

DECALEPIDANTHUS (BORAGINACEAE) REDISCOVERED

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The monotypic genus *Decalepidanthus*, with one species *D. sericophyllus* H. Riedl., is endemic to Pakistan and was previously known only from the type collection in the hilly Hazara tracts of the North West Frontier Province (N. W.F.P.). Its rediscovery after a lapse of 70 years in the Koh-Safed base of the Kurram Agency, raises the probability that it might occur in neighbouring Afghanistan and possibly elsewhere.

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کشف مجدد گیاه *Decalepidanthus* از خانواده Boraginaceae
از: یاسین . ج . ناصر

جنس تک‌گونه‌ای *Decalepidanthus* به نام *D. sericophyllus* انحصاری پاکستان است و قبلاً فقط از محل تیپ در تپه‌های هزاره واقع در استان مرزی شمال غربی شناخته شده بود. کشف مجدد آن پس از ۷۰ سال در محل دیگری در پاکستان احتمال وجود آن را در افغانستان و سایر نقاط دیگر محتمل می‌سازد.

In August 1971, along with a colleague of mine, I undertook a plant collection trip to the Kurram Agency in Pakistan and in particular the south flank of the Koh-Safed range, a flank of the Hindu Kush, borderlining Afghanistan and Pakistan. Amongst other indeterminates, a gathering, namely M. A. Siddiqi & Y. Nasir 7024, RAW (above Makai, + 7300 ft., on way to Chapri Hut, N. of Parachinar) intrigued us.

It was not until April 1988, while I was working on the borages for the Flora of Pakistan, that the above mentioned gathering compared very well with the type specimen of *D. sericophyllus* (Pakistan: N. W. F. P.: Hazara, Nathia, 1907, Harold Deane s.n., K!).

The type specimen is a poor gathering of 2 small detached flowering shoots. The recent gathering shows the habit more fully. At the base of the shoots are small yellowish scaly buds (bulbils). The species is a low bushy perennial herb, found in forest clearings (i.e. field borders etc.) from altitudes of 2200–2400 m. Flowering period: August.

