



Haritarium

Family Code: 579

Species code: 4 - 4A

Naoroji Godrej Centre for Plant Research

Habenaria foliosa A. Rich.

Botanical name: *Habenaria foliosa* A. Rich.

(= *H. digitata* var. *foliosa* (A. Rich.), = *H. gibsonii* var. *foliosa* (A. Rich.), = *H. trinervia* Wight., = *H. spencei* Blatt. & McC.)

Family : Orchidaceae

Vernacular name:

Status: Not evaluated.

Key characters: Ground orchid; flowers small, mild scented, less than 3cm long, lip 1-spurred occasionally faintly whitish, sepals erect or spreading, not reflexed, more or less similar to dorsal one. Segments of petal unequal, the upper one about as long as the lower segment and lying along the dorsal sepal, lower segment of petals filiform, less than half as long as the upper ones; spur scarcely clavate, stigmatic appendages standing out as stalked appendages, pollinia in small masses.

Description: Terrestrial herbs; 18-30cm tall. Tubers generally 1 rarely 2, ovoid. Stems leafless at base. Leaves alternate pentastichous, 2-13 X 1.5-5 cm, ovate, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, entire, somewhat strongly 3 nerved. Inflorescence 4-13 cm long, in few- to many-flowered, dense or lax spikes; peduncle short, often with 1-3 sheathing bracts which are about 2.5-3.5 cm long. Flowers 24-27 mm long, pure green or occasionally with a yellowish or whitish tinge, bracteate, shortly pedicellate, emitting a pungent foul smell after sunset. Bracts longer than the flowers, the uppermost one slightly shorter, convolute round the ovary, similar to those of the peduncle. Sepals subequal, green, ovate-oblong, subacute, 3-nerved, somewhat erect or spreading not reflexed. Petals green, 2-partite; posterior or the upper segment 8-10 X 1-2 mm, linear, acute, curved along with the dorsal sepal or projecting slightly beyond it. Lip green, 3-lobed not quite to the base but a little beyond the stigmatic processes; lobes subequal similar, somewhat fleshy, often slightly dilated about the middle, acute; lateral lobes spreading and reflexed at right angles to the straight or often inward reflexed midlobe. Spur 15-18 mm long, green, scarcely clavate, obtuse, the mouth liguled, narrow. Column 4-6 X 5 mm, oblong, green. Anther cells short; pollinia obovoid, with a 2.5 mm long curved caudicle and a small, orbicular gland. Stigmatic processes green, 1.5-2 mm long, thin, lying on the lip on either side of the liguled entrance of the spur. Ovary 16-18 mm long, green, quite strongly ribbed, shortly pedicellate. Capsule ellipsoid, shortly beaked.

Flowering and fruiting: July – Oct.

Distribution: India – Endemic to western peninsular India. Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra.

Reported Localities from Maharashtra: Pune (Khandala, Khadakvasla), Satara (Mahabaleshwar)

Ecology: Undergrowth in forest areas, often on sloping ground. Prefers high altitudes between 900-1200m above sea level.

Association: No specific plant association is observed, but known to grow among *Strobilanthus callosa* bushes.



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Species code: 4 - 4B

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1. & 4. Habit, 2. Flower, 3. Dissected flower, 5. Inflorescence, 6. Leaf-ventral view, 7. Leaf- Dorsal view.



