

## **New records 2022-2023**

### **1. *Salvia misella* Kunth (Lamiaceae) - a new record for Eastern Ghats of India**

**Jul 27, 2022**

**Prabhat Kumar Das**

Centre for Biotechnology

**Pradeep Kumar Kamila**

Centre for Biotechnology, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University), Kalinga Nagar, Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751003, India.

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4269-2597>

**Pratap Chandra Panda**

Centre for Biotechnology, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University), Kalinga Nagar, Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751003, India.

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4902-7453>

#### **Abstract**

*Salvia misella* Kunth (Lamiaceae) is reported here as an addition to the flora of Eastern Ghats of India from the Koraput district of Odisha. The nomenclature, botanical description, phenology, ecology and distribution of the species have been provided in this paper along with colour photographs of the plant and plant parts for easy identification of the species.

**Source:** <https://threatenedtaxa.org/JoTT/article/view/6485>

**2023**

## **2. Tamil Nadu academics discover two new plant species**



**TIRUCHY:** The botany department of St Joseph's College in Tiruchy fetched another feather in their cap after articles on two new plant species - *Therophonum blumei* and *Lepidagathis decumbens* - discovered by the department in 2019 were published respectively in *Nordic*, a Norwegian journal, and *Adasonia*, a

French journal.

S Soosairaj, Assistant Professor of Botany at the college, said they spotted *Therophonum blumei* for the first time during a field visit to a forest near Samayapuram in Tiruchy in 2019. The second plant species, *Lepidagathis decumbens*, was discovered by N Dhatchanamoorhty, a research scholar, at a jungle in Thippampatti in Dharmapuri district.

Professor Soosairaj said, "*Therophonum blumei* was first discovered in 2019. Since then we have been initiating research into its various aspects. It belongs to a plant family named Araceae."

The professor added that the new species was named after German-Dutch botanist Carl Ludwig Blume (1796 - 1862). The discovery was approved by researchers at Kew Herbarium in London.

*Lepidagathis decumbens*, the second species to be discovered recently, belongs to the 'Acanthaceae family. It grows up to 20 cm.

Professor Soosairaj also said they were able to discover the species since their research extended to the ghats and hilly areas. "Innumerable plant species could be spotted in the plains too," he added.

It is to be noted that authorised taxonomists have the authorization to publish new plants after the approval process from the other researchers. The publishing journal would be approving the discovery by cross-checking it with the renowned botanists in the world. After the approval, the name rights as per the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature would be conferred to the author.

**Source:** <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2023/jan/25/tamil-naduacademics-discover-two-new-plant-species-2541141.html>

### **3. *Osbeckia yercaudensis* (Melastomataceae) a new species from the Eastern Ghats, India**

**February, 2023**

Thokuluva santharam saravanan lead botanical garden, national orchidarium & experimental garden, botanical survey of india, southern regional centre, yercaud-636 602, salem district, tamil nadu, india  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1765-0408>

Seventhilingam kalamoorthy lead botanical garden, national orchidarium & experimental garden, botanical survey of india, southern regional centre, yercaud-636 602, salem district, tamil nadu, india  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7017-8144>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.583.3.8>

#### **Abstract**

A new species of Melastomataceae, *Osbeckia yercaudensis*, endemic to south India, is described from Shevaroy Hills, Tamil Nadu, India. It is morphologically allied to *Osbeckia mehrana* Giri & Nayar (1986: 429) and *Osbeckia wightiana* Bentham ex Wight & Arnott (1834:323), an endemic species from south India, but differs in the height of the plant, size of the leaves, 2–3-flowered cymes, oblong to slightly falcate sepals with irregularly emarginate apex and cochleate or U shaped, margins minutely toothed seeds. A detailed description, photographic illustration and comparison table are provided to facilitate identification.

**Source:** <https://www.biotaxa.org/Phytotaxa/article/view/phytotaxa.583.3.8>

**4. A new species of rupicolous *Cnemaspis* Strauch, 1887  
(Squamata: Gekkonidae) from the Male Mahadeshwara  
Wildlife Sanctuary, southern Eastern Ghats, India**

**March, 2023**

Surya Narayanan<sup>1</sup>, Saunak Pal<sup>2</sup>, L. Lee Grismer<sup>3,4</sup>, N. A. Aravind<sup>1,5</sup>

**Abstract**

We describe a new species of rupicolous *Cnemaspis* from the Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary in the Eastern Ghats. The current description is based on a type series of eight specimens that bear a unique combination of morphological and colour pattern characteristics that do not occur in other closely related species. Maximum likelihood and Bayesian analyses based on the mitochondrial gene ND2 recovered the new species to be nested within the gracilis clade and the sister species to the recently described *C. agarwali* from the Eastern Ghats.

**Keywords:** Endemic, gecko, India, integrative taxonomy, MM Hills, morphology

**Source:** [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/369236547\\_A\\_new\\_species\\_of\\_rupicolous\\_Cnemaspis\\_Strauch\\_1887\\_Squamata\\_Gekkonidae\\_from\\_the\\_Male\\_Mahadeshwara\\_Wildlife\\_Sanctuary\\_southern\\_Eastern\\_Ghats\\_India](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/369236547_A_new_species_of_rupicolous_Cnemaspis_Strauch_1887_Squamata_Gekkonidae_from_the_Male_Mahadeshwara_Wildlife_Sanctuary_southern_Eastern_Ghats_India)

**5. *Andrographis saxalitis* a woody new species from Eastern  
Ghats of Andhra Pradesh, India**

**March, 2023**

Raja Kullayiswamy K1 and Sarojini Devi N2

**Abstract**

*Andrographis saxalitis* has been described from rocky plateaus of Owk dam area, Andhra Pradesh. It resembles *A. beddomei* but it differs in many morphological characters.

**Key words:** Andrographis, woody stem, rocky crevices, Eastern Ghats, Andhra Pradesh

**Source:** <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/biorxiv/early/2023/03/23/2023.03.19.533309.full.pdf>