

NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS OF *VANDA TESSELLATA* (ROXB.) HOOK, EX G. DON AND *VANDA TESTACEA* (LINDL.) RCHB., FOR SATPUDA RANGE OF JALGAON DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA

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Abstract

The present paper deals with addition of *Vanda tessellata* (Roxb.) Hook and *Vanda testacea* (Lindl.) Reichb., these species are reported for the first time for the Satpuda range of Jalgaon district. The present study gives report of 2 taxa from the study regions. Frequent visits were made during January to May in the study region and specimens were collected and processed. The species collected has been identified and authenticated and the herbarium specimens have been deposited in the Department of Botany, H.J.Thim College of Arts and Science Mehrun, Jalgaon. The detailed description of the present investigation along with Photograph are provided below.

Key words: New records, Satpuda range, Jalgaon district, Maharashtra.

INTRODUCTION

Vanda W. Jones ex R. Br. About 35 species; Indo-Malesia. Australia and Philippine Islands: 11 species of *Vanda* are known from India. 2 species in Maharashtra and 3 in Madhya Pradesh. *Vanda* W. Jones ex R. Br. is one of the most popular genera of Orchids. The well spread sepals and petals of all *Vanda* species with vibrant colour combinations and longevity are appreciated by all. Jalgaon district lies between 20⁰ and 21⁰ North latitude and 74⁰ 55' and 76⁰ 28' East longitudes. The Jalgaon district has a total area about 272 sq. km. The total forest area in the district is 72685.27 hectares. On its location in the upper Tapi basin, it forms a distinct topographical unit separated from neighboring Madhya pradesh state by Satpura ranges and

form the south by Satmala hilly ranges. The physiographic of the district is made up of high hill ranges on the north, alluvium in the centre and low hill ranges to the south of Tapi. On the north, the hill ranges stretch east-west and form part of the Satpuras, the highest peak being about 1175 meters. The collected species like *Vanda tessellata* (Roxb.) Hook and *Vanda testacea* (Lindl.) Reichb. are rare to Maharashtra and collected from only few places like Chandrapur, Bhandara, Raigad, Pune, Satara, Kolhapur, Ratnagiri and Thane.

The study region though botanically rich in biodiversity have not been explored extensively except a few sporadic reports on floristic of Khan and Chaudhari (2014), More (2013), Kshirsagar and Patil (2008), Valvi (2006). The forest of Jalgaon district is of the tropical, dry deciduous type. The vegetation varies with the changes in altitude, aspect and rainfall. During botanical explorations of Jalgaon district, 02 interesting Epiphytic plants belonging to Orchidaceae were collected. Close examination with the help of literature and herbarium specimens revealed that these species are new distributional records to the satpuda range, Jalgaon district of Khandesh region. All of these have been identified and authenticated by Dr. Milind Sardesai. Detailed descriptions is given below:

Vanda tessellata (Roxb.) Hook, ex G. Don in Loud., Hort. Brit. 372. 1830; Lakshmi. in Sharma *et al.* Fl. Maharashtra St. Monocot. 62. 1996; Singh *et al.*, in Fl. M. P. 3: 73. 2001. *Epidendrum tessellatum* Roxb., Pl. Coromandel 1: 34. t. 42. 1795. *Vanda roxburghii* R. Br. in Bot. Reg. 6: t. 506. 1821; Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6: 52. 1890. *Cymbidium tesseloides* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3: 463. 1832, 'tessaloides' - Badang. Plate-I.

Epiphytes. Stems thick, 30-50 cm long, sheathed. Leaves alternate, linear, recurved, strap-shaped, 10-20 x 1-2 cm, entire, thick, coriaceous, keeled, praemorse at apex with usually 2 unequal rounded lobes and an acute one in between. Flowers in axillary, 4 to 10 flowered, zigzag, 15-20 cm long racemes, fragrant; bracts triangular, obtuse, 1-veined. Sepals unequal; dorsal sepal obovate, faintly 3-lobed, waxy on margins; lateral sepals obovate, obtuse. Petals yellowish green, oblong, shorter than sepals, obtuse. Labellum white or yellow with violet tips, infundibuliform, 3-lobed, spurred; spur conical, 6-7 mm long. Column cylindrical, fleshy. Capsules clavate, 6-8 cm long, ribbed; stipe 1.6-3.5 cm long.

