LENTIBULARIACEAE

Utricularia kumaonensis Oliv. [= Diurospermum album Edgew.]

Description: Herbs; rhizoids not distinguishable; stolons up to 1 cm long. Foliar organs up to 17 mm long, rosulate at scape base and scattered on stolons; pseudo-petioles up to 15 mm long, terete; expanded

portion up to 2 x 3 mm, suborbicular, nerves dichotomously divided. Traps up to 2 mm across, subglobose, glandular, on stolons; mouth lateral; of 5-7-radiating appendages from expanded lip. Racemes up to 5 cm long, erect, simple or branched, glabrous, 1-4-flowered; bracts c 1 mm long, medifixed, more or less oblanceate, acute at base, bidentate at apex; bracteoles c 1.5 mm long, medifixed, more or less oblong, constricted near the point of attachement, acute at base, bi- or tridentate at apex; flowers c 5 mm long; pedicels up to 9 mm long, filiform, erect or spread. Calyx-lobes unequal, papillose; upper lobe c 2 x 2.8 mm, more or less suborbicular, emarginate at apex; lower c 1 x 0.5 mm, oblong, truncate or bifid at apex. Corolla white; upper lip shorter than calyx-lobe, deltoid; lower lip up to 4 x 5 mm, 5-6-lobed, lateral lobes divergent and smaller; spur shorter than lower lip of corolla, cylindrical, obtuse at apex. Capsules up to 3.5 x 2.5 mm, more or less twice as long as longer than

upper calyx-lobe, oblongoid, dehisce vertically on ventral side; placenta up to 1.3 mm long, flask-shaped, beaked, connecting base and apex of capsule. Seeds c 0.5 mm long, few, oblongoid to ellipsoid, appendage on both ends; hilum not prominent; testa echinate.

Fl. & Fr.: August - September.

Habitat: On moss covered rocks or on tree trunks at 2,250 m and above, up to snow line.

Pollen: 4-colporate, 32 x 42-44 μ (Thanikaimoni, 1966); 4-colporate, 20 x 30 μ (Taylor, 1989).

Distribution: India - Uttar Pradesh and Sikkim. Endemic to Himalayas; India, Nepal, Bhutan, Northern Burma, Southern Tibet and Southwest China;

Notes: Utricularia kumaonensis Oliv, is closely allied to *U. multicaulis* Oliv. But the latter can be easily differentiated from the former, by its thick recurved fruiting pedicel, globose to subglobose capsule, and seeds appendaged on one side. Oliv. proposed *U. kumaonensis*, as a new name for *Diurospermun album* Edgew., because of the existence of the name *Utricularia alba* Hoffmanns. ex Link (1820) referring to a different species; in other words, the epithet alba was preoccupied in the genus *Utricularia*.

As the type specimen of *Diurospermum album* Edgew. could not be traced, it is concluded that all the original material used by Edgeworth has presumably been lost or destroyed. The specimen subsequently used by Oliv. (Strachey & Winterbottom s.n., collected in pilti at 7500 ft., in W. Himalayas - K) best fits the protologue and hence selected as neotype. Taylor in Herb. Kew has erroneously labelled this material as "Type" of "*U. kumaonensis* Oliv.", and designated subcquently as holotype (Taylor, *I.c.* 1989).

References:

Janarthanam, M.K. & Henry, A.N. 1992. Bladderworts of India. Pp. 65-67.

Taylor, P. 1989. The genus Utricularia – a taxonomic monograph. Kew Bull. Add. Ser. 14: 1-724.

Thanikaimoni, G. 1966. Pollen morphology of the genus *Utricularia*. *Pollen et Spores* 8: 265-284.