



CALYTOCARPUS VIALIS LESS. (ASTERACEAE): AN ALIEN WEED NEW ADDITION TO CHANDRAPUR DISTRICT FLORA (M.S.) INDIA

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ABSTRACT:

Calyptocarpus vialis Less. an alien weed (Asteraceae family) first time collected in Chandrapur district of Vidarbha region, Maharashtra State. Genus *Calyptocarpus* Less. first time reported with *Calyptocarpus vialis* species to the flora of Chandrapur district of Vidarbha region. A detailed technical description, ecology and digital image with GPS location of this taxon is provided in present communication.

Keywords: - Alien weed, *Calyptocarpus vialis*, Asteraceae, addition, Chandrapur.

INTRODUCTION :

Genus *Calyptocarpus* Less. of Asteraceae family comprises 3 species (Mabberley, 2008), of which only one species *Calyptocarpus vialis* Less. occur in India. *C. vialis* Less. species earlier under the genus *Synedrella* Gaertn. is now transferred to genus *Calyptocarpus*. The genus *Calyptocarpus* Less. is characterized by perennial habit, rooting at nodes, solitary heads and ray floret achenes without any wings. *Calyptocarpus* Less. is similar to *Synedrella* Gaertn. but different by its non-winged (vs. winged) ray achenes and paleae acute (vs. rounded or obtuse) at the apex (McVaugh & Smith 1967).

The genus *Calyptocarpus* Less. of Asteraceae family is of tropical and subtropical origin. It is native of South America, Mexico and West Indies with 3 species distributed from Texas to Guatemala (Mabberley 2008).

Currently, *C. vialis* Less. species is reported from different states of India. *C. vialis* Less. was recorded in India from Poona Cantonment area, Maharashtra (Ahuja & Pataskar, 1969). It was

Later on reported from Uttar Pradesh (Naithani & Chandra,1988; Kanchan et.al.,2008), from Jammu (Mangotra & Bhellum, 1988), Karnataka (Hebber et al., 2002; Rao and Kavitha Sagar,2010.) Rajasthan (Meena,2010), Himachal Pradesh (Lal et al., 2009), Tamil Nadu (Kottaimuthu & Vasudewan, 2012) , Andhra Pradesh (Sweta and Rao, 2013) and Punjab (2014).

MATERIALS AND METHODS :

During the floristic exploration of Chandrapur district authors collected an interesting and puzzling taxon of Asteraceae family from the city area. A thorough perusal of literature (Almeida,2001; Singh et al., 2001; Ugemuge, 1986; Naik ,1998; Kamble & Pradhan ,1988; Malhotra & Moorthy (1992); Karthikeyan & Anand Kumar,1993; Kunhikannan et.al.,2009; Bhogaonkar & Devarkar, 1999; Deshmukh et al,2012; Yadao and Sharma ,2013) has revealed that this species has not been earlier reported from Vidarbha region. Therefore, *Calyptocarpus vialis* occurrence from Chandrapur district form

a new addition to the flora of Chandrapur district. The plant specimens are deposited in herbarium (JMV), of Janata Mahavidyalay, Chandrapur.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION :

Taxonomic Treatment

Calytocarpus vialis Less. In Syn. Gen., Compos: 221. 1832. *S. vialis* (Less.) A. Gray in Proc. Amer. Acad. 17:217. 1882; Ahuja & Pataskar in Indian Forester 95: 267, t. 1. 1969; Rao et al. Fl. Ind. Enum. Aster. 74. 1988.

TYPE: —MEXICO. Veracruz, “ad vias pr. Jalapam”, Jun 1829, C.J.W. Schiede s.n. (holotype: HAL [HAL0104347, image!]; isotype: MO [MO2165907, image!])

Description Herbs, annual, branched from base, spreading and rooting at nodes, scabridhairy. Leaves simple, opposite, petiolate, ovate lanceolate, acute at apex, cuneate at base, serrate, 3nerved from base. Heads axillary, usually solitary or sometimes 2. Achenes dimorphic, those of ray florets dorsally compressed, narrowly winged, crowned with 2 spines, those of disc florets dorsally compressed and crowned with 2 spines or triquetrous and crowned with 3 spines, scabrid, shortly hairy. (Fig. 01)

Flowering and Fruiting: July- September.

