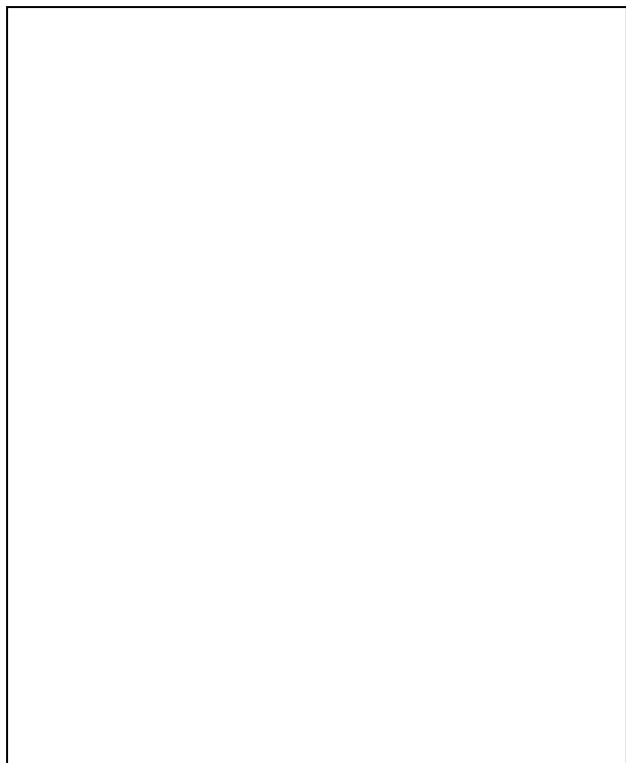


LENTIBULARIACEAE

***Utricularia multicaulis* Oliv.**

Description: Herbs. Foliar organs more or less orbicular with a pseudopetiole. Racemes up to 5 cm long, tufted, erect, glabrous, 1 -3-flowered; bracts c 1 mm long, medifixed, elliptic-lanceate, truncate to trifid at



base, acute at apex; bracteoles up to 1 mm long, medifixed, elliptic-lanceate, truncate to bifid at base, acute at apex; flowers c 3 mm long; pedicels c 5 mm long, erect in anthesis, recurved in fruiting. Calyx-lobes unequal; upper lobe c 1.5 x 2 mm, suborbicular, emarginate at apex; lower 1 x 0.7 mm, obovate to oblong, emarginate to minutely denticulate at apex. Corolla flesh-coloured; upper lip c 1 mm long, semi-orbicular, entire to emarginate at apex; lower c 2 mm across, 3-4-lobed, rarely 6-lobed, yellow in throat; spur 2 mm long, conical to cylindrical, straight or slightly curved, obtuse at apex. Stamens not seen. Pistil c 1 mm long; ovary ovoid; style short, thick; stigma 2-lipped. Capsules c 1.5 mm across, subglobose, dehisce ventrally by a vertical slit; placenta connecting base and apex of capsule. Seeds up to 0.8 mm long, ovoid, appendicular at one end; hilum subterminal; testa echinate in definite rows.

Fl. & Fr.: July-August.

Habitat: Distributed in hill ranges between 1800 and 4800 m, as an epiphyte or terrestrial.

Pollen: 3- or 4-colporate, 25 x 31 μ (Thanikaimoni, 1966); 3- or 4-colporate, 26 x 35 μ (Huynh, 1968); 3- or 4-colporate, 25 x 33-36 μ (Taylor, 1989).

Distribution: India - Only in Sikkim. Eastern Himalayas extending to China and Myanmar.

Notes: *Utricularia kumaonensis* Oliv. is sometimes confused with *U. multicaulis* Oliv. But the seeds of *U. multicaulis* have prominent hilum and appendages confined to only one end of the seed, whereas in *U. kumaonensis* the hilum is not prominent and the appendages are distributed on both ends of seeds.

P. Taylor (in Herb. Kew) has chosen J.D. Hooker s.n. "1" Sikkim as the lectotype of this species.

References:

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