



BIODIV News



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A Quarterly e-Newsletter of U.P. State Biodiversity Board

Editorial

Esteemed Readers,

We wish to have safe, clean and green planet for which the holistic effort is necessary by all the stakeholders. The survival of mankind depends upon the earliest commitment to protect the mother earth. The emission of carbon and the consequent impact of global warming is a matter of grave concern for all of us, which requires local, state, national and global efforts.

With this backdrop, we are handing over the first issue of the BIODIV News - the quarterly e-Newsletter of the **Uttar Pradesh State Biodiversity Board to the entire world to get benefit out of the footprint of knowledge embedded in it.** We would like to invite you to have a fresh look at, what is happening in and around Uttar Pradesh as well as in the other parts of the world in the field of biodiversity conservation - and believe us, there is a lot more going on.

The newsletter is available on the **Uttar Pradesh State Biodiversity Board** web-site: <http://www.upsbdb.org> and all the facets of biodiversity conservation will be made open to you when you contribute your views as soon as possible. We have started registration of Biodiversity specialists in our website and this would be available on site for the use of entire world.

Hope, you will enjoy reading it.

Editors

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Indopiptadenia oudhensis (Brandis) Brenan: monotypic, endemic and highly endangered taxa needs conservation in Uttar Pradesh

Anand Prakash, KK Rawat¹ and PC Varma²

Museum, Ethno botany and Ecology Division, Seed Biology Division¹, Palynology Division²

National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR), Lucknow

Uttar Pradesh-2206001(India)

Correspondence: pranand_1@sify.com

The genus *Indopiptadenia* is typically an American and African taxon (Hutchinson, 1964). It belongs to family Mimosaceae. The taxa treated for long time under the genus *Piptadenia* that according to Brenan (1955) *Sensu stricto* occurs only in America and Australia. *Indopiptadenia* is monotypic genus occurring in India and Nepal region. It can readily be distinguished from the *Piptadenia* by its elongate seeds, glandular petiole, glandular rachis, unijugate leaves and the corolla lobes free to the base.

Originally Mr. Richard Thomson discovered the taxon in March 1871 in Oudh forests under the base of hills in Gonda Division, where it was commonly clothing the sides of hills and entering along the valleys (Brandis 1874). P.C. Kanjilal in 1966 has dealt the species *Indopiptadenia oudhensis* Brenan in his floristic account during his studies in upper gangetic plains and adjacent Siwaliks of the area. Biswas and Chandra in 1997 have provided an account on *Indopiptadenia oudhensis* based on poor conditioned, solitary tree growing in the arboretum of New Forest, Dehra Dun. In recent years, surveys and collection of the taxa were undertaken during the year 2004-2007 in the Shrawasti forest ranges and adjacent area of Uttar Pradesh. The voucher specimens have been collected and deposited in the herbarium of National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow (LWG). It was observed that the species has now nearly vanished from the Indian forest localities in Shrawasti district of Uttar Pradesh from where it was earlier reported. A perusal of literature and floristic records on the species reveals that the

plant is monotypic genus represented by a single species i.e. *Indopiptadenia oudhensis* an endemic and threatened taxon in the area.

In India the species is reported in the localities of Bahraich, Gonda, Gorakhpur, along Sub Himalyan tracts of Nepal and outermost ranges of Kumaun hills between 300-600 m ASL. (Kanjilal 1966). Outside India this legume taxa of fodder and wood values are found uncommonly in Western Nepal up to 450m altitude.

Taxonomy

Morphologically, it is small-sized, branched tree with short trunk, drooping branchlets and rough grayish or reddish brown bark, which exfoliates in woody scales, armed with large compressed conical prickles. Leaves are bipinnate; pinnae two, long stalked. Flowers are greenish-yellowish, subsessile or sessile in long dense pubescent spikes. Pods are 25-26 cm long by about 02 cm flat reddish- brown, glabrous narrows to a stalk. Seed 15-20, compressed broad oval.

