Keshab Raj RAJBHANDARI\textsuperscript{a,*}, Ganga Datt BHATT\textsuperscript{b} and Rita CHHETRI\textsuperscript{b}: A New Record of \textit{Puccinellia, P. himalaica} (Poaceae) from Nepal

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Summary: \textit{Puccinellia himalaica} Tzvel. (Poaceae) is reported as a new record for Nepal. This is the third species for the genus from Nepal.

While working on the unidentified grass specimens preserved in the National Herbarium and Plant Laboratories, Department of Plant Resources, Nepal (KATH) we found a specimen of \textit{Puccinellia himalaica} Tzvel. collected from Jomsom, Mustang District in Central Nepal. This is a new record of this species from Nepal.

\textit{Puccinellia} Parl. (Poaceae) is a genus which comprises about 200 species, distributed in temperate and arctic regions of both hemispheres (Liu et al. 2006). The genus, belonging to the Tribe \textit{Poeae}, is characterized by awnless lemma with thinly scarious or hyaline at tip, rounded on back (not keeled), and weakly 5-nerved. Previously, only \textit{P. tenuiflora} (Griseb.) Scribn. & Merr. was reported from Nepal by Goel and Uniyal (1983). Later, Koba (2008) reported \textit{P. ladakhensis} (H. Hartmann) Dickoré (= \textit{Poa ladakhensis} H. Hartmann) from Mustang area of Nepal. \textit{Puccinellia himalaica} is characterized by shorter anthers (0.5–0.7 mm long) than that of other two species (0.8–1.6 mm long) (Liu et al. 2006). This is the third species for this genus from Nepal.


Description (from Nepalese specimen): Perennial tufted grass, culms erect or geniculately ascending, 6–20 cm high. Leaves linear, sheaths open for most of their length, smooth; blades flat or convolute, 2–7 cm long, 0.5–1.0 mm wide, surface smooth or scaberulous; ligule membranous, 1.5–2.0 mm long. Panicle open, linear, 5–10 cm long, branches ascending, smooth. Spikelets pedicelled, comprising 2–3 fertile florets, with diminishing florets at the apex, oblong, laterally compressed, 2.5–3.0 mm long. Glumes persistent, dissimilar, shorter than spikelet. Lower glume ovate, 0.8–1.4 mm long, 1-veined, apex acute. Upper glume ovate, 1.2–2.0 mm long, 3-veined, apex acute. Lemmas oblong or ovate, 1.5–1.8 mm long, thinner above, without keel, 5-veined, mid vein extending to apex, lateral veins obscure, apex emarginated or acute, glabrous. Palea as long as lemma, 2-veined, keel smooth or scabrous. Callus glabrous. Stamens 3, anthers 0.5–0.7 mm long.

\textbf{Distribution}: S. W. Asia (Iran), Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal and China.

Specimen examined: CENTRAL NEPAL. Jomsom, Mustang District, 2700 m (K. R. Rajbhandari 8078, 21 July 1983, KATH).

\textit{Puccinellia himalaica} was found growing on sandy river bed at 2700 m, associated with grasses and other herbaceous plants such as \textit{Elymus, Stipa, Oryzopsis, Pennisetum, Artemisia, Nepeta}, and \textit{Astragalus}.

**Key to the species of Puccinellia in Nepal**

1. Spikelets 3.5–6 mm long; lemmas 2.2–3.5 mm long .......................... \textit{P. ladakhensis}
1. Spikelets 2.5–3.5 mm long; lemmas 1.5–2.2 mm long .......................... 2

[Fig. 1]
Fig. 1. *Puccinellia himalaica* collected in Mustang, C. Nepal (K. R. Rajbhandari 8078, 21 July 1983, KATH).
2. Lower glume ca. 0.6 mm long; anthers 0.8–1.4 mm long .............................. *P. tenuiflora*

2. Lower glume 0.8–1.4 mm long; anthers 0.5–0.7 mm long .............................. *P. himalaica*

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**References**


K. R. Rajbhandari\(^a\), G. D. Bhatt\(^b\), R. Chhetri\(^b\): ネパール新産のイネ科チシマドジョウツナギ属の1種 *Puccinellia himalaica*

中央ネパール・ムスタン地域より、イネ科チシマツナギ属の1種 *Puccinellia himalaica* Tzvel.を報告した。これでネパールにはチシマドジョウツナギ属は3種が分布することになる。

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