



Original Research Article

***Butea monosperma* (Lam.) var. *lutea* (Witt) (Fabaceae): A new species record from Gujarat state, India**

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A B S T R A C T

Keywords

Butea monosperma (Lam.) var. *lutea* (Witt),

Butea monosperma (Lam.) var. *lutea* (Witt) is described and illustrated. It is earlier known only from Maharashtra and is recorded for the first time from the Gujarat state. A detailed description and a photograph are provided.

Introduction

On critical examination and perusal of literature (Patel, 1971; Shah, 1978; Raghavan *et al.*, 1981; Shetty *et al.*, 1987; Singh *et al.*, 2000; Sanjappa, 1922), it was identified as *Butea monosperma* (Lam.) var. *lutea* (Witt). Therefore, the present collection is a new distributional record for Gujarat State.

Study area

Sabarkantha District having hilly and forest area near the range of Arvalli hills. The district Sabarkantha is situated in the north eastern part of Gujarat state between 23°03' and 24°30' north latitudes and 72°43' and 73°39' east longitudes. The total population according to 2001 census is 1027 million.

The rural population is 15, 75,918 (86.48%) and tribal population is 18.41%. The rural commonly are Brahmin, Patel, Vania, Rajput and Muslims etc. The adivasi commonly are Bhils, Parmar, Pardhi, Sarar, Dabhi, Angari, Kher, Kapedia, Rohisa, Bangadia, Lakhumada, chunara, Damors and many more. Their principal means of livelihood is agriculture and live stalk. The main crops raised are maize, whete, chana, peddy, tuvar, bajra, and rajko.

Poshina range is divided into two ranges, Poshina forests range (*Poshina Patti*) and R.D.F. (Rehabilitation of degraded forest) Poshina forest range (*Lambadia Range*). The R.D.F. Poshina forest range is a tribal area located in Khedbrahmataluka of

Sabarkantha district of North Gujarat, India. The R.D.F. Poshina forest range belongs to Sabarkantha forest division of Gujarat state. The total area of R.D.F. Poshina forest range is 8156.03 H.A., of which reserve forest under section-20 is 921.43 H.A. and un-classed forest under section-4 is 7234.60 H.A. The total 25 villages are in the study area.

Materials and Methods

Extensive field trips were organized in R.D.F. Poshina Forest range area of Sabarkantha district in North Gujarat. Forest areas and villages of such regions were frequently visited, to collect the information about the forest wealth and uses of plant species were noted. Village wise men, experienced informants etc. were contact and by repeat queries data was gathered. These people are the only source of information about the local plant names and their ethnobotanical uses. This is the original and ancient knowledge, which was not documented systematically earlier but from last few decades several ethnobotanical workers have been worked on this subject. The collected plant specimens were

identified and arranged according to Bentham and Hooker's system of angiospermic classification described in the Gujarat flora by Shah (1978). Valid scientific name, Local name, Family and ethnomedicinally uses are described.

Results and Discussion

Butea monosperma (Lam.) var. *lutea* (Witt) Mahesh. in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 3:92 (1961) 1962. Sanjappa : Legumes of India 99, 1991. (PILO KHAKHRO)

Trees, leaves 3- foliate; leaflets 4.0-20.5 x 2.5-18.0 cm, ovate-rhomboid, glabrous above, silky, pubescent beneath, flowers yellowish or canary – yellow, pods oblong, brownish, 1-seeded.

Fls & Frs: January - May

Field notes: Noted single plant from Demti Eran village, first time reported in Gujarat on the dated 22nd March, 2012 with GPS location 24°17'45.9" E 073°06'49.02".

Exsiccata : 086 (Demti Eran)

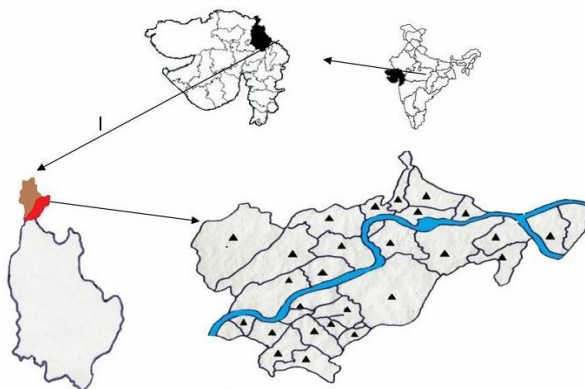
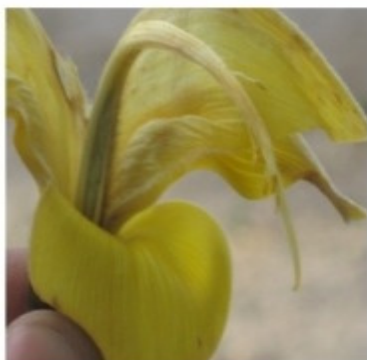


Plate:1 Map of the R. D. F. Poshina Range forest Area



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