Indopiptadenia oudhensis (Brandis) Brenan in Kew bull.1955: 173.1955; Henry and Roy in Bull.Bot.Surv.India 10:275.1968. Ohashi in Hara & William, Enum. Fl. Pl. Nepal 2:123.1979 (Mimosaceae).

Piptadenia oudhensis Brandis, For. Fl. NWC India: 168.1874; Baker in Fl. Brit. India 2:289.1878; Duthie, Fl. Upper Gangetic Plains etc.1: 283.1960.

***Adenantha oudhensis* Stewart; Kanjilal, PC.For.Fl. UP Plains II: 285-286.1966.**

Vernacular/Local Name: Hathi Paula (Nepali)
Genti, Gainti (India)

Phenology:

Flowering: April-May

Fruiting: June-July

Distribution

This species is reported in sub-tropical regions of India (Uttar Pradesh); foothills of Himalayas in close vicinity to the territory of Nepal near Gonda, Bahraich, Gorakhpur District; hills above Brahmedo in Eastern Kumaun and Tanakpur, Terai belt of Nepal Banks of Gandak and along the Indo-Nepal border (Kanjilal 1966)

Ecology

The taxon is monotypic, endemic and critically endangered occurring on the slopes and hillocks of the foothills of Himalayas near Nan Mehra forests in Uttar Pradesh. Based on population size, distribution pattern, regeneration rate and our own surveys and studies it is revealed that the species is critically endangered in the study area.

Specimens Examined: Anand Prakash, 227430, 227460 (LWG); Bis Ram 50355 (DD), Inayat 23636 (DD), Raizada 69269(DD), Inayat 23636 (CAL),

Conservation

The habitat loss due to some factors like, modernization, overgrazing, animal husbandry has resulted in the loss of diversity. Endangered species have particularly suffered from lack of effective pollinators, viable seed formation and natural regeneration, diseases etc. resulting in the depletion and erosion of the genetic diversity in them.

No conservation strategy can be effective unless taken care of the basic needs of the local communities. A good deal of biodiversity is also protected through folk traditions.

Considering the prevailing situation and diverse plant wealth of the area, emphasis

must be laid on the conservation measures, both in-situ and ex-situ. The in-situ approach, however, needs priority for the protection of endangered species, which have already lost the diversity and are not able to adjust. For effective conservation of forest biodiversity in-situ, preservation plots in different forest ecosystems can be established. Preservation plots are precise example of local level management norms of biodiversity plots as "demarcated forest areas set aside in perpetuity for the preservation of the forest with no human interference beyond what is necessary for their protection and maintenance". The preservation plots serve as "ecological reference centre or ecological labs" for studying natural ecological processes in isolation from human interference and pressure, thus dealing with wise management of biodiversity. Researches on various ecological habitats of endangered species should also be undertaken. Afforestation of fuel and fodder species under social forestry programmes may be encouraged in the surrounding areas so that the pressure on protected forest is checked. Studies on reproductive behavior and population dynamics of threatened and rare species should be carried out over a period of time in-situ. Indopiptadenia oudhensis (Brandis) Brenan (Mimosaceae) is endangered in the area. It may be due to over grazing by the local animals and cattle, over exploitation by rural, tribal and the local people for their forages, foliages and fodder needs of live stock and cattle populations. The species is also indiscriminately cut mistakably for Bauhinia spp. by the local people to meet their fuel and wood requirements causing the taxa endangered. The area management should initiate a programme or develop a strategy to examine conservation status of endangered

taxa like *Indopiptadenia oudhensis* (Brandis) Brenan (Mimosaceae), vegetation, communities, habitats need both, in-situ and ex-situ conservation for future reference and study which is urgently required for the protection and conservation of valuable biodiversity.

