia stellaris*, *Centranthera tranquebarica*, *Anacardium occidentale*, *Casuarina equistefolia* etc. (Table 1).

Figure 3: A) Utricularia bifida, B) Utricularia caerulea, C) Utricularia polygaloides, D) Utricularia minutissima, E) Utricularia stellaris F) Centranthera tranquebarica

Notes

The collected specimen is found near the sea beach having brackish water habitat. It is mostly associated with carnivorous and parasitic plants species (Table 1; Figure 3). In the collected specimen, it was observed that branching is rarely multi branched; rarely

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pinnately veined and often uninerved. Liang *et al.* (2014) reported that *B. succosa* possesses pale blue colour corolla and central lobe of ventral lip with white and blue marks whereas the collected specimen possesses pale violet corolla, adiaxilly broad and white colour in all the 3 lobes. The minor morphological difference might be observed due to the variations in landscape of the habitat.

Scientific Name	Family	Vernacular name
Eriocaulon quinquangulare	Eriocaulaceae	Ghana Kadam
Utricularia minutissima	Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort
Utricularia polygaloides	Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort
Utricularia bifida	Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort
Utricularia stellaris	Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort
Utricularia caerulea	Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort
Centranthera tranquebarica	Orobanchaceae	Tranquebar Spur-Anther Flower
Rotala indica	Lythraceae	Indian toothcup
Casuarina equistefolia	Casuarinaceae	Jhau
Anacardium occidentale	Anacardiaceae	Cashew

Table 1: Associated flora of Bonnaya succosa

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Ethical approval

Bonnaya succosa (Kerr ex Barnett) Eb.Fisch., Schäferh. & Kai Müll., is gathered from the coastal areas of Odisha, India. The ethical guidelines for plants & plant materials are followed in the study for the morphological description, taxonomical note, phenology, ecology & list of associated species identification during the field studies. For identification of collected plant specimen was carreied out with the association of local community and Yi-Shuo Liang, Department of Life Science, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan.

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Conflicts of interests

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interests.

Data and materials availability

All data associated with this study are present in the paper.

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