

## ASCLEPIADACEAE

### **Ceropegia media** (Huber) Ansari

*Distribution* : INDIA: Maharashtra - Ahmednagar (Kalsubai), Pune (Purandhar, Bhimashankar, Khandala, Sinhagad, Ambavane, Varandh), Ratnagiri (Marleshwar), Sangli (Ghotane) and Satara (Thoseghar plateau, Kas plateau) districts. Endemic.



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Photo Courtesy: S.A. Punekar

*Habitat* : Grows in open forests and on slopes at altitudes from 500-1500 m.

*Population status / Cause for RET* : Vulnerable. This species was earlier reported from Pune and Satara districts only. In 1998 it has been reported from Kalsubai hill of Ahmednagar district (Mishra & Singh, 2001).

*Description* : A perennial tuberous twiner. Stem unbranched, terete, glabrous. Leaves linear-lanceolate or lanceolate, 5-15 x 1-5 cm, acute or acuminate at apex, subcoriaceous, hispidulous above, glabrous or nearly so beneath; lateral nerves 4-6 pairs; petioles 1.5-2 cm long, glabrous, grooved on the upper

side. Flowers few in lateral umbellate cymes; peduncles and pedicels hairy. Calyx lobes ca 4 mm long. Corolla ca 2.8 cm long; tube ca 2 cm long, base slightly inflated, glabrous inside; lobes oblong, ca 8 x 2.5 mm, glabrous. Corona biseriate, outer corona cupular, lobes 5, entire or notched in the middle, glabrous outside, hairy inside; inner linear, 'L'-shaped. Pollinia five, pollen masses solitary in each anther cell, yellow, waxy with pellucid layer, attached by light-brown caudicles to dark-brown corpuscle. Follicles in pairs.

*Fl.* : July-September; *Fr.* : September-October.

*Commercial / Ex-Im Data* : Not available.

*References* :

Mishra, D.K. & N.P. Singh (2001). Endemic and Threatened Flowering Plants of Maharashtra. Pp.141-142.

Walter, K.S. & H.J. Gillett (1998). 1997 IUCN Red List of Threatened Plants. P. 65.



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