

Recollection of endemic species *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson (Acanthaceae) in Karnataka State, India, after 140 years

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ABSTRACT: *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson (Acanthaceae) is recollected from Kappat hills, Gadag district, Karnataka, after a gap of more than 140 year. A detailed description and photographs are provided.

While inventorizing the flora of Gadag district, Karnataka, India, the authors collected an endemic species of Acanthaceae, *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson (Ahmedullah and Nayar 1987; Nayar 1996) at Chik Vaddati and from the Bidnahal area of the Kappat hills, Gadag district of Karnataka State. Critical examination and reference to relevant taxonomic literature (Gamble 1924; Vijaya Sankar *et al.* 2005; Shendage and Yadav 2010) indicated that this taxon has not been reported after Anderson in Karnataka. Previously it had been collected at Bababudan hills, in Chikmagalur district, Karnataka and the type specimens were collected by Stocks and described by Anderson (1867). Hence, the present collection of this species bridges a gap of more than 140 years. This species can easily be distinguished by its sessile leaves. A detailed description and photographs (Figure. 1) of this specimen is provided.

Barleria stocksii T. Anderson J. Linn. Soc. Bot. 9:493. 1867; Clarke in Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 4:489. 1885; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 2:743. 1924.

Herbs, unarmed, with sparse hairs, to 60cm high. Leaves 3-5 x 1.8-3.5cm, sessile, elliptic-ovate, acute, ciliate, glabrous, rounded base. Flowers 1-3, on top of axillary/terminal peduncles, bracts equaling outer calyx in length, 1.2-1.8cm long, ciliate margin, lanceolate, acute; calyx lobes 4, outer sepals hairy at midrib and ciliate margins, obovate-oblong, acuminate, opposite sepal slightly narrower, acute, 2 fid, inner sepals lanceolate, acute, 0.6-0.8cm; corolla white, tube to 3cm long, cylindrical basally, yellowish, lobes elliptic-oblong, acute; capsule to 2cm long, obovoid, pointed at apex, glabrous; seeds 2, rounded, densely silky hairy.

Flowering and Fruiting: July-December

Habitat: Dry deciduous forests above 600m altitude.

Distribution: Endemic to Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Specimen examined: INDIA, Karnataka, Gadag district, Chik Vaddati and Bidnahal, Kappat hills, S.V. Kambhar 14 July 2009, SVK 0537, 0837.

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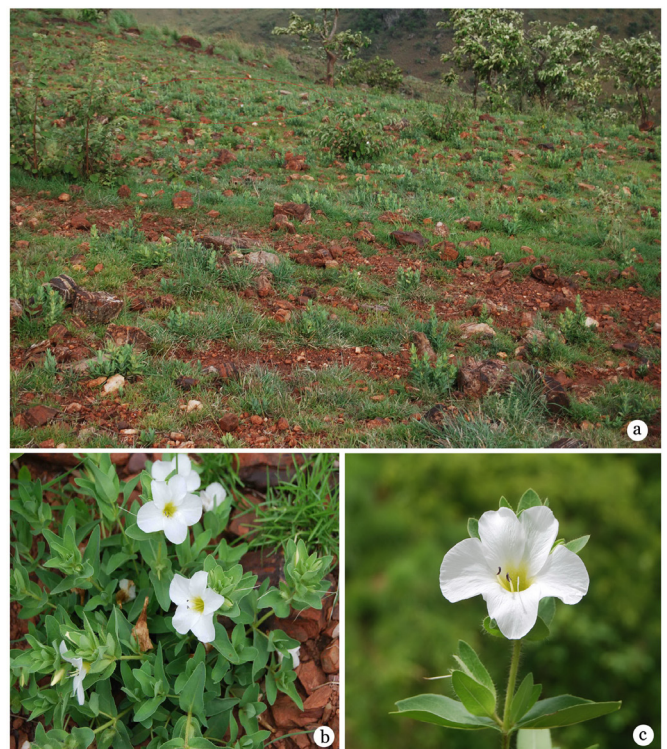


FIGURE 1. *Barleria stocksii* T. Anderson: a. Habitat; b. Habit; c. Flower close-up view.

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