Acknowledgements:

Authors are thankful to Dr. Rakesh Tuli, Director, National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow for providing necessary R&D facilities, encouragements and guidance. Thanks are also due to various forest officers and authorities of the Uttar Pradesh especially Divisional Forest Officer, Shrawasti District, Shri N.K. Singh, Forest Range Officer, Bhinaga Range of Shrawasti District for various helps and suggestions rendered during our studies and stays in the forests. We also express thanks to Shri Nizamuddin, Photo Artist, Museum Section, Shri Raj Kumar Singh, Helper, Ethnobotany Section and various technical staff, field staff, who have really helped during the field works and studies. Authors also express their deep sense of gratitude to various knowledgeable people, tribal and local people who have really provided valuable information.

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***Indopiptadenia oudhensis* (Brandis) Brenan with immature fruit**

Contd.....

Indopiptadenia oudhensis



Tree in Natural Habitat

Collection of *Indopiptadenia oudhensis* prohibited

Hindi version of the Notification

भारत का राजपत्र: असाधारण [भाग- I- खण्ड 3(ii)]

अधिसूचना

नई दिल्ली, 15 अप्रैल, 2009

का.आ.998(अ).- जैवविविधता अधिनियम, 2002 (2003 का 18) की धारा 38 के प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, केन्द्रीय सरकार, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के साथ परामर्श करके ऐसे पादपों और वन्य जीव प्रजातियों को अधिसूचित करती है, जो विलुप्त के कगार पर हैं, जो कि नीचे दी गई सारणी के स्तम्भ (2) में सूचीबद्ध हैं, और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य के संबंध में इस अधिसूचना के उपबद्ध में विनिर्दिष्ट शर्तों के अधीन उनके संग्रहण को प्रतिषेद्ध और विनियमित करती है, अर्थात्

सारणी

क्रम सं०	प्रजातियों के नाम
(1)	(2)
पादप	
1	इंडोपिपटाडेनिया आउडेंसिस (ब्रांडिस) ब्रेनन

उपाबद्ध

शर्त
सं.

शर्तें

1. किसी भी व्यक्ति द्वारा निम्नलिखित प्रयोजनों के सिवाय ऊपर अधिसूचित पादप अथवा वन्यजीव प्रजातियों का जीवित अथवा मृत अवस्था में संग्रह नहीं किया जाएगा जब तक कि इस संबंध में संबंधित राज्य के जैवविविधता बोर्ड से अनुमोदन न लिया गया हो और यह भारतीय वन अधिनियम, 1927 (1927 का 16) और वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 (1972 का 53) या सुसंगत राज्य के वन और वन्यजीव विधानों के उपबंधों के अनुरूप भी हो; अर्थात्
(क) वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान;
(ख) हरबेरियम और वैज्ञानिक और शैक्षिक संस्थाओं का संग्रहालय ;

(ग) प्रचार; और

(घ) कोई अन्य वैज्ञानिक अन्वेषण।

2. संबंधित राज्य जैवविविधता बोर्ड निम्नलिखित आरम्भ और संचालन करेंगे:-

- I. समग्र जानकारी के लिए, अधिसूचित प्रजातियों के सभी पहलुओं का अध्ययन करना।
- II. स्वस्थाने और स्थान बाह्य संरक्षण और पुनः स्थापन के प्रयोजनार्थ, अधिसूचित प्रजातियों का प्रचार; और
- III. जागरूकता कार्यक्रम चलाना और वन विभाग के कार्मिकों, जैवविविधता प्रबंधन समितियों, पर्यावरणीय पर्यटन कार्यक्रमों और वनवासियों तथा जनजातियों को अधिसूचित प्रजातियों के संबंध में शैक्षिक सामग्री उपलब्ध कराना।

[फा.सं. 28-12/2008-सी एस-III]

ए.के. गोयल,
संयुक्त सचिव

जैवविविधता अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 38 कहती है.....