Flowering and Fruiting : March- May

GPS Reading: N 21° 22' 31.39" E 75° 30' 44.17" (Elevation 468.7m)

Distribution: Occasional. Epiphyte on trees like *Mangifera indica* L., *Madhuca longifolia* Koen., *Diospyros melanoxylon* Roxb. and *Butea monosperma* Lamk. Flowers little fragrant and showy. In Maharashtra reported from Chandrapur, Kokan, Pune, Nagpur, Bhandara.

Specimens examined : Jalgaon Dist., Devjiri forest, TAK 2751; Vaijapur forest TAK 3018; Pathi Camp TAK 3049.

Uses: Aphrodisiac activity was detected in the alcohol extract of *Vanda tessellate* (Roxb.) Hook. (roots and flowers).

Vanda testacea (Lindl.) Reichb. f. in Gard. Chron. 2: 166. 1877; Lakshmi. in Sharma *et al.* Fl. Maharashtra St. Monocot. 63. 1996; Sigh *et al.*, in Fl. M. P. 3: 74. 2001. *Aerides testaceum* Lindl., Gen. Sp. Orchid. Pl. 238. 1833. *Vanda parviflora* Lindl. in Edward's Bot. Reg. 30: Misc. 45. 1844; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 6: 50. 1890. 'Hadaicha-lasun'. Plate-I.

Epiphytes. Stems thick, stout, non-pseudobulbous, 10-20 cm long, portion covered over by remains of old, brown leaf bases, sheathed; roots thick, vermiform. Leaves alternate, linear or linear-oblong, 10-18 x 1-1.5 cm, 3-toothed at apex, coriaceous, keeled. Flowers in axillary, 3-15 cm long, erect racemes; peduncles stout, terete, with few sterile sheathing bracts; bracts brown, ovate or ovate-oblong, scabrid, 3-nerved. Sepals unequal; dorsal sepal oblong-ob lanceolate; lateral sepals obovate. Petals yellow, spatulate, narrow, concave. Labellum 3-lobed, spurred, reflexed, sessile; spur yellow, narrow, 1.5-2 mm long, vermiform at tip. Column short, with a short foot. Capsules oblong-fusiform, 2-3 x 0.5-0.7 cm, winged.

Flowering and Fruiting: March- May

GPS Reading: N 21° 22' 13.70" E 75 ° 31' 26.69" (Elevation 490.3m)

Distribution: Occasional. Epiphyte on trees like *Shorea robusta* Roth. and *Madhuca longifolia* Koen. In Maharashtra reported from Kolhapur, Bhandara, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Satara, and Thane.

Specimens examined: Jalgaon Dist., Chopda forest, TAK 2957; Handya Kundyia TAK 3159; Devjiri forest TAK 3194.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

While working on flowering plants of Satpuda range, Jalgaon district of Maharashtra State, exploration undertook frequent collection tours in every season to collect plants. The outcome of the collection tour was the 02 species of *Vanda* W. Jones ex R. Br. are *Vanda*

tessellata (Roxb.) Hook and *Vanda testacea* (Lindl.) Reichb. All taxa have been identified with the help of available literature (Hook, 1890; Lakshminarasimhan *et al.*, 1996; Singh *et al.*, 2001). The voucher specimens are deposited at the herbarium of Department of Botany, H. J. Thim College of Arts and Science Mehrun, Jalgaon, Maharashtra.

The plants have been described with their Latin names, followed by authors citations. Detailed descriptions of the taxa, flowering and fruiting period and distributions, precise locations and exsiccate numbers are appended at the end.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

During the survey of pertinent literature (Kshirsagar and Patil 2008; More, 2013; Khan *et al.*, 2015; Khan and Patil 2019). We found that, these species were not reported in any of the Jalgaon District. This clearly reveals that, these species are rare to Khandesh region, even Maharashtra as a whole. Thus, the described species are new record to the Jalgaon district of Maharashtra State. On close examination of herbarium specimens and detailed scrutiny of literature published till today on these taxa, It can be claimed that this is new distributional records for Jalgaon district from Maharashtra.

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Vanda tessellata (Roxb.) Hook



Vanda testacea (Lindl.) Reichb.

Palte-I

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