Hem Raj PAUDEL\textsuperscript{a,\*}, Prabin BHANDARI\textsuperscript{b}, Sangeeta RAJBHANDARY\textsuperscript{c} and Mohan SIWAKOTI\textsuperscript{c}: \textit{Gaultheria obovata} (Ericaceae)—A New Record for the Flora of Nepal

\textsuperscript{a}National Herbarium and Plant Laboratories, Department of Plant Resources, Godawari, Lalitpur, 3708 NEPAL; \textsuperscript{b}State Key Laboratory of Systematic and Evolutionary Botany, Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100093 CHINA; \textsuperscript{c}Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University, G.P.O. Box 26429, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, NEPAL

\*Corresponding author: hemrajpaudel1619@gmail.com

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Summary: \textit{Gaultheria obovata} (Airy Shaw) P. W. Fritsch & Lu Lu in Phytotaxa 201(1): 17, f. 9 (2015). – \textit{Gaultheria trichophylla} Royle var. obovata Airy Shaw in Kew Bull. 1940: 324 (1941). \[Fig. 1\]

\textit{Gaultheria obovata} (Airy Shaw) P. W. Fritsch & Lu Lu in Phytotaxa 201(1): 17, f. 9 (2015). – \textit{Gaultheria trichophylla} Royle var. obovata Airy Shaw in Kew Bull. 1940: 324 (1941). \[Fig. 1\]

Type: MYANMAR. Kachin. Upper Burma Myitkyina District, Waingmaw Township, Seinghku Wang, 11,000 ft., F. Kingdon-Ward 6944 (K–holotype, n.v.).

Flowering: June.

Fruiting: July–September.

Ecology: Rocky slopes.

Distribution: Nepal (Taplejung District), China (Yunnan, Xizang) and Myanmar (Kachin).


Seven species of \textit{Gaultheria} L. have been recorded in Nepal so far (Hara 1982, Press \textit{et al.} 2000, Singh 2001, Paudel 2012). Key to the eight species of \textit{Gaultheria} in Nepal, including \textit{G. obovata} is given as below.

\textbf{Key to the Nepalese \textit{Gaultheria} species}

1a. Leaf blade more than 1 cm wide; inflorescence racemose, terminal .......... 2
1b. Leaf blade less than 1 cm wide; flowers solitary .................................. 6

\textit{Gaultheria obovata} is distributed in China and Myanmar (Fritsch \textit{et al.} 2015), but has not been reported from Nepal (e.g., Hara 1982, Press \textit{et al.} 2000, Singh 2001). Therefore, \textit{G. obovata} is reported here as a new record for the flora of Nepal.
2a. Young shoots glabrous ..................................... 3
2b. Young shoots pilose or bristly-hairy .......... 5
3a. Plants up to 15 cm tall; leaves sub-orbicular to obovate; inflorescence 1–1.5 cm long ....... ................................................... G. pyrolifolia
3b. Plants up to 3 m tall; leaves elliptic to oblong; inflorescence 1.5–9 cm long .......................... 4
4a. Leaf margin with distantly and bluntly serrulate, apex acute ....... G. fragrantissima
4b. Leaf margin with closely and sharply serrulate, apex acuminate .... G. griffithiana
5a. Bracts ca. 2 mm long, triangular; corolla white; stamens 5 ..................... G. seminifera
5b. Bracts ca. 5 mm long, ovate; corolla pink or white; stamens 10 ........................ G. hookeri
6a. Bracts present at the base of pedicel ................. ........................................... G. mammularioides
6b. Bracts absent, pedicel directly inserted in leaf axil ................................................................. 7
7a. Leaves obovate, 6.2–10 × 3.5–6.2 mm, apex obtuse ...................................................... G. obovata
7b. Leaves oblong or elliptic oblong, 3.7–8.5 × 2.5–3.5 mm, apex acute ...... G. trichophylla

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References