विलुप्त हो रही प्रजाति को अधिसूचित करने की केन्द्रीय सरकार की शक्ति

38. तत्समय प्रवृत्त किसी अन्य विधि के उपबंधों पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डाले बिना केन्द्रीय सरकार संबद्ध सरकार से परामर्श करने के पश्चात् समय-समय पर, ऐसी प्रजातियों को जो विलुप्त होने के कगार पर हैं या जिनके निकट भविष्य में विलुप्त होने की संभावना है तथा किसी प्रयोजन के लिए उनके संग्रहण के लिए उनको प्रतिषेध या विनियमित कर सकेगी, उन प्रजातियों के पुनर्स्थापन और परिरक्षण के लिए समुचित कदम उठाएगी।

English version of the Notification

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA: EXTRAORDINARY [Part II-Sec, 3(ii)]

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 15th April, 2009

S.O. 998 (E)- In exercise of powers conferred by section 38 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (18 of 2003), the Central Government, in consultation with the Government of Uttar Pradesh, hereby notifies the species of plants and animals which are on the verge of extinction, as listed in column (2) of the Table given below, and prohibit and regulate the collection thereof, subject to the conditions specified in the Annexure to this notification, for the State of Uttar Pradesh, namely:-

TABLE

SI. No.	Name of the Species
(1)	(2)
Plants	
1.	Indoptadenia oudhensis (Brandis) Brenan

Annexure

Condition No.

Conditions

1. No plant or animal species as notified above shall be collected in live or dead condition by any person except, for purposes mentioned below, with the approval of the concerned State Biodiversity Board: and also in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927) and the wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972) or the relevant State forest and wildlife legislations, namely:-

- (e) Scientific research:
- (f) Herbarium and museum of scientific and academic institutions:

- (g) Propagation: and
- (h) Any other scientific investigation.

2. The concerned State Biodiversity Board shall initiate or conduct :-
 - (iv) studies on all aspects of the notified species for holistic understanding:
 - (v) propagation of the notified species for the purpose of in situ and ex situ conservation and rehabilitation: and
 - (vi) awareness programmes and provide educational material on notified species for forest department personnel, Biodiversity management Committees, ecotourism programmes, and forest dwellers and tribals.

[f.No.28-12/2008-CS-III]

A.K. GOYAL,
Jt. Secretary

Section 38 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 says... Power of Central Government to notify threatened species

38. Without prejudice to the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, the Central Government, in consultation with the concerned State Government, may from time to time notify any species which is on the verge of extinction or likely to become extinct in the near future as a threatened species and prohibit or regulate collection thereof for any purpose and take appropriate steps to rehabilitate and preserve those species.

Forest Officers Authorised to File Complaints in Biological Diversity Act

Hindi version of the Notification

भारत का राजपत्र: असाधारण
भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

टिप्पणी : मूल अधिसूचना दिनांक 17 नवम्बर, 2008 की अधिसूचना, सं. का.आ. 2708 (अ) के तहत भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण में प्रकाशित की गई थी।

सं. 68] नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, जनवरी 12, 2009/पौष 22, 1930

पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय
अधिसूचना
नई दिल्ली, 7 जनवरी 2009

का.आ. 2708 (अ) जैव विविधता अधिनियम, 2002 (2003 का 18) की धारा 61 के खण्ड (क) द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए, केन्द्र सरकार एतद्द्वारा दिनांक 17 नवम्बर, 2008 की अधिसूचना संख्या का.आ. 2708 (अ) में आगे निम्नलिखित संशोधन करती है, नामतः :-

उपर्युक्त अधिसूचना में :-

तालिका में क्रम सं.3, क्रम सं. 4 और उनके कॉलम सं. 2 और 3 में की गई अनुरूपी प्रविष्टियों के बाद निम्नलिखित को अन्तः स्थापित किया जाएगा, नामतः :-

तद्द्वारा दिनांक 17 नवम्बर, 2008 की अधिसूचना संख्या का.आ. 2708 (अ) में आगे निम्नलिखित संशोधन करती है, नामतः :-

क्रम सं.	जैव विविधता अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 61 (क) के अधीन शिकायत दर्ज करने के लिए प्राधिकृत अधिकारी	अधिकारिता क्षेत्र
(1)	(2)	(3)
4.	वन अधिकारी जो रैंज ऑफिसर के रैंक से कम न हों	उनके अपने-अपने अधिकार क्षेत्र में

[फा.सं. 28-14/2008-सीएस- III(एनबीए)]

ए.के. गोयल, संयुक्त सचिव

जैवविविधता अधिनियम, 2002 (2003 का 18) की धारा 61 कहती है....

