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Many botanists have documented the plant diversity of Western Ghats of Maharashtra for nearly two centuries. Graham (1837) was the first one to provide a catalogue of plants of this region. Dalzell & Gibson (1861) published a detailed list of plants from the region (the then Bombay Presidency). Theodore Cooke's 'Flora of the Presidency of Bombay' published between 1901 and 1908 is the most comprehensive and authentic work on the floristic diversity of this region. This work was followed by Talbot's 'Forest Flora of the Bombay Presidency and Sind' (1909–1911). Blatter & McCann published a series of papers revising the flora of the region. After independence, many floristic works have been published, thus contributing significantly to the floristic diversity of Maharashtra. Among them, Santapau (1953) is one of the noteworthy contributions towards an elucidation of floristic wealth of this region.

After the reorganization of the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) in 1954 a series of district floras were published by BSI. In addition to these, many checklists and floras of various locations were published by various universities and research institutes. All these simultaneous efforts enriched various herbaria, such as the Botanical Survey of India, the Western Regional Centre (BSI), the Blatter Herbarium, Mumbai (BLAT), the Herbarium of Agharkar Research Institute, Pune (AHMA), the Herbarium of Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad (BAMU) and the Herbarium of Shivaji University, Kolhapur (SUK). All these collect-

NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF SOME ANGIOSPERMS FROM MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

Namrata S. Gaikwad¹ & Mandar N. Datar²

^{1,2} Agharkar Research Institute, Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Road, Pune, Maharashtra 411004, India
¹ nhshevate@gmail.com, ² datarmandar@gmail.com
(corresponding author)

ions and efforts in the form of local, regional floras and checklists resulted in the compilation of the flora of the entire state of Maharashtra by the Botanical Survey of India (Lakshminarasimhan 1996; Singh & Karthikeyan 2000; Singh et al. 2001). Simultaneously, Almeida (1996–2003) also published the Flora of Maharashtra in series, based on collections housed at BLAT. Karthikeyan et al. (2002) published a list of 121 species reported by Cooke (1901–1908) and not collected by subsequent workers. While arboreal species not collected after Cooke's flora were given by Ghate & Datar (2009), these species are still referred to Cooke, for their distribution in Maharashtra.

We present here a note on the occurrence of three such species of angiosperms, viz., *Ampelocissus araneosa* (Vitaceae), *Trichosanthes nervifolia* (Cucurbitaceae) and *Strychnos dalzellii* (Loganiaceae) which were subsequently included in many floras based on Cooke's authority (1901–1908). However, a critical scrutiny of specimens housed at AHMA has shown that these species have been collected by the scientific personnel of Agharkar Research Institute. Their identities were ascertained using available descriptions and matching

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them with authentic specimens deposited at BSI from states other than Maharashtra.

Brief nomenclature citation, notes on their distribution and details of specimens of the three species studied at AHMA and map (Fig. 1) are given below.

Ampelocissus araneosa (Dalzell & A. Gibson) Planch. in DC., Monogr. Phan. 5: 176. 1887; M.R. Almeida, Fl. Maharashtra 1: 262. 1996; B.G. Kulk. in N.P. Singh & Karthik., Fl. Maharashtra 1: 548. 2000. *Cissus araneosus* Dalzell & A. Gibson, Bombay Fl. 41. 1861. *Vitis araneosus* (Dalzell & A. Gibson) M.A. Lawson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 657. 1875; T. Cooke, Fl. Bombay 1: 255. 1901. (Vitaceae) (Images 1a,b).

Exsiccata: Pune, Sinhagad, 23.1.1951, *Razi* 1136; Thorala dara, Sinhagad, 1.7.1956, *Vartak*, 1137; Thorala dara, Sinhagad, 15.7.1956, *Vartak* 1138 (AHMA).

Notes: This species was originally described by Dalzell & Gibson (1861) from the then Bombay Presidency. It is neither represented at any herbaria in Maharashtra nor at Kew (Almeida 1996). However, there are representative specimens from Sinhagad, Pune, collected by Razi and Vartak during the 1950s at AHMA, which confirm the occurrence of this species in Maharashtra.