Acknowledgements

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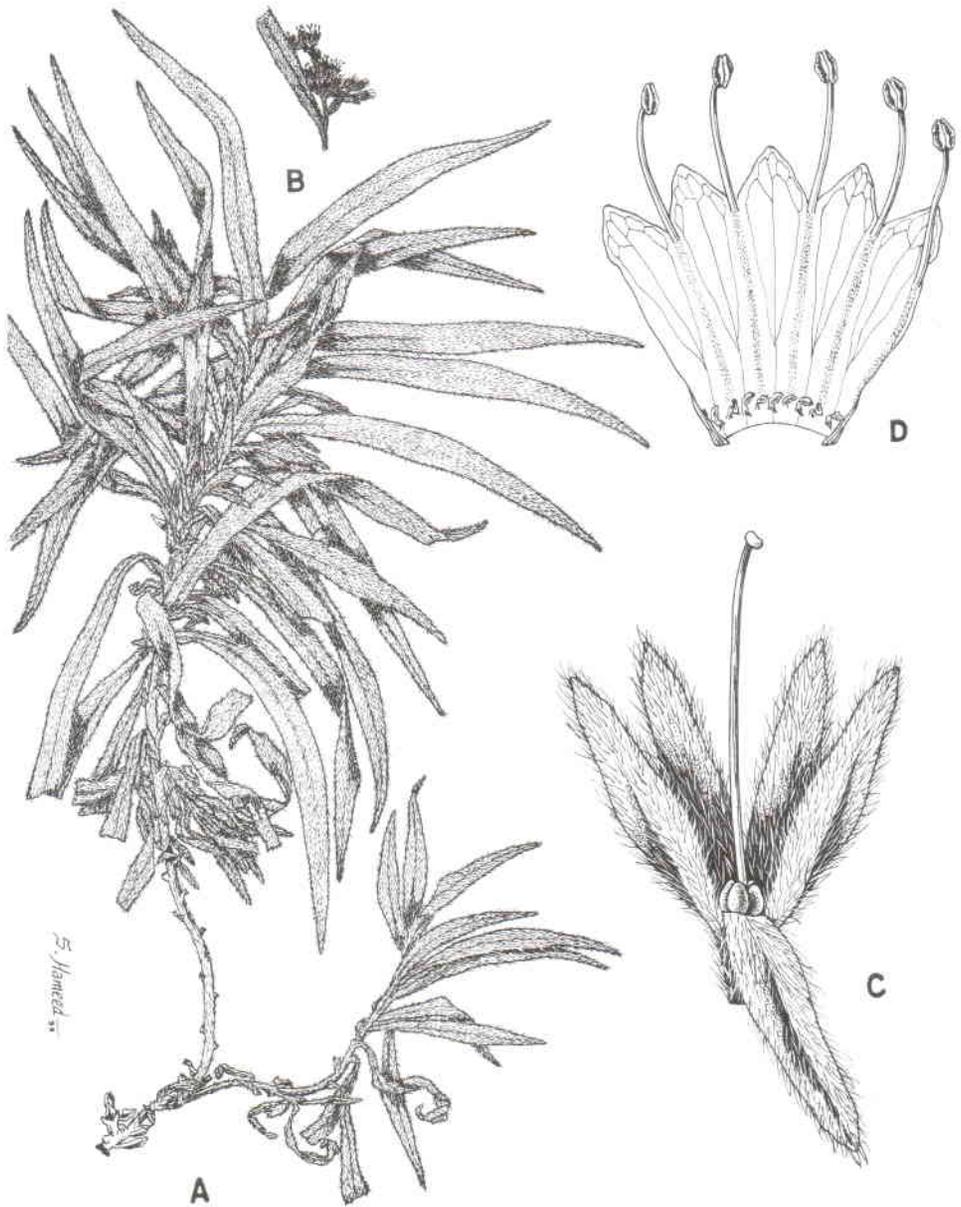
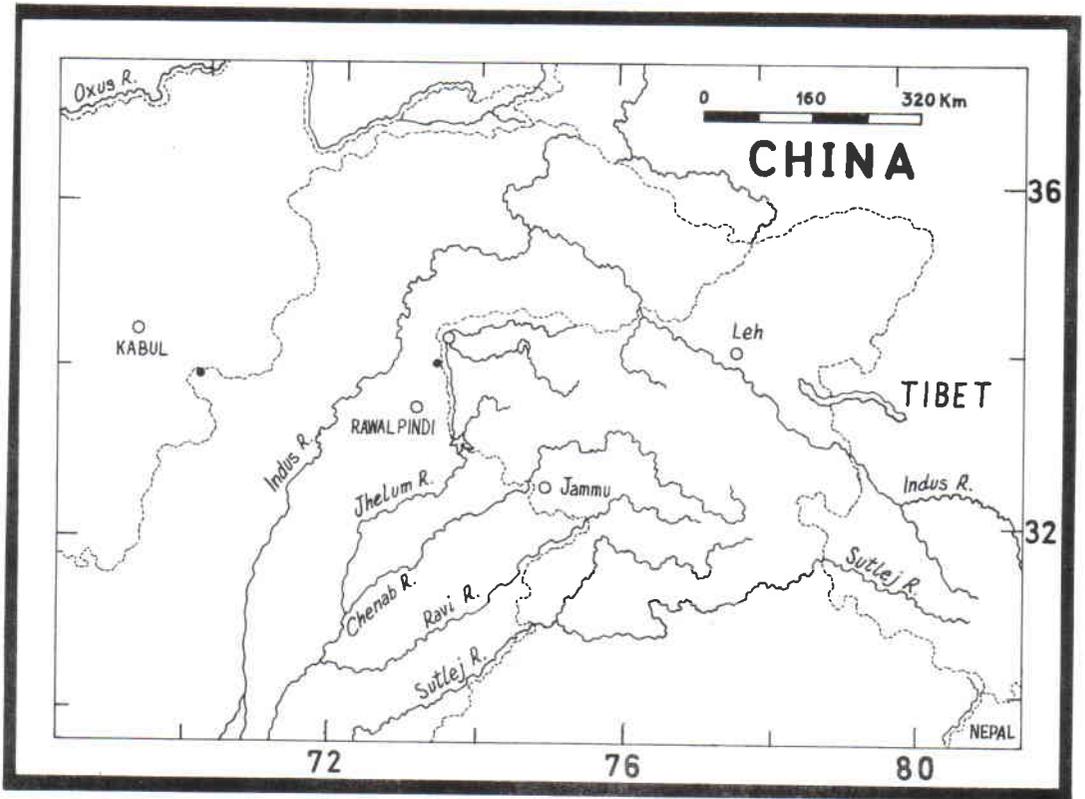


Fig. 1. *Decalepidanthus sericophyllus*. — A. habit, x 0.6 (M.A. Siddiqi & Y. Nasir 7024, RAW). — B. portion of flowering shoot, x 0.6 (H. Deane, s.n., k). — C. calyx, x 9.6. — D. corolla, opened, x 9.6.



Map. Distribution of *Decalepidanthus sericophyllus* (●) in Pakistan.