अपराधों का संज्ञान

61. कोई भी न्यायालय इस अधिनियम के अधीन किसी अपराध का संज्ञान -

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार या उस सरकार द्वारा इस निमित्त प्राधिकृत किसप्राधिकारी या अधिकारी द्वारा ; या

(ख) ऐसे किसी फायदे के दावेदार द्वारा जिसने ऐसे अपराध की और कोई परिवाद किए जाने के अपने आशय की केन्द्रीय सरकार या पूर्वोक्त रूप में प्राधिकृत प्राधिकारी या अधिकारी को विहित रीति में तीस दिन से अन्यून की सूचना दे दी है,

किए गए परिवाद पर ही करेगा अन्यथा नहीं।



English version of the Notification

The Gazette of India

EXTRORDINARY

PART II-Section 3- Sub-Section (ii)

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 68]NEW DELHI, MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009/PAUSA 22, 1930

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 7th January, 2009

S.O.120(E) :- In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (a) of Section 61 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (18 of 2003), the Central Government hereby make the following further amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 2708 (E), dated 17th November, 2008 namely :-

In the said Notification :-

In the TABLE E, after Sl. No. 3, Sl. No. 4 and the corresponding entries in column No. 2 & 3 thereof, shall be inserted, namely :-

Sl No.	Officer authorised to file complaints under Section 61 (a) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002	Area of jurisdiction
(1)	(2)	(3)
4.	Forest Officers not below the rank of Range Officers	In their respective jurisdictions

[F.No.28-14/2008-CS-III(NBA)]
A.K. GOYAL, Jt. Secy.

Note : The Principal Notification was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary *vide* Notification No. S.O. 2708 (E), dated 17th November, 2008.

Clause (a) of Section 61 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 say...

Cognizance of offences

61. No Court shall take cognizance of any offence under this Act except on a complaint made by-

(a) the Central Government or any authority or officer authorized in this behalf by that Government; or

(b) any benefit claimer who has given notice of not less than thirty days in the prescribed manner, of such offence and of his intention to make a complaint, to the Central Government or the authority or officer authorized as aforesaid.



Images

National Conference on "Invasive Alien Species" organized on the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity By U P State Biodiversity Board

22nd May, 2009



Hon'ble Minister of Forests and Wild Life U P Govt.
Sri Fateh Bahadur Singh



Padma Bhusan Prof. R.B. Singh



Dr. A.K. Ghosh



Sri Asad Rahmani



Prof. Balraj Chauhan



Dr. C.S. Jha



Dr. K. K.Khana



अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता दिवस

2009

प्रेस की नजर में



Importance of Biodiversity in *Bottle Gourd* Breeding

Prof. Sheo Pujan Singh

Department of Vegetable Science,
N.D. University of Agriculture and Technology,
Kumarganj, Faizabad
Email: sheopujansingh@gmail.com

Biodiversity makes the basic material for improvement of any crop. Bottle gourd (*Lagenaria siceraria* (Mol.) Standl.) although originated in Africa, the greatest biodiversity in this crop is encountered in India. Preliminary surveys conducted indicate the presence of fascinating variability with respect to its fruit shape, size and colour in the land races of Uttar Pradesh. Using existent biodiversity and following pure line method of breeding several improved varieties of bottle gourd have been developed at Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad. Out of these the five remarkable ones are described as follows:

Narendra Dharidar: Narendra Dharidar is a mark of quality in bottle gourd. It is a summer type early variety that bears bottle shaped striped green short fruits (Fig. 1a). Fruits produce highly palatable cooked vegetable. Fresh fruits also produce tastier fruit juice, and quality *Halwa* (*Sweet meat*). Its average yield is about 400 q/ha.