Strychnos dalzellii C.B. Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 87. 1883; T. Cooke, Fl. Bombay 2: 185. 1908; C.R. Jadhav in N.P. Singh & Karthik., Fl. Maharashtra 1: 392. 2000; M.R. Almeida, Fl. Maharashtra 3: 267. 2001. (Loganiaceae) (Image 1d).

Exsiccata: Pune, Dongarwadi, 3.6.2011, *Datar* 25366

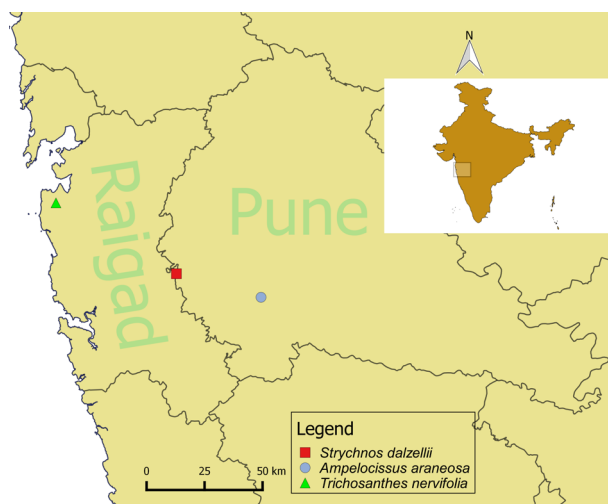
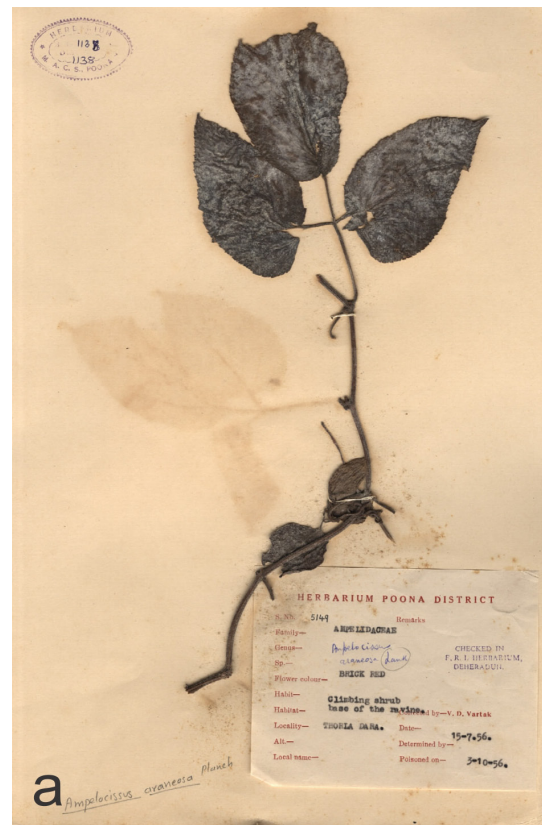


Figure 1. Location details of the species. Map was prepared using QGIS version 2.6.1 Brigtton



Images 1 a,b. Herbarium sheet of *Ampelocissus araneosa* (Pune, Thorala dara-Sinhagad, 1.7.1956, Vartak, 1138; Thorala; dara, Sinhagad, 15.7.1956, Vartak 1137)

