

**A CONTRIBUTION TO ENDANGERED SPECIES OF FLOWERING PLANTS
FROM SATPUDA MOUNTAINS OF NORTH MAHARASHTRA, INDIA**

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ABSTRACT

A list of 20 endangered species of flowering plants from Satpuda Mountain of north Maharashtra is given in the present paper

INTRODUCTION

The world flora and fauna are adversely influenced by continuous development and consequently many species are already endangered or extinct (Groombridge, 1992). According to world Conservation Monitoring centre (WCMC, 1992) there are about 16,04,000 plant species all over the world, out of which 1,26,188 are found in India (Khoshoo, 1995). Although India has only 24% of land area of the world as a whole but India's contribution to global biodiversity is around 8% species. All the literature review reveals that during the 19th century only a few explorations were conducted in Satpuda region and recorded some important wild species (Dalzell and Gibson, 1861; Lisboa, 1886; Talbot, 1906; Blatter and Mc Cann, 1935; Cooke 1901-1908). However, none of these workers have contributed substantially to the flora of this region. Towards the middle and end of the previous century several serious studies have come out with a significant contribution to the flora and vegetation (Karnik, 1955, 56, 57 and 61), (Mahabale and Karnik, 1959), (Jain and Deshpande, 1964), (Varghese, 1988), (Yadav and Bhamare, 1989), (Garud, 1998), (Patil, 2003, 04), (Thomas et al., 2004). Based on published literature (Singh and Karthikeyan, 2000; Yadav et al., 1997) the following taxa are endangered, occurring in the study area.

Endangered:

A taxon is endangered when it is not critically endangered but is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future. The following taxa come under this category

Table-1: Endangered species in the study area

S.N.	Genus	Species	Family
1	<i>Begonia</i>	<i>crenata</i>	Begoniaceae
2	<i>Bryonia</i>	<i>dioicia</i>	Cucurbitaceae
3	<i>Butea</i>	<i>monosperma</i>	Fabaceae
4	<i>Ceropegia</i>	<i>bulbosa</i>	Asclepiadaceae
5	<i>Ceropegia</i>	<i>vincaefolia</i>	Asclepiadaceae
6	<i>Chlorophytum</i>	<i>borivilianum</i>	Liliaceae
7	<i>Chloroxylon</i>	<i>swietenia</i>	Meliaceae
8	<i>Crotalaria</i>	<i>filipes</i>	Fabaceae
9	<i>Cucumis</i>	<i>setosus</i>	Cucurbitaceae
10	<i>Dalbergia</i>	<i>volubilis</i>	Fabaceae
11	<i>Delonix</i>	<i>elata</i>	Caesalpinaceae
12	<i>Dicaelospermum</i>	<i>ritchiei</i>	Cucurbitaceae
13	<i>Diospyros</i>	<i>buxifolia</i>	Ebenaceae
14	<i>Eriolaena</i>	<i>stocksii</i>	Sterculiaceae
15	<i>Eulophia</i>	<i>nuda</i>	Orchidaceae
16	<i>Grewia</i>	<i>villosa</i>	Tiliaceae
17	<i>Iphigenia</i>	<i>pallida</i>	Liliaceae
18	<i>Oroxylum</i>	<i>indicum</i>	Bignoniaceae
19	<i>Spermadictyon</i>	<i>suaveolens</i>	Rubiaceae
20	<i>Triplopogon</i>	<i>ramosissimus</i>	Poaceae

Begonia crenata Dryand (Begoniaceae)

A herb, stems red,

- Fl. & Frts. : June-December.
 Distri. : Common on hill slopes and valleys. Kathi, Amlibari,
 World Distri. : Indian

Bryonia dioica Jacq (Cucurbitaceae)

Twiners or herbs with fleshy roots, tendrils slender.

- Fl. & Frts. : May-September.
 Distri. : Occasional in open forest. Danel, Bardi,
 World Distri. : Exotic.

Butea monosperma (Lam.)Taub.var. **monosperma** Fabaceae (Papilionaceae)Tree with crooked trunk and irregular branches, bark rough, ash-colored, flowers. Orange or salmon-colored.

- Fl. & Frts. : January-June.
 Distri. : Common in dry deciduous and scrub forest. Nigadi,
 World Distri. : Indo-Burmese
 Ecological notes: When it full blooms in floweing this looks beautiful which are the source of red dye and gum is obtained from the bark.

Ceropegia bulbosa Roxbvar. **bulbosa** (Asclepiadaceae)

Tuberous twiners.

