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ADDITION OF SEDGES TO THE FLORA OF MARATHWADA, MAHARASTRA STATE

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ABSTRACT

Scleria multilocunosa Koyama. a new distributional record for the Marathwada region of Maharashtra is described.

Keywords: Cyperaceae, New Records, Marathwada, Maharashtra.

INTRODUCTION

While working with the family Cyperaceae of Marathwada (Maharashtra) a few interesting specimens were Collected. Their critical study suggested that they belong to *Scleria multilocunosa* Koyama as an addition Vol.-II to Flora of Marathwada (Naik V. N. 1998). The genus *Scleria* is represented in Peninsular India, rest of Maharashtra and Andaman, with about 27 taxa (23 species W. Khan 2007) while with about 24 taxa (19 Species) in Cyperaceae of Western Ghats, West Coast and Maharashtra (2015).

The region Vidarbha of Maharashtra seems to be center for maximum (*ca* 12) taxa of *Scleria* while region Marathwada represents 4 species of *Scleria*. The present study reveals that this species (*S. multilocunosa*) is new distributional record for the Marathwada region of Maharashtra.

Scleria multilocunosa Koyama in Bull. Nat. Sci Mus. 17(1): 71. F. 3. 1974 et. in Dassan. & Fosb. Rev. Handb. Fl. Ceylon 5:361. f. A & B 1985. Pullaiah & Hanumanth. in Fl. Andhra Pradesh 3:1114.1997; W. Khan et al in J. Eco. Tax. Bot. 27 (Suppl.): 1222.2003. et W. Khan in Cyperaceae of Western Ghats, West Coast and Maharashtra 361.2015.

Annual stem upto 60 cm tall, ca 2 mm thick, sharply triquetrous, glabrous, smooth or sparsely scabrid on angles. Leaves shorter than stem; blades, 3.5-5 mm wide, glabrous, scabrous on margins and abaxial costa, sheaths 3-6 cm long, glabrous or sparsely pubescent, sharply triquetrous, with scabrous angles. Inflorescence with 2-4 half panicles, the lowest one distant from the remainder and on a long exserted peduncle, partial panicles subspiciform, ca 1-2 cm long and broad, the flattened branches bearing 3-5 female spikelets and 1-3 male spikelets intermingled; lower leafy bract sheathing, male spikelets 3-3.5 mm broad, lanceolate, short peduncled. Female spikelets 3-4 mm long; glume usually 3, ovate to lance-ovate, $3.8-4.2 \times 2.3$ mm, acuminate at apex, boat-shaped with green keel. Disk deeply 3 lobed; lobes obovate, 0.8×0.5 mm, subcoriaceous, yellowish, contracted at cuspidate apex. Nut globose, $2-2.3 \times 2$ mm, mucronate rounded at apex, white-ceramic surface irregularly lacunose or foveolate with many shallow depressions of varying shape and size. Style 3 fid, 1 mm long.







a-Nut, b- Inflorescence and c – Spikelet

Occasional in shady, moist areas.

Fls. and Frts: - October to December

Exsiccata: - Maharashtra, Aurangabad district, On the way Adul Tanda to Kadethan Solanke S. N. 19192.

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