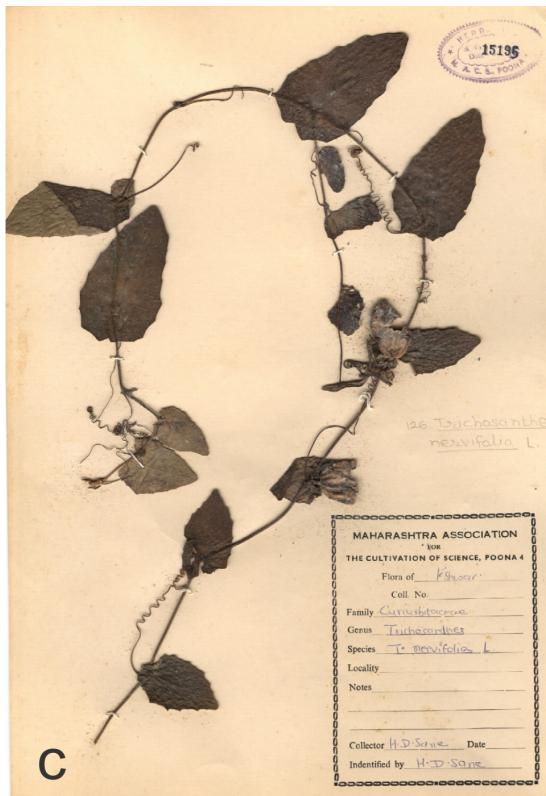


Image 3. Herbarium sheet of *Trichosanthes nervifolia* (Kankeshwar, Sane 15195)

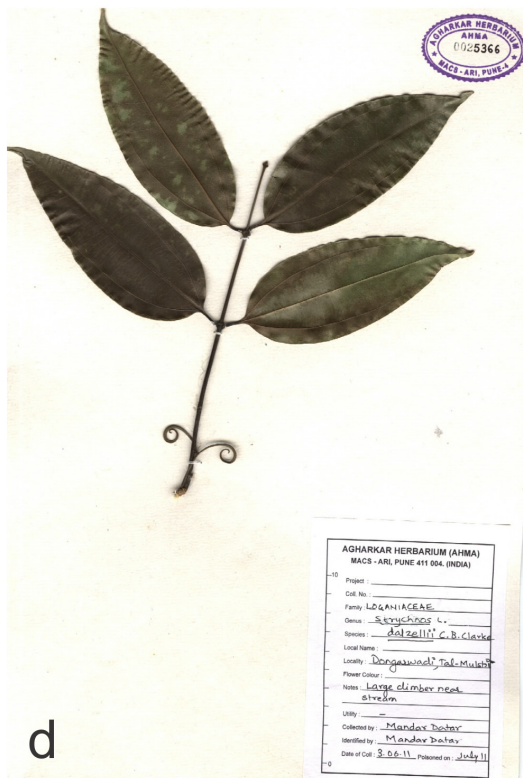


Image 4. Herbarium sheet of *Strychnos dalzellii* (Pune, Dongarwadi, 3.6.2011, Datar 25366)

(AHMA).

Notes: Singh & Karthikeyan (2000) included it based on Cooke (1901–1908). One of the author (MND) collected it from Dongarwadi, Pune during 2001, and a representative specimen is housed at AHMA (25366), for reference.

Trichosanthes nervifolia L., Sp. Pl.: 1008. 1753; C.B. Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 2: 609. 1879; T. Cooke, Fl. Bombay 1: 526. 1901; Chakrav. in Rec. Bot. Surv. India 17: 30. 1959 & in Fasc. Fl. India 11: 119. 1982; C. Jeffrey in Kew Bull. 34: 796. 1980; M.R. Almeida, Fl. Maharashtra 2: 331. 1998; K.M. Rao in N.P. Singh & Karthik., Fl. Maharashtra 1: 67. 2000; Kathik. et al. in J. Econ. Taxon. Bot. 26: 227. 2002. (Cucurbitaceae) (Image 1c).

Exsiccata: Raigad, Kankeshwar, Sane 15195; Kankeshwar, Sane 15196 (AHMA).

Notes: This species is reported in Flora of Maharashtra (Rao in Singh et al. 2001; Almeida, 1998) based on Chakravarty (1982). Karthikeyan et al. (2002) refer to its occurrence to Konkan. There is no specimen of this species either at BSI or BLAT. However, there is a specimen at AHMA collected in 1980, from Kankeshwar, Raigad District of Maharashtra, which confirms its occurrence from Maharashtra.

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