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Species code: 4 - 4C

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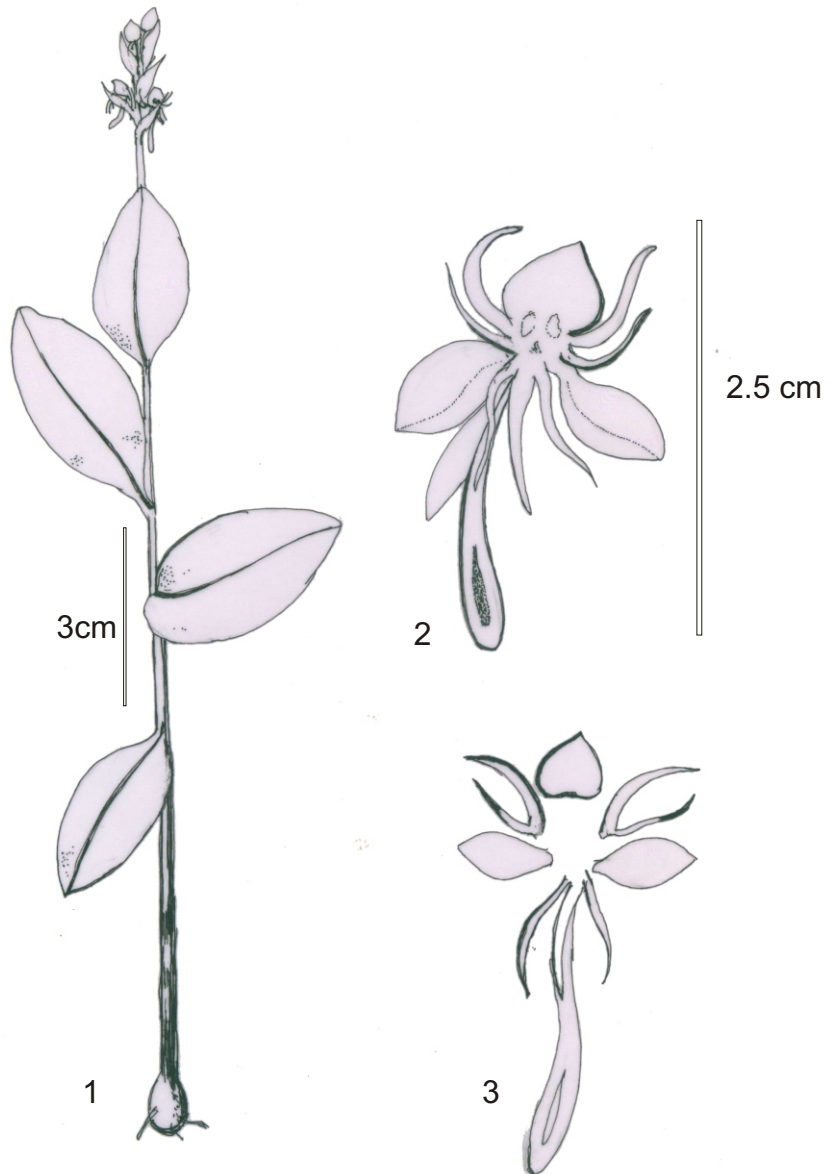
Haritarium

Family Code: 579

Species code: 4 - 4D

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***Habenaria foliosa* A. Rich.**



