



Addition of *Butea monosperma* var. *Lutea* (Fabaceae) in the flora of district Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh, India

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Abstract

Golden yellow flowering *Butea monosperma* was recorded for the first time in district Rajnandgaon near Ambagarh Chowki. The plant is identified as *Butea monosperma* (Lam) Taub. Syn *B. Frondosa* Koenig Ex. Roxb. var. *lutea* (Witt) Maheshwari. The location of the plant is 20° 49' 19.1"N; 80° 44' 45.8"E. On-site observation and morphological characteristics were examined. Counseling with local peoples was done to gather its socio-economic importance.

Keywords: Chhattisgarh, golden yellow, new species, palash, taxonomy

Introduction

Butea monosperma has a place with the family Fabaceae and is commonly known as the Flame of forest. It has various local names like palas, palash, chichra, dhak, bastard teak, bijasneha, bengal kino, khakara, mutthuga (Firdaus and Mazumder, 2012) [1]. *B. monosperma* is a very slow developing deciduous tree distinguished by the trifoliate pinnate leaves. It is naturally grown in the tropical and subtropical climate of India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, and Cambodia (Kandasamy & al., 2013) [2].

The different parts of plant and extract have been utilizing in Unani, homeopathy, and traditional system medicine since a long year ago. It is useful in hepatic disorder, diarrhea, ulcer, diabetes, improving memory, and abnormal menstruation. Antihelminthic, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory activities, free radical scavenging activities are likewise such properties of *B. monosperma* (Yadav & al., 2020) [3].

Flavonoids are very important naturally occurring polyphenol and are active biomolecules with medicinal values. The flower and bark of *B. monosperma* contain flavonoids such as butin, butrin, isobutrin, and butein (Chauhan and Mahish, 2020) [4].

The finding of new plant species is always excited and uncovers the magnificence of nature. Likewise gives additional way to track down its morphological, anatomical characteristics, bioactive compound, pharmacological

properties, and genetic relationship among species, and so on. *Butea monosperma* var. *lutea* was reported from places around Pune, Aurangabad in Maharashtra, Jillella block of Sirsilla forests of Karimnagar, Peddagutta of Nizamabad and Kummarigudem and Mallakpally of Warangal district of Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat (Naqvi, 2001 [5]; Reddy *et al.* 2001 [6]; Patil and Mahajan, 2018 [7]). Therefore, by the present study, golden butea, *Butea monosperma* (Lam) Taub. Syn *B. Frondosa* Koenig Ex. Roxb. var. *Lutea* (Witt) Maheshwari is added in the flora of district Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh, India. It is very rare, declared as globally endangered medicinal plant by Conservation Assessment Management Planning Workshop for Medicinal Plants of Andhra Pradesh (Jadhav *et al.* 2001) [8].

Materials and Methods

Study area: Bandha bazaar is a small village located in the block of Ambagarh Chowki, district Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh state.

It is 08 km from Ambagarh Chowki and 48 km from the district headquarter.

Bandha bazaar is located 315 meters above sea level. During sampling, the temperature was 38.5°C, humidity 5%, wind 5.50 m/sec towards NW.

The study area belongs to the tropical wet and dry climate. The major population is tribal with the dominance of Gond. The residence can communicate in Hindi and Chhattisgarhi. The location of the study area is presented in Fig. 1.