



Sida rhomboidea Roxb. Ex Fleming (Malvaceae), a new record for the Marathwada region of Maharashtra, India

Tambde G M

Department of Botany, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, 431 004 (M.S.)
India
gmtambde77@gmail.com

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Abstract

Sida rhomboidea Roxb. ex Fleming, an uncommon herb or undershrub, belonging to family Malvaceae has been reported from Kinwat region of Nanded District, Maharashtra state for the first time as a new record for Marathwada region.

INTRODUCTION

Marathwada being one of the five administrative regions of Maharashtra comprise eight district viz. Aurangabad, Beed, Hingoli, Jalna, Latur, Nanded, Osmanabad and Parbhani and form a part of the vast Deccan Plateau. The plant wealth of the Marathwada region was compiled by Naik and his associates in two volumes, published in 1998. Flora of Marathwada enumerates 1645 species and 73 infraspecific categories belonging to 746 genera and 155 families (Naik, 1998). After the publication of Flora of Marathwada a number of species have been added by various workers such as Rathor & Chavan (2002), Rathor (2006), Rathor *et al.* (2007), Sonje *et al.* (2007), Kare *et al.* (2008), Rathor (2008), Survase & Sardesai (2008), Wadood Khan & Solanke (2008), Bhuktar & Sardesai (2009), Chavan *et al.* (2009), Francis *et al.* (2009), Rathor *et al.* (2009), Shinde & Waghmare (2009), Survase *et al.* (2009), Waghire & Chavan (2010), Waghire *et al.* (2010), Karodpati *et al.* (2011), Mali & Bhadane (2011), Gaikwad *et al.* (2012), Kamble *et al.* (2012), Karodpati *et al.* (2012), Kare *et al.* (2012), Kamble *et al.* (2013), Ingle *et al.* (2013), Jogdand & Dhabe (2013a), Jogdand & Dhabe (2013b), Paithane &

Bhuktar (2013), Paithane *et al.* (2013), Patil *et al.* (2013), Mule *et al.* (2013), Sardesai & Dhabe (2013), Chillawar & Rathor (2014), Gaikwad *et al.* (2014), Sonje *et al.* (2014) and Survase & Sonje (2014). All these publication have resulted addition of seven families, 55 genera, 134 species and 15 infraspecific categories.

During the field exploration (2013–2016) at Ambadi in Nanded district, author collected some specimens of an interesting species of *Sida*. A critical examination of specimens revealed its identity as *Sida rhomboidea*. The identity of the species was further confirmed with published literature (Sivarajan & Pradeep, 1994). This species has so far not been collected from Marathwada region. Hence, the present collection is the first report and is an addition to the flora of Marathwada. Voucher specimens are deposited at the herbarium (BAMU) of Department of Botany Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

Enumeration

Sida rhomboidea Roxb. ex Fleming, *Asiat. Res.* 11. 178. 1810; Roxb., *Hort. Beng.* 50. 1814 & *Fl. Ind.* ed. Carey 3: 176. 1832; Wight & Arn., *Prodr.*, *Fl.*

Pen. Ind. Orient. 57. 1834; Dunn. in Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 90. 1915; Sivar. & Pradeep, Sida 16 (1): 73. 1994 & in Malv. South. Penins. India 246, f. 88. 1996. *S. rhombifolia* L. var. *rhomboidea* (Roxb. ex Fleming) Mast. in Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 324. 1874. *S. rhombifolia* subsp. *rhombifolia*, sensu Borss., Blumea 14: 193. 1966; Fryxell, Syst. Bot. Manogr. 25: 403. 1988; Paul & Nayar in Nayar *et al.* (eds.), Fasc. Fl. India 19: 214. 1988.

Erect herb or sub shrubs 1–2.5 m high. Stem terete, minutely pubescent with small stellate hairs. Leaves obovate or suborbicular, rhomboid to lanceolate, truncate or rounded at base, subobtusate or acute at apex. Petiole stellate pubescent. Stipules equal, linear, slightly purplish. Flowers axillary, solitary. Pedicels 5–6 mm in flowers, to 25–35 mm in fruits, filiform, glabrous, articulated at about the middle. Calyx 7–9 × 5–6 mm, campanulate, 10-ribbed at base, 5-lobed, triangular, outer surface densely tomentose with minute stellate hairs, inside nearly glabrous, margins purplish. Corolla pale-yellow; petals obliquely obovate, retuse or emarginate at apex, glabrous. Staminal column 2.5–3 mm long, antheriferous at apex. Styles 8–10; stigmas capitate, yellow. Schizocarp 3–4 × 3–3.5 mm; mericarps 8–10, 3–3.5 mm long, completely included in the calyx, indehiscent, trigonous with acute angles, apex beaked with a single, glabrous mucicous process. Seeds 2 mm long, brownish-black, glabrous throughout.

Fls. & Frts.: August to March.

Distribution and Ecology: Aurangabad, Pune, Ratnagiri, Kolhapur, Satara and Nanded districts (present report). The species grow along road sides in deciduous forests.

Exsiccata: Maharashtra: Kinwat, Dist. Nanded, G. M. Tambde 010, 01st October, 2014

Note: This species is similar to *S. rhombifolia* L. in overall resemblance and can be mistaken for the same, but can be separated from it is having rhomboid leaves, staminal column stellate-pubescent, mericarps beaked with a single, mucicous process, indehiscent.

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