

occurrence at Kelwarah (Kotah District) is a new locality record for the species.

The plant is quite common along the margins of Kelwarah tank and in rice fields. The tank is large, and is situated on the south-western side of Baran-Shahabad road near Kelwarah village. The plant community of the tank includes *Ceratopteris thalictroides* (Linn.) Brongn., *Nymphoides cristatum* (Roxb.) O. Kuntze, *Nymphaea stellata* Willd., *Hygroryza aristata* Nees, *Ottelia alismoides* Pers. and *Utricularia stellaris* Linn.

***Ceratopteris thalictroides*** (Linn.) Brongn. is an annual, aquatic or marshland, light green fern; young plants rooted in mud; Fronds dimorphic. *Hindi*—Pani Ka Karála, V. Singh 74430.

The specimens have been deposited in the Herbarium of the National Botanic Gardens, Lucknow.

NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS,  
LUCKNOW,  
June 30, 1969.

VIJENDRA SINGH  
Junior Research Fellow

## 25. THE IDENTITY OF *PIMPINELLA LATERIFLORA* DALZ.

Dalzell (1861) described *Pimpinella lateriflora* based on specimens collected from ravines in the Deccan, but unfortunately he left no herbarium specimen of his new species.

Clarke (1879) maintained *Pimpinella lateriflora* Dalz. as a distinct species, but indicated that he had not seen the type and his description was after Dalzell and Gibson. At the same time he also described a new species, *Carum stictocarpum*, together with a variety, *hebecarpa*, based on other specimens collected from Concan by Stocks and Law.

Now, if the description given by Dalzell for *P. lateriflora* and that of Clarke for *Carum stictocarpum* are compared they are seen to be identical except for the fruits which vary from granular to hispidulous hairy and the leaves from bipinnate to ternate. The relevant characters as given by the authors are presented below:

### *Carum stictocarpum*

### *Pimpinella lateriflora*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Plants glabrous or minutely hairy.  | Plants puberulous.  |
| 2. Stem 1-3 ft., erect.  | Stem 1-1½ ft. high; erect.  |
| 3. Leaves 2—pinnate, ultimate segments of the lower cauline leaves narrowly linear-lanceolate, upper often with linear segments. | Leaves ternate, leaflets twice ternately divided, lobes of the lower leaves lanceolate, of the upper linear, all acute and mucronate. |



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 4. Bracts 3-6, nearly linear ; bracteoles 4-8, linear-lanceolate ( $\frac{1}{4}$ '').  | Involucre (bracts) of 3-7 subulate leaflets ; involucre leaves (bracteoles) similar, about 7, as long as pedicels. |
| 5. Pedicels 8-20 in number ( $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ '').  | Umbels (pedicels) 3-10 in number.  |
| 6. Fruits minutely pubero-punctate, ultimately shining, yellow, the dots microscopical (or hispidulous sometimes densely so and fuscus in the var. <i>hebecarpa</i> ). | Fruits densely covered with small granular tubercles.  |

Cooke (1903), however, records both *Pimpinella lateriflora* and *Carum stictocarpum* for peninsular India. But in a note under the former species, which has been included on the authority of Dalzell and Gibson, he states that he has neither seen a specimen nor has the species been found by any other collectors, though it is supposed to be common in ravines in the Deccan.

Meanwhile, Wolff (1927) separated Clarke's species from the genus *Carum* Linn. and placed it under the genus *Trachyspermum* Linn., now spelt *Trachyspermum* (*nom. cons.*). He also retained *Pimpinella lateriflora* in spite of his statement that he has not seen the original or any other well-authenticated specimen of the same.

Santapau (1953) is the first worker to point out that his specimens listed under *Trachyspermum stictocarpum*, may also belong to *Pimpinella lateriflora* except for a few minor characters. He also writes that 'In Sedgwick's copy of Cooke's Flora (now available in BLAT—Bombay) there is a marginal note against *Pimpinella lateriflora*: Hallberg says there is no such plant. This is *Carum stictocarpum*.'