Distribution: Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Punjab.

Ecology: Rare along the households, wasteland, moist, shady places in gardens, and nurseries.

Specimens Examined: Chandrapur District: Chandrapur District, : Near Chandrapur Stadium, Date: 15 December, 2022. U. B. Deshmukh, 333.

CONCLUSION:

This is an alien weed first time collected in Chandrapur District of Vidarbha region.

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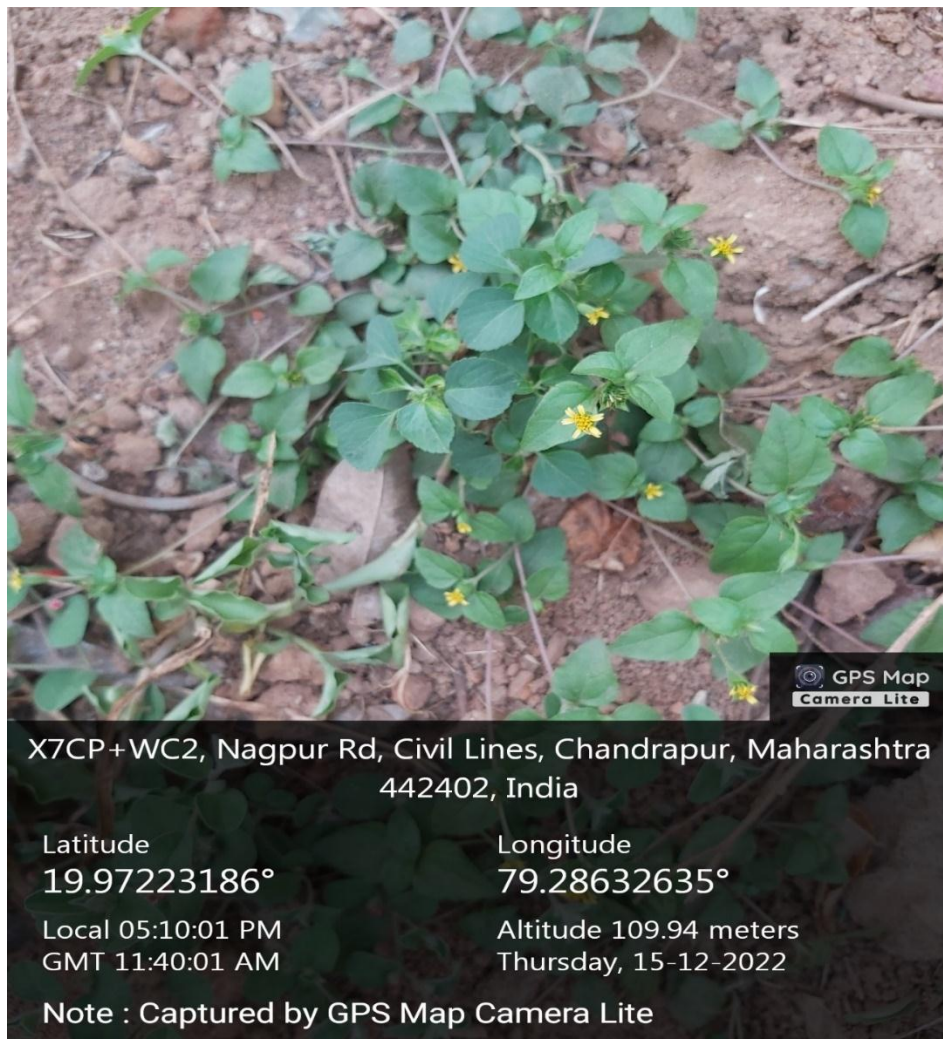


Fig. 01. *Calyptocarpus vialis* Less. in its natural habitat.