acute lobes. A silvery-grey tufted plant with usually many stems arising from the root-stocks.

Earlier records: This species was first reported in 1883 and sporadic reports of its occurrence were available since then. It is being reported from the Garbyang region for the first time.

Distribution: Kuti Valley-Kumaon, 11200′ 11.9.1884-J. F. Duthie, DD-3057; Phula Valley, Nila Valley-Tehri Garhwal, 15.8.1883-J. F. Duthie, DD-840; Byans Valley-Kumaon, 11200′, 17.7.1886-J. F. Duthie, DD-6593; Thali Bazar-Himachal Pradesh, 9000′, 8.10.1877-DD-566213; Pindari Glacier-Kumaon, 11200′, 17.7.1885-C. E. Paskiem, DD-5980; Chamba-Ilas-Tehri Garhwal, 11000′, 17.9.1896-G. A. Gamble, DD-18629; Vashudhara-Chamoli Garhwal, 3500 m, 10.10, 1959-M. A. Rao, BSD-10546; Pindari-Moraine-Kumaon, 20.9.1957-T. A. Rao, BSD-4432; Tapovan-Uttarkashi, 23.8.1967-B. D. Naithani, BSD-37419; Chamoli Garhwal, 1.9.1975-B. D. Naithani, BSD-37370; Shetiker-Spiti-Himachal Pradesh, 10.9.1961-N. C. Nair, BSD-16831.

Habitat: Rare, in alpine meadows on stony slopes, sandy soil and arid areas, associated with *Allium stracheyi, Arnebia benthamii, Calamagrostis emodensis, Deyeuxia pulchella,* 3800 m altitude.

Uses: This species and its allied species are used as an incense under the name 'Guggul' or 'Dhoop'.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the authorities of Northern Circle, BSI and Taxonomy Branch, FRI, Dehradun for herbarium consultation and Mrs. Malhotra for help in identification of the plant. We are grateful to the Director Dr R. S. Paroda and Dr R. K. Arora, Head & Sr. Scientist, N.B.P.G.R., Pusa, New Delhi for encouragement.

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44. ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *HOLCOLEMMA CANALICULATUM* (NEES EX STEUD.) STAPF ET HUBBARD, A RARE GRASS TO SOUTH INDIA, AT POINT CALIMERE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, TAMIL NADU

A study on the flora of Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary during 1982 resulted in the finding of a rare and interesting grass *Holcolemma canaliculatum* Stapf et Hubbard. The same grass had been rediscovered after a lapse of several decades from Ramanathapuram

District of Tamil Nadu by N. C. Nair, and S. R. Srinivasan, during 1980 at an altitude of 210 feet MSL.

Holcolemma canaliculatum (Nees ex Steud.) Stapf et Hubbard in Kew Bull. 1929: 246. 1929; Fischer in Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 10: 1779. 1934 and 3: 1232. 1957 (repr. ed.); Bor grass. Burma, Cey., India, Pakist. 313. 1973 (repr. ed.). *Panicum canaliculatum* Nees ex Steud. — Syn, pl. Glum. I: 55. 1854, Hook, f. Fl, Brit. India 7; 43. 1896.

In 1854, Steudel validly described this species under the genus *Panicum* L. Hooker (l.c.) while treating this species however, remarked; "It is a very peculiar species". Stapf and Hubbard (l.c.) accommodated this species in the newly erected genus *Holcolemma* Stapf et Hubbard. Hooker (l.c.) indicated its distribution truly as a Southern Deccan peninsula, without any precise locality. Fischer (l.c.) who also stated: "Precise locality unknown". Bor (l.c.) remarked that "this species has only been collected on very few occasions. ....." (Nair & Srinivasan 1982). It is interesting to note that this rare grass could be located from Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary, Thanjavur District of Tamil Nadu. It is noteworthy to mention here that Point Calimere lies in the coastal belt (sea level) whereas the locality reported by Nair and Srinivasan lies at 210 feet MSL.

Perennial herbs: culms 4.75 feet high, very slender; weak; nodes glabrous. Leaves 9.5-21 × 0.35-0.65 cm, linear flat; sheaths up to 6.5 cm long, glabrous. Panicles narrow, spiciform; spikelets solitary or fascicled on a slender rachis. Glumes unequal, florets 2, the lower male, the upper hermaphrodite; lower lemma saccate below, membranous with a median furrow, paleate; upper lemma crustaceous, transversely rugose, paleate.