With this background and with the extensive studies and collections made by us along the ravines and the ranges of the Sahyadris and adjoining hills, it is evident, as stated by Dalzell, that this is the only species under the genus which is common in Deccan ravines with pink flowers and fruits with granular tubercles but, however, with a few more variations. The size of the plant varies from a few centimetres to one metre and the colour of the flowers from white to pink or tinged with lilac and the fruits are granular otherwise glabrous and shining or sparsely to densely hispidulous hairy. The latter character, namely the hispidulous condition of fruits which is now found to be quite unstable, might have induced Clarke to describe even a variety *hebecarpa*. With such understanding of the taxon both on the basis of field studies and also herbarium material, it may safely be concluded that *Trachyspermum stictocarpum* together with its variety *hebecarpa* is conspecific with *Pimpinella lateriflora*.

Under the normal procedure, the name *Carum stictocarpum* would have become superfluous, had not the specific epithet *lateriflora* of



Dalzell been preoccupied by an European species, *Pimpinella lateriflora* Link (En. Hort. Berol. 1:285, 1821 descr.). Hence the next available epithet, *stictocarpum* of Clarke is accepted for this taxon and the full synonymy is as follows:

**Trachyspermum stictocarpum** (C.B.Cl.) Wolff in Pfreich. 43:89, 1927, (*Trachispermum*); Santapau in Rec. Bot. Surv. Ind. 16(1):125, 1953. *Carum stictocarpum* C.B.Cl. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 2:681, 1879; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bomb. 1:564, 1903. *C. stictocarpum* var. *hebecarpa* C.B.Cl. l.c. 682; Cooke l.c. *Pimpinella lateriflora* Dalz. in Dalz. & Gibs. Bomb. Fl. 106, 1861, non Link (1821); C B Clarke l.c. 689; Cooke l.c. 567. *Trachyspermum stictocarpum* var. *hebecarpa* (C.B.Cl.) Wolff, l.c., Santapau l.c.<sup>1</sup>

As no specimen of Dalzell is available and no type of whatever kind is located at Kew or in any other herbaria as far as we are aware it may be appropriate as per rules to select a *neotype* for *Pimpinella lateriflora* Dalz. As such, the following specimen collected from the type locality region in general, is designated as *Neotype* and deposited in CAL. The duplicates of the same are being distributed to various World herbaria.

*Neotype*: Shivneri fort, Junnar in Poona district (Maharashtra State), Hemadri 104346 on 1-11-64.

The authors wish to express their thanks to Dr. Bakhuizen van den Brink, Rijksherbarium, Leiden, and to the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for their useful comments and suggestions on this subject.

BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,  
WESTERN CIRCLE,  
POONA,  
April 19, 1969.

R. S. RAO  
K. HEMADRI

---

<sup>1</sup> '*Pimpinella dalzellii* P. K. Mukh. nom. nov. in Ind. For. 95 (8): 567, 1969 is a superfluous name for *Trachyspermum stictocarpum*.'

## 26. NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON INDIAN PLANTS

The following new combinations are proposed for two taxa:

(1) **Centaurium centaurioides** (Roxb.) Rolla Rao et Hemadri *comb. nov.* *Chironia centaurioides* Roxb. (Hort. Beng. 16, 1814, *nom. nud.*, '*centaureoides*' Fl. Ind. 1:584, 1832 ('*centaureoides*'). *C. brachiata* Willd. ex Criseb. Gen. et Sp. Gentian, 145, 1839. *Erythraea roxburghii* D. Don in Lond. & Edinb. Phil. Mag. & Journ. Sci. 8:77, 1836; G. Don, Syst. 4:206, 1837; Wt. Ic. t. 1325, 1848; C. B. Clarke in Fl. Brit.



Rao, R S and Hemadri, K. 1970. "The Identity of *Pimpinella lateriflora*-D." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 67, 355–357.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/185054>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/152685>

**Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

**Sponsored by**

Biodiversity Heritage Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In Copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.