

Exacum paucisquamum (Gentianaceae): a new record for Odisha state from Bonai Forest Division, Odisha, India

Abstract

Exacum paucisquamum (C. B. Clarke) Klack., so far known ~~in India~~ only from Western & Eastern Himalayas **in India**, is reported for the first time from Odisha state. A detailed description **of the species, including its** phenology, distribution and photographs along with **documented** associated plants are provided for easy identification in the field.

Keywords: Mycoheterotrophic, Leaf litter, Ground orchids, Bonai

Introduction

Exacum paucisquamum (C. B. Clarke) Klack. was known to occur in India in the state of Sikkim (Singalila range), West Bengal (Darjeeling), in the moist Eastern Himalayas and Uttarakhand (Chamoli) in the Western Himalayas (Clarke 1883; Hara 1975; Tiwari et al. 2015), but the species ~~are- is~~ not reported from the Odisha state, India. During recent exploration ~~on works for~~ biodiversity assessment and restoration of threatened plants, on 3rd September 2022 in Sole range of Bonai Forest Division, Odisha, **the** authors collected **an interesting** species ~~from~~ under the leaf litter. After critical morphological observation and literature **review** (Yuan et al. 2003, 2005; Klackenberg 2006; Tiwari et al. 2015), it was found that **the** collected species **on decomposed leaf litter** was *Exacum paucisquamum* (C. B. Clarke) Klack.~~on decomposed leaf litter~~. This **paper** is the first **report record** of the species from Odisha state, India. A detailed description, phenology, distribution and photographs along with **its** associated plants are provided for easy identification.

Taxonomic Treatment

Exacum paucisquamum (C. B. Clarke) Klack., Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 126:478. 2006.
Cotylanthera paucisquama C.B. Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 94. 1883; H. Hara, J.

Specimen examined: India, Odisha, Sundargarh, Bonai Forest Division, Sole, 22° 0' 30" N, 84° 36' 57" E, 680.17 m elevation, 3rd September 2022, Sweta Mishra & Sanjeet Kumar, 0073 (APRFH 073).



Plate 1: *Exacum paucisquamum* (C. B. Clarke) Klack. A) Habit, Ecology of collected specimen, B) Flower, C) Roots, D) Whole plant and E) Lateral view of the flowers. lower parts

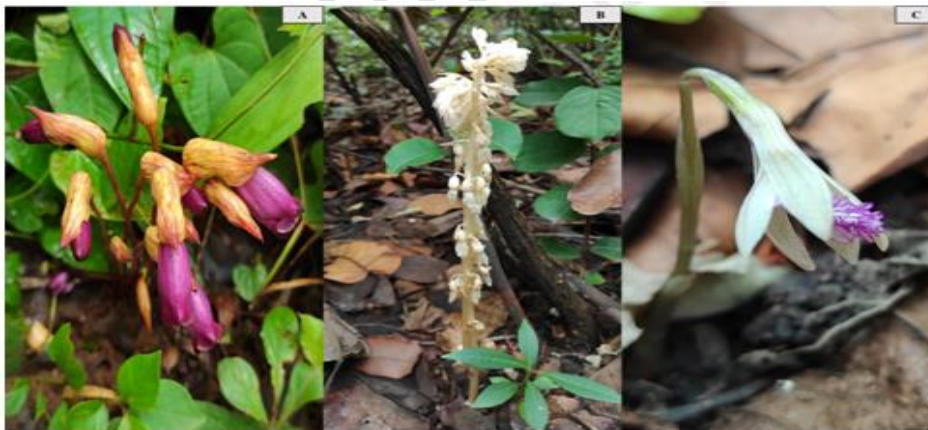


Plate 2: Some documented associated plants. species, A) *Aeginetia indica* L., B) *Epipogium roseum* (D. Don) Lidnl., C) *Nervilia concolor* (Blume) Schltr.

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