1. Habit, 2. Flower, 3. Dissected flower



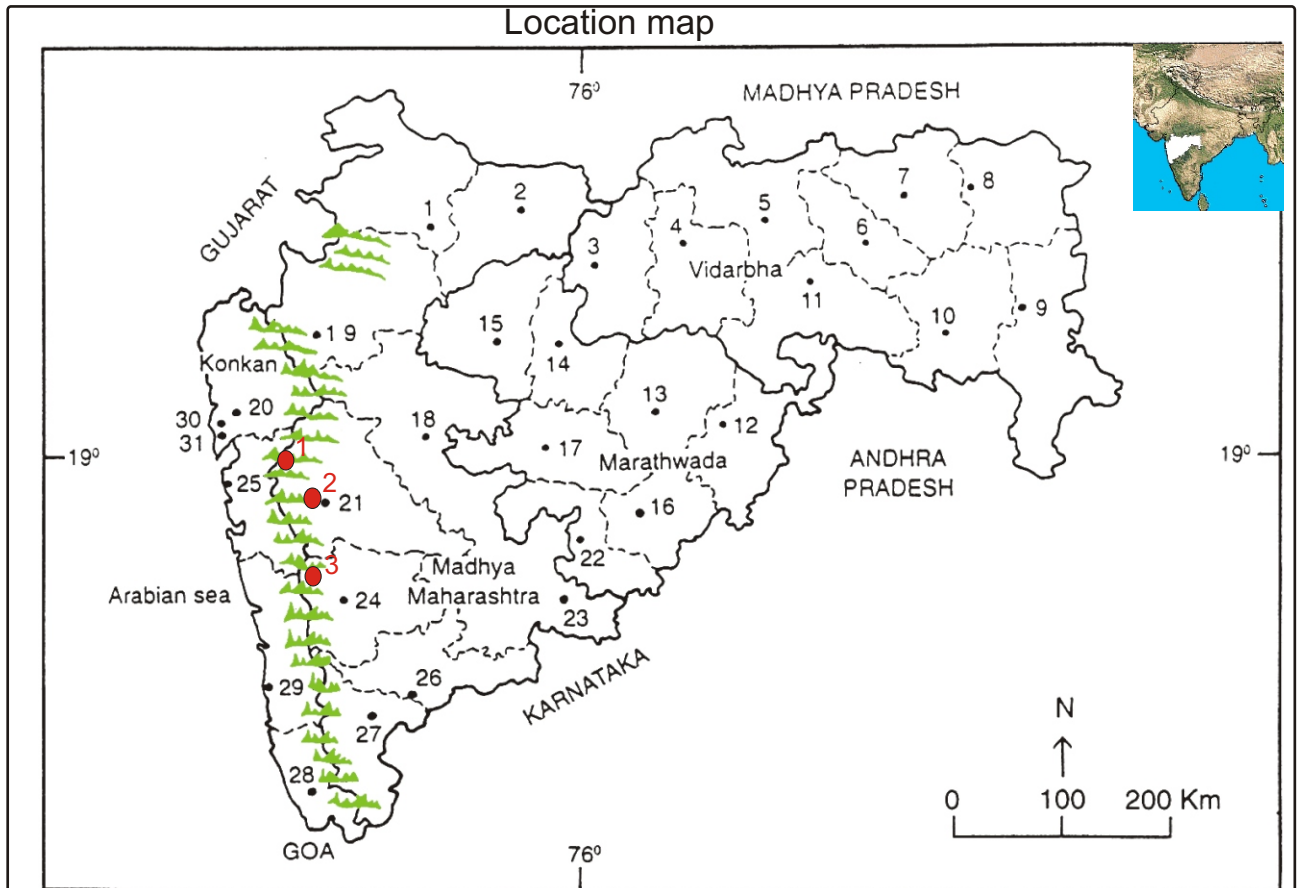
Haritarium

Family Code: 579

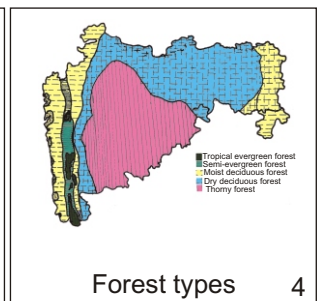
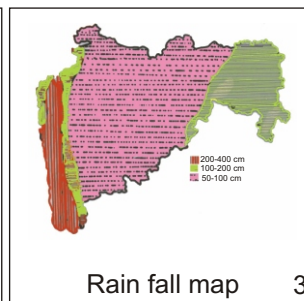
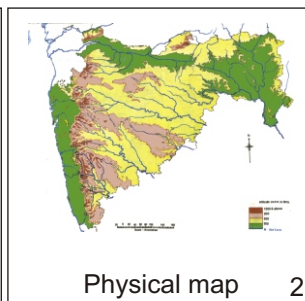
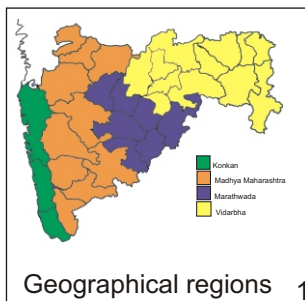
Species code: 4 - 4E

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1.Dhule 2.Jalgaon 3. Buldhana 4.Akola 5.Amaravati 6.Wardha 7.Nagpur 8. Bhandara 9. Gadchiroli
 10. Chandrapur 11. Yavatmal 12. Nanded 13. Parbhani 14. Jalna 15. Aurangabad 16.Latur
 17. Beed 18. Ahmadnagar 19 Nashik 20. Thane 21. Pune 22. Osmanabad 23. Solapur 24.Satara
 25. Raigad 26.Sangli 27. Kolhapur 28. Sindhudurg 29. Ratnagiri 30.Mumbai 31.Greater Mumbai.



Localities- ●

A.Pune(1. Khandala, 2. Khadakwalsla), B.Satara (3. Mahabaleshwar.)

Geographical distribution in Maharashtra:

Latitude (DMS): Between 18 ° 45'- 17° 55'N & Longitude (DMS): 73 ° 25'-73° .50' E.



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