

Neelam PANDEY^a, Suresh Kumar GHIMIRE^a and Hem Raj PAUDEL^{b,*}: *Aeschynomene americana* (*Fabaceae*) — A New Naturalized Record for the Flora of Nepal

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Summary: *Aeschynomene americana* L. (*Fabaceae*) is reported as a new record for the Flora of Nepal. A key to the naturalized species of *Aeschynomene* in Nepal is also provided.

The genus *Aeschynomene* L. (*Fabaceae*) is shrubs, subshrubs, annual or perennial herbs characterized by the combination of the pinnately compound leaves with five to many leaflets, pedicellate flowers and jointed fruits (loments), consisting of around 150 species distributed throughout the tropical and subtropical regions of the world (Sa and Salinas 2010). During a taxonomic study of the genus *Aeschynomene* in Nepal, we have collected fresh specimens from different parts of the country. We discovered that a specimen collected from Kanchanpur district, Western Nepal in 2018 was dissimilar to species already recorded in Nepal. After checking relevant specimens and literature, it was identified as *A. americana* L. It is similar to *A. indica* L. but differs in having leaflets with two to several veins from the base and loments with round articles. *Aeschynomene americana* is native to tropical and subtropical regions of the Americas and parts of the Caribbean. It has been naturalized in large parts of the tropics and subtropics, including Africa, India, Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia, Australasia, Taiwan and Japan as invasive in Singapore, Micronesia and Papua New Guinea. Although *A. americana* was recorded from adjacent India (Maheshwari and Ghosh 1971, CABI 2020), it has not been reported from Nepal yet (e.g., Ohashi 1979, Press

et al. 2000). Therefore, we report *A. americana* here as a new record for the Flora of Nepal.

Aeschynomene americana L., Sp. Pl. 2: 713 (1753); Sa & Salinas in Wu & al, Fl. China 10: 131 (2010).

Flowering: September–October.

Fruiting: November–December.

Ecology: Roadsides and under forest canopy.

Specimens examined: **West Nepal.** Kanchanpur District, Krishnapur Municipality, 185 m, November 20, 2018, Neelam Pandey JMBK150 (KATH; Fig 1).

Two species of *Aeschynomene* L. have been recorded in Nepal so far. i.e., *A. aspera* L. and *A. indica* (Ohashi 1979, Press et al. 2000, Singh 2001). A key to the three species of *Aeschynomene* in Nepal, including *A. americana* is given as below.

Key to the Nepalese *Aeschynomene* species

1. Leaflets with two to several veins from the base; flowers with salmon or pink petals; articles rounded *A. americana*
1. Leaflets with a single midvein; flowers with yellow petals; articles quadrate 2
2. Annual herbs or undershrubs up to 150 cm tall; stem much branched; calyx glabrous *A. indica*
2. Perennial shrubs up to 3 m tall; stem simple or little branched; calyx hispid *A. aspera*

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N.Pandey^a, S.K.Ghimire^a, H.R.Paudel^b: ネパール新帰化のエダウチクサネム (マメ科)

マメ科植物のエダウチクサネム *Aeschynomene americana* L. を西ネパールの Kanchanpur District から初めて報告した。本種は南北アメリカ大陸の熱帯と亜熱帯地域及び西インド諸島原産の帰化植物である。ここでは本種とネパールでの既知種 *A. aspera* L. と *A. indica*

L. の検索表を付した。

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