

A New Species of *Saurauia* (*Actinidiaceae*) from Jharkhand State, India

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Saurauia parasnathensis V. Ranjan & S. C. Srivastava is described from India as new to science. This species is characterized by having cymose inflorescence with many-flowered fascicles, yellow flowers and 27–35 stamens in two rows.

Key words: *Actinidiaceae*, India, new species, *Saurauia*.

Saurauia Willd., comprising of 300 species (Mabberley 2005), is distributed in tropical Asia and America (Cuong et al. 2007, Dressler and Bayer 2004, Soejarto 2004). Hooker (1874) and Paul (1993) described eight species from British India and India, respectively. While collecting the materials for flora of Parasnath Wildlife Sanctuary, Giridih District, Jharkhand State, India between 2004 and 2006, the first author collected an interesting tree species of ca.10 m high, leafless in flowering during the month of March, on the hill top. A search of Indian herbaria and literature revealed that it belongs to the genus *Saurauia* Willd. (*Actinidiaceae*), but the characters do not match with any existing species. The specimens along with a description were sent to Prof. D. D. Soejarto, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, USA, for confirmation. His opinion confirms it as a new species, which is described and illustrated herein.

The species is allied to *S. cerea* Dyer but differs in having a cymose inflorescence with many-flowered fascicles, yellow flowers and

27–35 stamens in two rows.

Saurauia parasnathensis V. Ranjan & S. C. Srivastava, sp. nov. [Figs. 1, 2]

Specibus differt aliis *Saurauia cerea* Dyer petalis flavis, inflorescentiae cymosae multifloris fasciculis et staminibus 27–35 bistratus ornata.

Type: INDIA: Jharkhand State, Giridih District, Parasnath Wildlife Sanctuary, alt. ca.1200 m, 21 March 2005, Vinay Ranjan 37947A (holotype–CAL), 37947B (isotype–CAL).

Trees up to 10 m high, branchlets brownish-black with ruptured bark and scars of inflorescence. Petiole 2.0–4.0 cm long, stout, rusty, pulvinus base, canaliculated. Lamina 22–25 cm long, 13.5–18.5 cm wide, obovate, coriaceous, glabrous above, more or less unguiculate hairs on mid vein and lateral veins beneath, obtuse apex, obliquely cuneate at base, sub-entire margin at base, broadly serrate towards apex, mid vein prominent depressed and forming a groove above, lateral veins 20–28(–30) in pairs, some