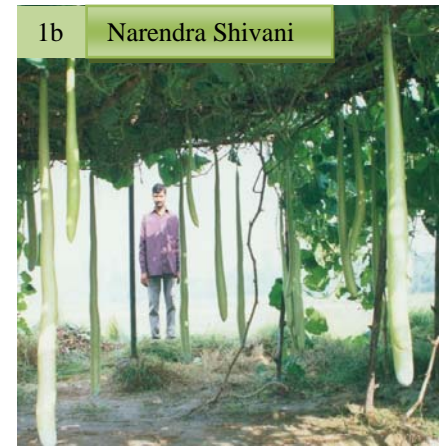


Figure 1: Fascinating improved varieties of bottle gourd.

Narendra Shivani: Narendra Shivani is a bottle gourd genotype for fascination. It is a very long fruited winter type prolific bearer variety (Fig. 1b) with its suitable time of sowing from mid-July to mid-August. It is fit for kitchen garden purpose. The full-grown fruits cross the length of 2.0 meters. It remains in fruiting for 5-6 months with proper crop care. Two plants per hill trained on trellis size of 20 sqm produce more than 200 fruits. The variety has become popular because of its extraordinary fruit length.

Narendra Madhuri: Narendra Madhuri is a mark of quality in round fruited bottle gourd (Fig. 1c) with its suitable sowing time similar to Narendra Shivani. It is a winter type variety, which can also be successfully cultivated during summer, if sown in early February. July-August sown winter crop produces on an average fruit yield of 1000 q/ha or 200 fruits per two plants trained on trellis of size 20 sqm. Fruits are attractive round and produce highly palatable cooked vegetable. The ovaries of pistillate flowers are striped in early stages of fruit set. The variety is good for kitchen garden as well as commercial purposes.

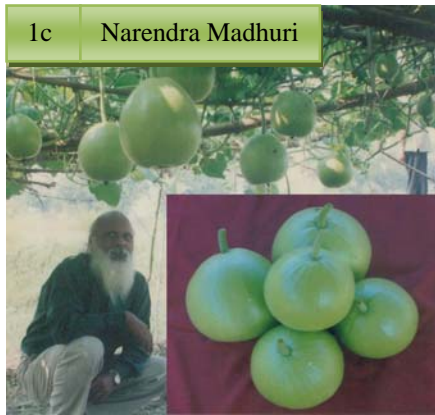


Figure 1: Author with Fascinating improved varieties of bottle gourd.

Narendra Shishir: Narendra Shishir is a round-fruited winter type variety of bottle gourd (Fig. 1d) with its sowing time from mid-July to mid-August in Uttar Pradesh. It has peculiar pedate/multifid leaves. The flowers have very narrow and small petals as compared to the normal types. Fruits produce highly palatable fried vegetable. They are especially fit for delicious preparation of *Lauki-do-pyaaza*. Variety is good for

kitchen garden purposes and it remains in fruiting for about six months if given good crop care. Two plants per pit trained on trellis of size 20 sqm produce about 200 fruits. In field conditions the variety has shown multiple disease resistance against anthracnose, downy mildew, powdery mildew and viral disease complex.

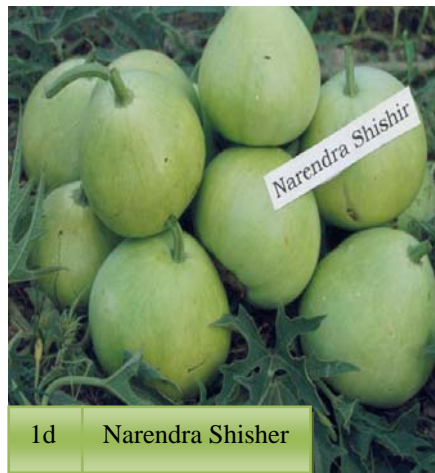


Figure 1: Fascinating improved varieties of bottle gourd.