- Fl. & Frts. : July-October.
 Distri. : Occasional on hill slopes and on small trees and shrubs. Borsira, Bardi,
 World Distri. : Indian

Ceropegia vincaefolia Hook.f.

Herbs, twining; stems terete.

- Fls. : August-September
 Frts. : September-onwards.
 Distri. : Occasional in dry deciduous forest. Makadkund, Bharad,
 World Distri. : Indian

Chlorophytum borivillianum Sant. & Fernand (Liliaceae)

Herbs, rhizomatous; sessile tubers white inside. Flowers white,

- Fl. & Frts. : July-August.
 Distri. : Occasional on hill slopes and moist places also cultivated. Toranmal,
 World Distri. : Indian.
 Ecological notes: Cultivated for its medicinally useful tubers.

Chloroxylon swietenia DC. (Meliaceae)

A tree 30-40 ft. high wood yellow.

- Fl. & Frts. : January-April.
 Distri. : Occasional in dry deciduous forest. Agola, Kumbada,
 World Distri. : Indian

Crotalaria fillips Bth.var. **trichophora** (Bth. ex Baker) T. Cooke. Fabaceae (Papilionaceae)

Herb, Floers yellow.

- Fl. & Frts. : September-December.
 Distri. : Occasional in grasses. Nvapada,
 World Distri. : Indian.

Cucumis setosus Cogn (Cucurbitaceae)

Twining, herb.

- Fl. & Frts. : September-October.
 Distri. : Common on hill slopes and dry deciduous forest. Jhapi, Varla,
 World Distri. : Indian

Dalbergia volubilis Roxb. Fabaceae (Papilionaceae)

A large woody climber branches twisted into spiral hooks.

- Fl. & Frts. : January-June.
 Distri. : Occasional in semi- evergreen forest. Dab.
 World Distri. : Indo-Malayan

Delonix elata(L.) Gamble. (Caesalpinaceae)

An erect tree, bark smooth, ash-colored.

- Fl. & Frts. : June-December.
 Distri. : Planted in gardens and along roadsides. Akkalkuwa.
 World Distri. : Tropical African-Indian

Dicaelospermum ritchiei C. B. Cl (Cucurbitaceae)

Scandent herb, stem grooved, scabrid, tendrils elongate

- Fl. & Frts. : August-October.
 Distri. : Infrequent in dry deciduous forest. Bharad, Kosalapani,
 World Distri. : Indian.

Diospyros buxifolia (Bl.) Hiern (Ebenaceae)

Trees, 30 m high, trunk buttressed at base.

- Fl. & Frts. : March-April.
 Distri. : Rare in semi-evergreen forest. Falai,
 World Distri. : Tropical-Asian

Eriolaena stocksii Hook. f. (Sterculiaceae)

A tree, bark purplish.

- Fl. & Frts. : July-October.
 Distri. : Occasional in dry deciduous and scrub forest. Kathi.
 World Distri. : Indian

Eulophia nuda Lindl. (Orchidaceae)

Tubers spherical, brownish-green Flowers greenish-purple, in lax racemes. Capsules fusiform, ribbed.

- Fl. & Frts. : April-July.
 Distri. : Rare. Amalibari,
 World Distri. : Indian.
 Ecological notes: A first report from N. Maharashtra in Satpuda.

Grewia villosa Willd. (Tiliaceae)

A shrub.

- Fl. & Frts. : August-October.

Distri. : Occasional on hill slopes and wet areas. Balghat.

World Distri. : Tropical African-Indian.

Iphigenia pallida Baker (Liliaceae)

Herbs, erect; corms ovoid, tunicate white,

Fl. & Frts. : July-September.

Distri. : Rare, on hill slopes. Morjhari,

World Distri. : Paleotropic

Ecological notes: Medicinally useful. Rare in forest.

Oroxylum indicum (L.) Vent (Bignoniaceae)

A small tree; bark light-brown

Fl. & Frts. : June-December.

Distri. : Occasional on hill slopes of dry deciduous forest. Nimbari,

World Distri. : Indo-Burmese-Chinese

Ecological notes: Root bark is commonly used as veterinary medicine.

Spermadictyon suaveolens Roxb. (Rubiaceae)

A shrub.

Fl. & Frts. : October-February.

Distri. : Infrequent on hill slopes. Hunda,

World Distri. : Indian

Triplopogon ramosissimus (Hack.) Bor. Poaceae (Gramineae)

Branched on herbs.

Fl. & Frts. : October.

Distri. : Occasional in grasses and wet areas. Ambe, Dhamanmal,

World Distri. : Indian

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