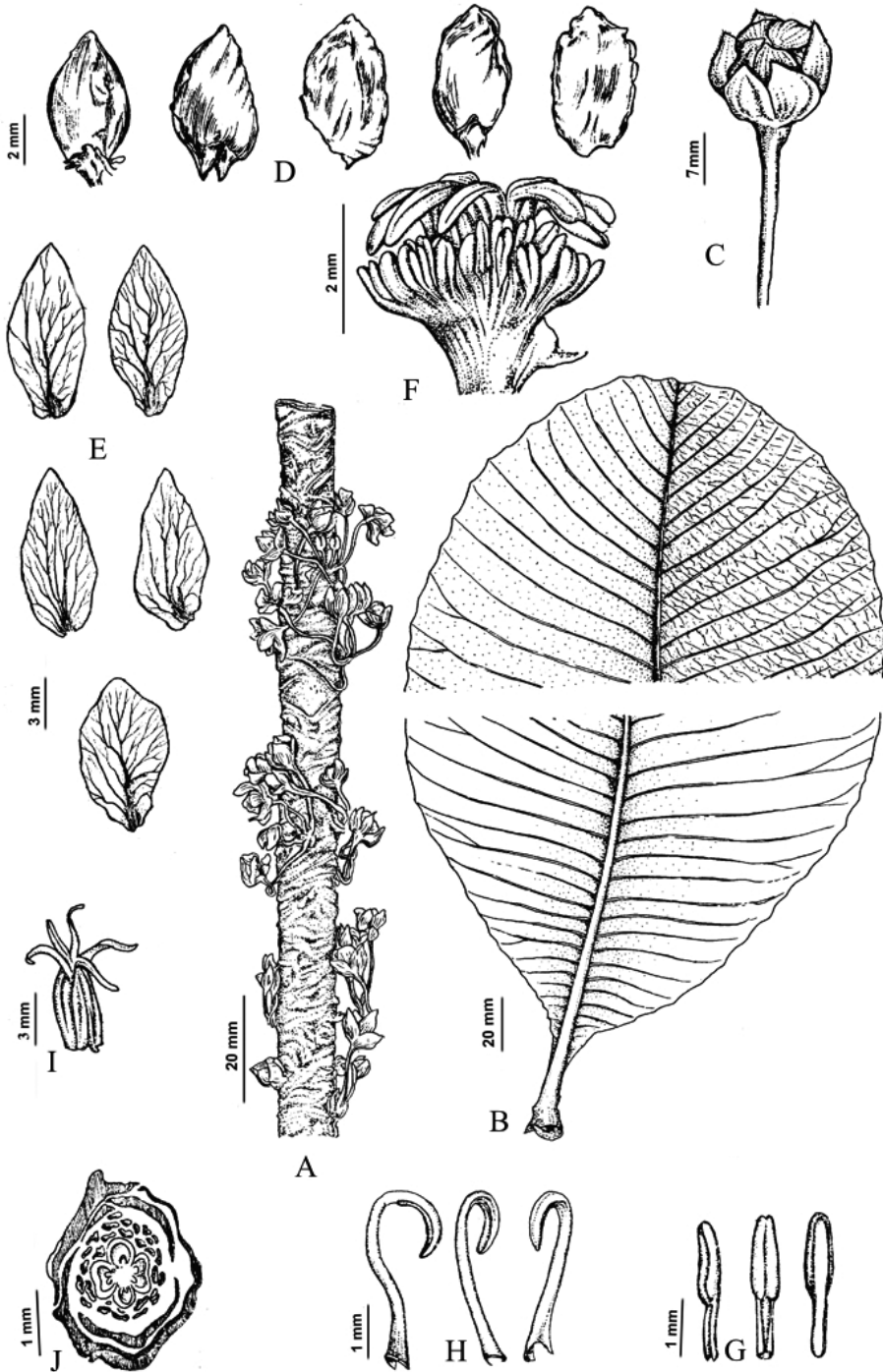


Fig. 1. *Saurauia parasnathensis* V. Ranjan & S. C. Srivastava. A. Inflorescence. B. Leaf (ventral and dorsal view). C. Flower bud. D. Sepal. E. Petal. F. Arrangement of small and large stamens. G. Small stamen (lateral, ventral and dorsal view). H. Large stamen (lateral, ventral and dorsal view). I. Gynoecium. J. Transverse section of bud showing placentation.

times lateral veins bifurcating near margin. Inflorescence arises from tuberculate scurfy structure, 3–6-flowered cymose, fascicled along branches. Flowers bisexual, 0.8–1.2 cm long, yellow; buds greenish-yellow, pedicellate, bracteate; bracts 2.0–9.0 mm long, 2–4 mm wide, deltoid or triangular, navicular, remote from calyx, forming a crown like structure, scurfy pubescent; pedicel 1.2–2.6 cm long, glabrous, swollen at base, leaving scars after flowers shed; sepals 5, 6.0–7.0 mm long, 3.0–4.0 mm wide, outer 2, ovate to obovate, acute, inner 3, navicular, acute, rusty, margin papery, up to 1.0 mm long bristles at apex; petals 5, 9.0–12.0 mm long, 3.0–6.0 mm wide, yellow, broadly elliptic, acute-acuminate apex, connate base, glabrous, mid vein dark ultimately reticulate; stamens 27–30(–35), free, dimorphic; outer small stamen incurved, filament 0.9–1.0 mm long; anther 1.2–1.5 mm long; inner one large, less in number and forming hood around smaller stamens; filament 3.0–3.5 mm long; anther 1.5–2.0 mm long, dorsifixed, longitudinal dehiscence; ovary ca. 4.0 mm long, 1.8 mm wide, ovoid-oblong, few patches of brownish scales on surface, 4-locular with many ovules per locule, axile placentation; styles 5, 2.5–3.0 mm long, pink, connate at base, free at apex, exserted in between stamens.

Distribution: India, Jharkhand State, Giridih District, Parasnath Wildlife Sanctuary, 23°45'–24° 50'N 85°37'–86°35' E.

Ecology: 1100–1200 m, growing on hill top.

Flowering: March to early April.

Etymology: The specific epithet refers to sacred Parasnath hill in Jharkhand, India.

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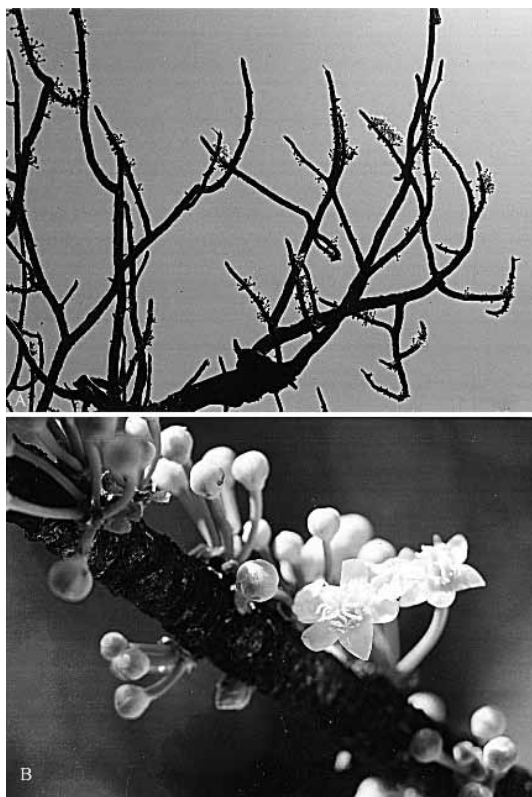


Fig. 2. *Saurauia parasnathensis* V. Ranjan & S. C. Srivastava. A. Habit. B. Flowering twig.

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V. ランジャン, S. C. スリヴァスタヴァ:
インド, ヤルカンド州からの *Saurauia* 属 (マ
タタビ科) の 1 新種

インド・ヤルカンド州から *Saurauia* 属
(マタタビ科) の 1 新種 *Saurauia parasnathensis*
V. Ranjan & S. C. Srivastava を記載した. 本種は

S. cerea Dyer に類縁があるが, 多数の黄色い花
が束状につく集散花序をもち, 27-35本の雄蕊
が2列に配列するなどの特徴があり新種として
記載した.

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