Andromon-6 (A near seedless genotype of bottle gourd):

Andromon-6 is a unique contribution of NDUAT, Faizabad to the bottle gourd world. It is an andromonoecious genotype of bottle gourd in contrast to the commonly found monoecious sex form in the crop. Andromonoecious sex is monogenic recessive to monoecious sex form. The fruits are drum shaped and majority of them bear no seeds at maturity. In few fruits 1-20 viable seeds are found near the blossom end. In a sense Andromon-6 is a near seedless genotype. The green fruits produce highly palatable cooked vegetable. Andromon-6 has been registered (INGR-99009) with National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi.

चौरासी लाख योनियों में अब तक हो सकी
गिनती !!

Numbers of species yet identified in the World*

	Estimated Number of described species
Vertebrates	
Mammals	5,488
Birds	9,990
Reptiles	8,734
Amphibians	6,347
Fishes	30,700
Subtotal	61,259
Invertebrates	
Insects	950,000
Molluscs	81,000
Crustaceans	40,000
Corals	2,175
Arachnids	98,000
Velvet Worms	165
Horseshoe Crabs	4
Others	61,040
Subtotal	1,232,384
Plants	
Mosses	16,000
Ferns and allies	12,838
Gymnosperms	980
Dicotyledons	199,350
Monocotyledons	59,300
Green Algae	3,962
Red Algae	6,076
Subtotal	298,506
Others	
Lichens	17,000
Mushrooms	30,000
Brown Algae	3,040
Subtotal	50,040
TOTAL	1,642,189

*Domesticated animals not included

SOURCE: IUCN: 2008

Forthcoming Publications of U.P.State Biodiversity Board

Sr. No.	Title	Authors	Pages
1.	Biodiversity of Aqatic and Semi Aqatic Plants of Eastern U.P.	Dr. D C Saini Prof. S K Singh	600 in four colour



Sr. No.	Title	Authors	Pages
2.	Floristic Diversity of Basti (including Siddharth Nagar and Santkabir Nagar), U.P.	Dr. D C Saini Dr. S K Singh	800



हाथीपौला की तलाश

अशोक कुमार कश्यप
उप वन राजिक
उ०प्र० राज्य जैव विविधता बोर्ड

उ०प्र० राज्य जैव विविधता बोर्ड के मुख्य क्रिया कलापों को मूर्त रूप देने के उद्देश्य तथा जैव विविधता संरक्षण के क्रम में संकटग्रस्त प्रजाति गैती, (इंडोपिपटाडेनिया आउटेंसिस) की खोज में सम्पर्क सूत्र के आधार पर अपने सहकर्मी श्री सत्येन्द्र बहादुर सिंह के सोहेलवा वन्य जीव विहार, बलरामपुर की बरहवा रेंज के नन्महरा वन विश्राम भवन पहुँचा।

बरहवा रेंज के वन रक्षक, वाचर व ग्राम वासियों से स्थानीय वनों में पाये जाने वाली प्रजातियों की सामान्य जानकारी ली। बोर्ड द्वारा उपलब्ध कराये गये उक्त वृक्ष की पत्तियां व फोटो के द्वारा स्थानीय स्टॉफ व लोगों से जानकारी प्राप्त की। स्थानीय वाचर व अन्य ने यह भी बताया कि इस तरह के वृक्ष जनपद बलरामपुर में नहीं पाये जाते हैं।

