**A New Species of *Fimbristylis* (Cyperaceae) from Tamil Nadu, India**

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A new species of *Fimbristylis* (Cyperaceae), *F. murthyi* K. Yarrayya & P. K. Ratna Kumar is described and illustrated from Tamil Nadu, India.

**Key words:** Cyperaceae, *Fimbristylis dichotoma*, *Fimbristylis murthyi*, India, new species, Tamil Nadu.

*Fimbristylis* (Cyperaceae) is the fourth largest genus within the *Cyperaceae*, having 306 species (World Checklist of Monocotyledons, 2006; Bruhl and Wilson, 2007), and is distributed worldwide in tropical and temperate zones. In India, *Fimbristylis* is represented by 91 species (Karthikeyan et al. 1989) of which 75 species are reported from Tamil Nadu state (Wadoodkhan 2015).

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<tr>
<th><strong>F. dichotoma</strong></th>
<th><strong>F. murthyi</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Habit</strong></td>
<td>annual/perennial</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stem</strong></td>
<td>tufted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leaves</strong></td>
<td>as long as or shorter than stems</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inflorescence</strong></td>
<td>simple to compound</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Involucral bracts</strong></td>
<td>leafy, 2–5, shorter or as long as inflorescence</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spikelets</strong></td>
<td>ovoid or oblong-ovoid, up to 7.2 mm long</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Glumes</strong></td>
<td>ovoid or oblong-ovate, obtuse at apex, up to 5.0 mm long, 3–5-nerved</td>
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<td><strong>Stamens</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nutlets</strong></td>
<td>biconvex, obovate, trabeculate by 5–10 longitudinal ribs on either face, 1.15 × 0.7 mm</td>
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The Rachilla prominently winged, internodes 0.4–0.6 mm long. Glumes chartaceous, spiral, broadly obovate, keeled, glabrous, yellowish-brown, pale or hyaline at lateral sides with 7–11-nerved, 3-prominent nerves, cuneate at base and short mucronate at apex, 3.6 × 1.7 mm. Stamens 3, filaments elongate up to 0.5 mm; anthers oblong-linear, apiculate at apex, 1.7–1.8 mm long. Style hairy, whitish, 1.7 mm long; stigmas bi-fid, hairy, 1.6 mm long. Nutlets biconvex-obovoid, 1.0–1.2 × 0.8 mm, reticulate-patterned, 12–15 longitudinal rows on either face, in each row arranged with 15–18 hexagonal cells, distinctly umbonulate, apex of the nutlet with short concave stipe, yellowish with whitish tinge.

Flowering and fruiting: September.

Habitat and distribution: Marshy hill slopes of Kodai (Kodaikanal), Pulny hills, Tamil Nadu, India.

Conservation status: Restricted in distribution, so far reported only from Pulny hills of Tamil Nadu, India.

Etymology: The epithet is named in honour of Dr. G. V. S. Murthy, Additional Director, Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore in recognition of his immense and invaluable contribution to Indian plant systematics, palynology, and who inspired the first author towards the family Cyperaceae.

We are thankful to Dr. Paramjit Singh, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata, India for necessary facilities and encouragement. Thanks are due to Dr. S. John Britto, Director of Rapinat Herbarium and St. Joseph College, Tiruchchirappalli, India for the facilities for herbarium consultation.

References

K. Yarrayya a, P. K. Ratna Kumar b : インド・タミール・ナードゥ州産テンツキ属（カヤツリグサ科）の 1 新種
インド・タミール・ナードゥ州 Dindigul district からカヤツリグサ科テンツキ属の Fimbristylis murthyi K. Yarrayya & P. K. Ratna Kumar を記載・図示した。本種は、葉が扁平で、花序が単純あるいは分枝し、最下の総が 4–6 個の小穂からなり、小軸に翼があり、柱頭が二岐し、果実がレンズ形で倒卵状である点で F. dichotoma (L.) Vahl に似るが、それとは茎が単生し、花序よりもるかに短くかつ細い総苞が 3–4 個あり、小穂が倒卵形〜栄円形で、雄しべが 3 本あり、果実の表面に網目状の模様がある点で異なる。本種は同州 Dindigul district, Kodai, Pulny hills の湿性斜面に生えるが、同所以外では見出されていない。

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