



***Lysionotus serratus* D. Don a noteworthy plant species from Chamoli, Western Himalaya, Uttarakhand, India.**

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Abstract: The present paper deals with the occurrence of *Lysionotus serratus* D. Don (Gesneriaceae) in district Chamoli of Uttarakhand. A detailed nomenclature, description, distribution, ecology and figures have been provided.

Key words: *Lysionotus serratus*; Rare; Occurrence; Chamoli; Western Himalaya.

Introduction

Lysionotus serratus D. Don is so far known in India only from few pockets of Himalaya. The species has been considered as 'rare' in occurrence (Duthei, 1918) in the Western Himalaya. During our recent plant explorations in district Chamoli of Uttarakhand (Rawat *et al.*, 2013; Tiwari *et al.*, 2014, 2015a, 2015b, 2015c, 2015d, 2016a, 2016b; Rawat, 2016), we came across a population of *Lysionotus serratus* D. Don with *ca.* 150 individuals from an undisturbed locality at Madwa-Gad forest (*ca.* 1300–1400m), 15 km south-west to Gairsain town (Chamoli district). So far the species has been reported from Kuamon and Rudrprayag district of Garhwal (Naithani, 1985). The voucher specimen has been deposited at the herbarium of H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand (GUH 20737). The nomenclature, short description, phenology, ecology, distribution and photographs are given below.

Taxonomic Account

Lysionotus serratus D. Don, Edinburgh Philos. J. 7 (13): 85. 1822; C.B. Clarke in Hook f. Fl. Brit. India. 4: 344. 1884; Stainton, Fl. Himalaya Supl., 163. 1988. *L. ternifolius* N. Wallich, Pl. Asiat. Rar. 1:20. 1830; *L. himalayensis* (H.Lev.) W.T. Wang & Z.Yu. Li. Acta Phytotax. Sin. 30(5): 481. 1992.

Undershrubs, 20–150 cm long; stem branched, fleshy with brown-purple spots often, glabrous. Leaves variable, in cluster of three often, petiole 1–2 cm or sessile, lateral veins 5–10 pairs, prominent; blade lanceolate, ovate or obovate, largest one *ca.* 13.5 × 3.2 cm, glabrous, papery on drying, base cuneate or rounded, margins dentate–crenate or serrate, apex obtuse–acuminate. Inflorescence cyme, 3–10 flowered, peduncle 5–10 cm, bracts ovate–orbicular. Calyx 5, lobes linear or narrow lanceolate, entire, acute–obtuse. *ca.* 0.7 cm. Corolla tube slender funnellform, 2–4 cm, white–purplish. Stamens with staminodes, anthers subglobose. Pistil short, *ca.* 0.1 cm, glabrous. Capsule *ca.*

10 cm long, linear, glabrous. Seeds many, minute, hair like appendages either on one or both the ends.

Specimen examined: INDIA, Western Himalaya, Uttarakhand, Chamoli district, Gairsain block, Madwa-Gad, 31 October, 2014. *coll.* Dinesh Singh Rawat, GUH 20737.

Flowering & Fruiting: July–August & September–November.

Ecology: Terrestrial or epiphyte, climbs on tree trunks or moist rocks, shady moist habitats, stream side, in association with *Ficus sarmentosa*, *Hoya longifolia*, *Hydrangea macrophylla*, *Piper mullesua*, etc.

Distribution: Bhutan, Burma, China, India (Arunachal, Assam, Sikkim, West Bengal, Uttarakhand), Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam.

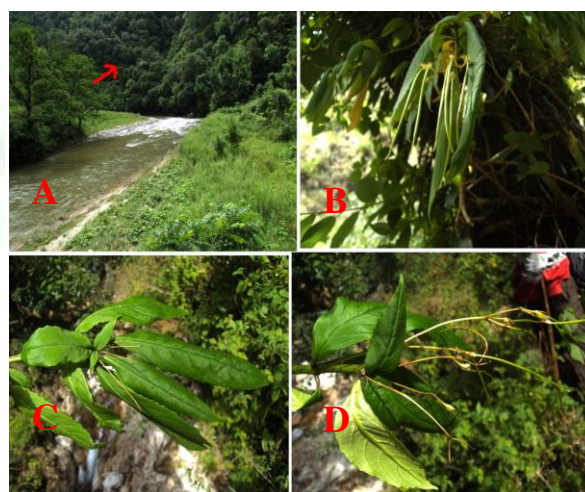


Figure 1: *Lysionotus serratus* D. Don.; A. Habitat, B. Habit, C. Phyllotaxy and D. Fruiting stage.

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