

Millusa Tomentosa (Roxb.) Sinclair (Annonaceae): An Addition to the Flora of Marathwada Region of Maharashtra State India

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ABSTRACT

Millusa tomentosa (Roxb.) Sinclair is a large tree belongs to custard apple family Annonaceae is native of Indian subcontinent has been reported first time from Nanded district of Marathwada region of the Maharashtra state. This tree is one of the best examples of conservation practice done by the nature itself. The present work is a preliminary general survey of rare, endemic and endangered plant species from Nanded District of Marathwada region of Maharashtra State India.

Keywords: *Millusa tomentosa* (Roxb.) Sinclair, Annonaceae, Marathwada, Maharashtra state.

Introduction:

A new species of flowering plant belongs to the family – Annonaceae *Millusa tomentosa* (Roxb.) Sinclair is native of Indian subcontinent has been reported first time from Nanded district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra state.

Material and Methods:

During field visits at the study area a large tree was seen, A twing was collected and identified with the help of Flora of Marathwada and Flora of Maharashtra Flora of Solapur District (Almida 1995, Gaikwad & Garad 2015 & Naik 1998) as *Millusa tomentosa* (Roxb.) Sinclair, Annonaceae (Photo Plate 1). The herbarium sheet was also prepared and the specimen has been deposited in the herbarium of Department of Botany, Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya, Nanded.

Enumeration:

Millusa tomentosa (Roxb.) Sinclair in Gard. Bull. Singapore 14: 378, 1955; Santapau, Fl. Khandala ed.32, 1967; Das in Bull. Bot. Suv. Ind. 5: 45, 1963; Patel. Fl. Melghat 17, 1968; Almeida, Fl. Savantwadi 34, 1990. *Uvaria tomentosa* Roxb. Cor. Pl. 1: 31,t.55, 1797.

Saccopetalum tomentosum Hook. F. & Thoms. Fl. Ind. 152, 1855; Hook & Thoms. Fl. Br. Ind 1: 88, 1875; Dalz & Gibs. Bombay Fl.4, 1861; King IN Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta, 4(1): 159 and 4 (3): t. 207, 1893; Talbot, Trees. Bombay5, 1902; Woodrom in JBNHS 11: 121, 1897; Cooke, Fl. Humb, Thoska, Minmara.

A large tree; young branches tomentose, afterwards glabrous. Leaves membranous, 10 – 18 cm long and 4 – 8 cm broad, ovate – oblong, acute, rounded or subacute at the base, glabrous or glabrescent above (except the pubescent midrib), pubescent or tomentose at length, glabrous beneath, the midrib sometimes

tubercular; petioles 0.5 cm long. Flowers 2.5 cm in diam; peduncles leaf – opposed or sub-terminal 0 – 1.2 cm long, 1 to many flowered; pedicels very slender, 4 – 6 cm long, bracteates to the base. Sepals minute. Petals the exterior small, longer than the sepals, linear, acute; the interior about 1.2 cm long, ovate – oblong, obtuse, hirsute at the base, both surfaces pubescent. Stamens numerous in several rows, shortly apiculate. Ovaries broadly ovate, hirsute at the base; ovules 4 – 6, in 2 rows; stigma sessile. Ripe carpels 5 – 15 about 2.5 cm long, stalked, subglobose, tapering slightly towards the base, succulent, purple when ripe; stalks 1.2 to 2.5 cm long.

Flowers: April



Plate 1: *Millusa tomentosa* (Roxb.) Sinclair (Annonaceae):

References:

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