वन विश्राम भवन से लगभग 6 किमी० दूर भारत नेपाल सीमा के पास हम लोगों ने सीमा के पास नेपाल राष्ट्र में इंडोपिपटाडेनिया आउटेंसिस के पौधे देखे। हमारे साथ भिन्ना रेंज से गये माली ने बताया कि नेपाल में वृक्ष पूर्व में देखे गये हैं। नन्महरा में पौधों की जानकारी लेने पर सभी ने एक स्वर में बताया कि इस तरह के वृक्ष प्रदेश में न पाकर नेपाल राष्ट्र में पाये जाते हैं। जो हमारे जनपद की सीमा से लगा हुआ है। वृद्ध वाचर ने यह भी बताया कि इससे पूर्व में भी अनेकों बार इस वृक्ष की तलाश की गयी है लेकिन वह रेंज सीमा में नहीं मिला।

चिन्तित मन से हम लोग पौधे की तलाश हेतु मन्त्रणा करने लगे।

सहजवृत्ति के द्वारा पौधे की तलाश हेतु बलरामपुर जनपद की सीमा में भ्रमण करना पुनः शुरू किया तो सीरीया नाला के मध्य भैंसासुर कक्ष-1 तुलसीपुर रेंज में एक पेड़ मिला चूंकि उक्त क्षेत्र पहाड़ी व अत्यन्त ढालू है, तो आभास हुआ कि सम्भवतः निचले क्षेत्र में और भी वृक्ष होंगे। इसी विश्वास के साथ ढाल की ओर चलने पर इंडोपिपटाडेनिया आउटेंसिस का एक वृक्ष और फिर वृक्षों का समूह बरहवा रेंज की नन्महरा कक्ष-1 में मिला। यही हम लोगों का लक्ष्य था। सम्भवतः वन क्षेत्र में इनकी संख्या अधिक हो सकती है। प्रत्येक वृक्ष का फोटो, उनकी माप विभिन्न अंग जैसे पत्ती, तना, फली, बार्क आदि के फोटो भी मेरे द्वारा लिये गये। क्षेत्र में सीडलिंग न्यून संख्या में प्राकृतिक रूप से अंकुरित हो रहे हैं परन्तु सुखद पहलू यह भी है कि पौधों पर फली (पाड) खुले हुए काफी संख्या में पौधे पर लगे हुए हैं, मौके पर पाये गये कुछ संख्या में सीडलिंग एकत्र कर पौध तैयार करने के उद्देश्य से लाये गये। निकट भविष्य में बीज एकत्रित कर नर्सरी तैयार करके इस पौधे के विकास व संवर्धन हेतु सफलता प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

उल्लेखनीय है कि गैती (इंडोपिपटाडेनिया आउटेंसिस) एक मध्यम आकार का शोभाकार वृक्ष है तथा चारे के लिए उत्तम प्रजाति का वृक्ष है। प्रकाष्ट में महीन

रेशे होने के कारण अच्छी इमारती लकड़ी मानी जाती है। अधिकांश वृक्ष 3-4 व 4-5 व्यास वर्ग के तथा देखने में अपनी पूर्ण आयु को प्राप्त हो गये हैं। इन्हें नेपाल में हाथी पौला व हाथी पाउलों के नाम से भी जाना जाता है। अच्छा चारा होने के कारण सम्भवता वन्य जीवों व मवेशी पशुओं द्वारा चरने के कारण उनके विलुप्त होने की

परिस्थितियां तैयार हुईं। चारा होने के कारण पौधों की जीवितता पर प्रतिकूल असर तेजी से पड़ रहा है। यही मुख्य कारण है कि जिसमें नये पौधे क्षेत्र में हैं, जो विलोपन का मुख्य कारण है। इस प्रजाति के संवर्धन हेतु यथोचित प्रयास पर संकटग्रस्त प्रजाति को बचाया जा सके।

Editorial Board:

Dr D C Saini, BSIP, Lucknow
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Uttar Pradesh State Biodiversity Board
East Wing, IIIrd Floor, 'A' Block,
Picup Bhawan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow
web-site: <http://www.upsbdb.org>
E-mail: upstatebiodiversityboard@gmail.com