The specimen is deposited in the A.V.C. College herbarium, Mayiladuthurai and Avifauna Project herbarium, Point Calimere.

Distribution: South India, Sri Lanka and Kenya.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We express our sincere thanks to Dr. N. C. Nair, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore and Mr. Srikumar Nair, Research Fellow of the same Institute for identifying the specimen.

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45. *TRICHOLOMA PRATENSE* (AGARICALES): A NEW INDIAN RECORD

(*With a text-figure*)

Tricholoma pratense Pegler & Rayner was collected during a taxonomic study of the mushroom flora of Orissa from 1980-1983. For the taxonomic details and matching of the fungus, Pegler and Rayner (1969) was followed and for colour terminology, Ridgway (1912). The new record from India was ascertained by Manjula (1983). The specimen has been deposited at the Herbarium Cryptogamae Indiae Orientalis, Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi. The fungus has been reported earlier only from Kenya (East Africa) by Pegler and Rayner (1969), and is being reported for the first time from India.

Tricholoma pratense Pegler and Rayner in Kew Bull. 23: 404 (1969). (Fig. 1).

Pileus 30-50 mm diameter, globose at first, then convex to planoconvex; cuticle brownish-buff near disc, slightly faded towards margin, glabrous, thick, leathery, not easily separable, dry, not viscid; margin non-striate, incurved at first, later cernuous; context fleshy, up to 5 mm broad near disc, white, unchanging when brushed. Lamellae uncinate to adnate, ivory colour moderately distant, ensate, attenuate, thick, 1.5 to 3.5 mm broad near centre; lamellulae of 4-6 lengths; edge entire. Stipe 55-85 × 8-13 mm, erect, cylindrical, equal, occasionally narrow towards base, sometimes compressed, blunt base; surface white, dirty white with age, fibrillose; context solid, soft, fibrous, white. Annulus and volva absent. Taste and odour indistinctive. Spore print pure

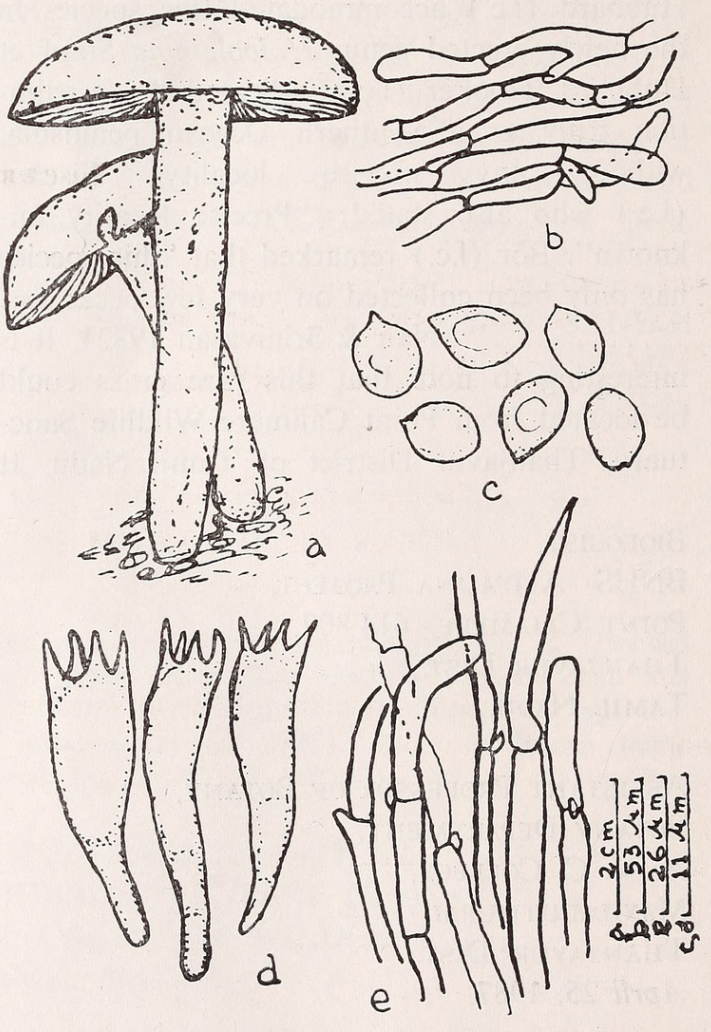

Fig. 1. *Tricholoma pratense* Pegler & Rayner
a. Habit; b. Pileal epicutis; c. Spore; d. Basidia; e. Stipe tissue.