



Research Article

A new record for Valsad district, Gujarat: *Salmalia insigne* (Wall.)

Schott & Endl.

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Abstract: The present paper deals with indigenous taxa of Angiosperm belonging to family Bombacaceae. It is reported as an addition to the flora of Valsad District and a new record from wild areas of the Valsad. The paper envisages citation, detailed, description, flowering and fruiting time, followed by ecological notes along with photographs and longitudinal and latitudinal and height of the area is also provided & mention.

Keywords: *Salmalia insigne* Wall.Pl. As. Rar.Kunth. New record, Gujarat

Introduction

During botanical exploration of Dharampur and Kaparada, Valsad District, Gujarat. The author has collected some specimen of *Salmalia insigne* (Wall.) Schott & Endl. It belongs to family Malvaceae (APG-3). It's locally known as "Shimlo" in Gujarat. It is commonly known as Red Silk Cotton tree, Shalmali, Simal. This is the first record for Valsad District. Earlier it is not recorded from wild forest area from Valsad (Shah, 1978) (Cooke, 1908), (Inamdar, 1968), (Reddy, 1987), (Vora, 1980). Herbarium specimen is submitted to Department of Botany, B.K.M. Science College, Valsad, Gujarat, India.

Salmalia insigne (Wall.) Schott & Endl. Melet.35. 1832.

Synonym: *Bombax insigne* Wall.Pl.As. Rar. Kunth. 1:71. t.79, 80. 1830.

Moderate sized, deciduous trees. Leaves digitate; leaflet 7-9, obovate, 10-12 cm long, acuminate, tapering at base, glabrous; petioles 10-15 cm long; petiolates 5-8 mm long. Flowers 8-10 cm across; Pedicel stout, jointed near the apex. Calyx urceolate-campanulate, 2-3 cm long, truncate or 2-lobed, glabrous outside, silky within. Corolla pinkish red; petals oblong, 10-12 cm long, tomentose; stigma 5 lobed. Capsules oblong, woody. 15-20 cm long, glabrous. Seeds ovoid. Embedded in silky cotton.

Flowers & Fruits: December- March.

GPS: Latitude 20.34141, Longitude 73.24444, Height (Sea Level) 341 meter, feet.

Speciman no: DH – 1050

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Distribution: Kaparada, Chavsala

Ecology: Tree attracts most of birds during flowering and fruiting season. Birds are depended on fruits of tree during fruiting time. In kaparada region there are only 17 individuals are observed.

Nomenclatural note: Typication of *Bombax* L. (1753) by SCHOTT and ENDLICHER (1832) who reserved the name for the American element, of *B. Ceiba* L. = *B. ceiba* L. sensu strict, and created a new generic name *Salmalia* for the Asiatic element of *B. malabaricum* DC. (1824) = *Salmalia malabarica* DC. (1832). This name is also listed in The International Plants Names Index **Id:** 563331-1 **Version:** 1.4 checked on 28/03/2017 at 3.34pm (http://www.ipni.org/ipni/idPlantNameSearch.do;jsessionid=291EE163A5C5A32DF8292513470D17E4?pid=563331-1&back_page=&show_history=true)

Type for *bombax*: "Moul-elavou" in Rheede, Hort. Malab., 3: 61, t. 52, 1682

Schott & Endlicher, *et al.*, named the Indian element as *Salmalia* based on Roxburgh's specimen of *B. heptaphylla* (Specimen no. K000357884) from India. (Specimen No. K000357884) in Kew. Roxburgh's specimen at the Royal Botanical Garden, Kew, Herbarium Number No. K000357884 can be designated as the lectotype for *salmalia*.

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Photo plate: A: habit of tree, B: Fruits, C: Flowers

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