

dry. Operculum large with a long beak. Peristome teeth 16, which later on, due to splitting, become 32, orange-brown. Spores circular, 16μ wide.

The material has been deposited in the Cryptogomic Herbarium of the Headquarters Organization of the Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta, and a part in the Herbarium of Northern Circle, Botanical Survey of India, Dehra Dun, bearing Field No. *Bhattacharya* 4.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CALCUTTA,
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21. *MELHANIA HAMILTONIANA* WALL.: A NEW RECORD FOR BOMBAY STATE²

(With one plate)

In the present note, *Melhania hamiltoniana* Wall., a common plant of the plains of north India, is put on record for the first time from Bombay State.

Melhania hamiltoniana Wall. *Pl. Asiatic. Rat.* 1: t. 77; Hooker in *Fl. Brit. Ind.* 1: 372, 1874.

An erect undershrub, about 1 m. high with spreading branches. Leaves ovate sub-cordate, unequally toothed, pubescent, dark green above, white beneath. Peduncles axillary and terminal, usually three-flowered. Bracteoles recurved at the edges. Sepals lanceolate, cuspidate, villous. Petals orange-yellow, obovate, longer than the

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² The term is used in its former significance to include the present States of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

sepals. Staminodes ligulate, alternating with perfect stamens. Capsule villous, shorter than the calyx, five-celled, cells many-seeded; seeds oblong, obscurely four-sided, truncate and tubercled.

The plant was found on rocky hills in the vicinity of Idar.

Flowering time: August-November.

Fruiting time: October-December.

Herbarium specimens: Nos. SB 782, 783, 784, 785, collected near Idar, on rocky hills (19 October 1961).

Critical Notes. Hooker mentions the plant as occurring in Western Peninsula and Burma. The plant is fairly common in north India, from where possibly it has been introduced into the Idar region. Four species of *Melhania* have been recorded by Cooke from the Bombay Presidency; *Melhania tomentosa* Stocks is the only species reported by Cooke from Deesa, Gujarat. It would be interesting to study the range of distribution of *Melhania hamiltoniana* Wall.

The authors are grateful to Dr. G. Taylor, Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for identifying the plant.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY,
M.S. UNIVERSITY OF BARODA,
BARODA.
August 10, 1964.

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22. NEW RECORD OF *UTRICULARIA MINUTISSIMA* VAHL IN SOUTH INDIA

(With one plate)

The plant forming the subject of this note was found growing in association with *Utricularia coerulea* Linn. and *Utricularia uliginosa* Vahl in water-logged soil at Palghat, Kerala State, south India, in October 1963. On detailed examination it was found to be an unfamiliar species of *Utricularia*. Hence dried specimens together with detailed drawings were sent to Kew for identification. They identified the specimen as *Utricularia minutissima* Vahl. Hooker (in Fl. Br. Ind. 4 : 334) mentions this as an imperfectly known species. In view of the fact that this ill-defined species, as far as is known to me, has not so far been recorded from south India, I give a comprehensive description of it based on fresh specimens.