

A climber host of *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting var. *falcata*

T.G. GOHIL AND ALPESH B. THAKOR

Accepted : April, 2009

Key words : Climber, Parasute

A new host of a partial stem parasite, *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting var. *falcata* has been reported from Valsad, Gujarat, India. The host - *Cryptolepis buchanani* (L.) R and S. is a climber

According to Shah (1978) *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting var. *falcata* is a common parasite on several host plants throughout Gujarat State. Shah failed to record the host species of this partial stem parasite in the State. It has been noticed on trees and shrubs in the forests of South Gujarat, Pavagadh, Panchmahals, Saurashtra in Gujarat State, India. In South Gujarat it is very common and abundant stem parasite on *Mangifera indica* L. More and Inamdar (1975) reported it as a partial leaf parasite on *Mangifera indica* L. from Segvi village near Tithal, Valsad district. Patel *et al.* (1991) reported it as a partial parasite on *Pentas carnea* L. from Bhagdavada village near Tithal, Valsad district. Its occurrence has not been reported so far on any climber. It has been noticed for the first time as a partial stem parasite on a climber *Cryptolepis buchanani* (L.) R and S. (Fig. 1) growing in a Forest of Dharampur, Valsad district, South Gujarat.

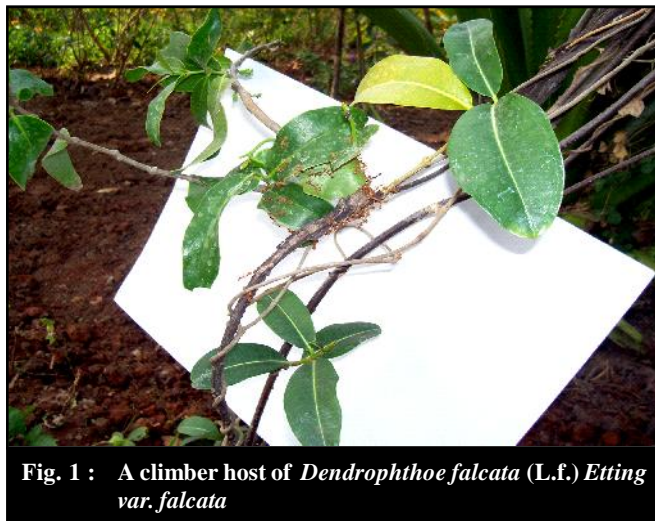


Fig. 1 : A climber host of *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting var. *falcata*

It produced flowers also, hence, *Cryptolepis buchanani* (L.) R and S. is added as a new host of *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting var. *falcata*.

REFERENCES

- More, P.G. and Inamdar, J.A. (1975). *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting – A parasite on the leaf of *Mangifera indica* L. *Curr. Sci.*, **45**.
- Patel, R.M., Desai, M.J. and Bhatt, M.P. (1991). A cultivar host of *Dendrophthoe falcata* (L.f.) Etting var. *falcata*, *IBC*, **8**: 45-46.
- Shah, G.L. (1978). *Flora of Gujarat State*, Vol. II.

Correspondence to:

T.G. GOHIL, Department of Biology, B.K.M. Science College, VALSAD (GUJARAT) INDIA

Authors' affiliations:

ALPESH B. THAKOR, Department of Biology, B.K.M. Science College, VALSAD (GUJARAT) INDIA