



**THE GENUS *BLUMEA* DC. (ASTERACEAE) IN EASTERN UTTAR PRADESH,
INDIA**

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Abstract: The systematic identification of 09 species of genera *Blumea* DC. (Asteraceae) from Eastern Uttar Pradesh, India. The paper provides key to genera, up to date nomenclature, distribution, phenology and voucher number of each species.

Key words: *Blumea*, Asteraceae, Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

INTRODUCTION

The eastern part of Uttar Pradesh is one of the richest and interesting region and quite varied flora. The area is surrounded by Bihar in the east, Madhya Pradesh in the south, Banda, Fatehpur, Raibareli, Barabanki, Bahraich and Sravasti district of Uttar Pradesh in the west and Nepal in the north. It lies between about 23⁰52' N to 27⁰ N latitude and about 82⁰ E to 84⁰ 39' E longitude. The studied area comprises 25 districts viz. Sonbhadra, Mirzapur, Kausambhi, Allahabad, Sant Ravi Das Nagar, Jaunpur, Chandauli, Varanasi, Pratapgarh, Azamgarh, Ghazipur, Ballia, Sultanpur, Basti, Faizabad, Ambedkarnagar, Gonda, Siddarthnagar, Maharajganj, Kushinagar, Deoria, Sant Kabirnagar, Gorakhpur, Mau, Balrampur are the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh.

The genus *Blumea* DC. of subtribe Pluchineae belongs to Tribe Inuleae, of Asteraceae. It is native of tropical and subtropical region of South East Asia, Africa and Australia with about 50 species. 29 species occurring in India (Hajra *et al.*, 1995). During the floristic survey of Eastern Uttar Pradesh India, the author collected 9 species of *Blumea* and it is the largest and dominant genus in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The specimens have been provided with key to species, up-to-date nomenclature, description, native place, habitat, phenology, locality of collection and field number. All the specimens collected by authors have been deposited in the Duthie Herbarium, Botany Department, University of Allahabad, Allahabad.

Key to species

- 1a. Corolla purple..... *B. mollis*
1b. Corolla yellow..... 2
2a. Corolla lobes of 2-sexual florets with multicellular hairs in addition
to colleter *B. obliqua*
2b. Corolla lobes of 2-sexual florets glabrous or with unicellular hairs in
addition to colletes 3
3a. Heads solitary, axillary or terminal; the uppermost pairs of leaves
subopposite *B. bifoliata*
3b. Heads glomerulate or variously paniculate..... 4
4a. Heads glomerulate, the clusters interruptly spicate, leaves not lobed..... *B. fistulosa*
4b. Heads paniculate, not clustered, leaves not lobed..... 5
5a. Leaves spiny toothed, corolla of female florets hairy.....6
5b. Leaves not spiny toothed, corolla of female florets glabrous..... 7
6a. Prostrate herbs, corolla hairy on lobes only..... *B. oxyodonta*
6b. Erect herbs, corolla lobes and tubes hairy all over *B. eriantha*
7a. Receptacle minutely pilose..... *B. laciniata*
7b. Receptacle glabrous..... 8
8a. Cypsela ribbed..... *B. membranacea*
8b. Cypsela terete..... *B. lacera*

Enumeration

Blumea bifoliata (L.) DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India 14. 1834; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India 3: 260. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. 1: 452. 1903. *Conyza bifoliata* L., Sp. Pl. 2: 862. 1753.

Herbs, viscid, pubescent up to 60cm high. Leaves oblong-spathulate, pubescent above and below, glandular. Heads yellow, terminal and axillary, pedunculate.

Indo Malaysia: Common along road sides and railway tracks.

Fl. & Fr. : November-January

Mirzapur, 19157: Sonbhadra, 19136: Varanasi, 19151

Blumea eriantha DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India 15. 1834; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India 3: 266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. 1: 452. 1903.

Herbs, perennial with fibrous roots, stems reddish-yellow, dichotomously branched with long white silky hairs and stalked glands. Lower leaves obovate subsessile, upper leaves elliptic, ovate to oblanceolate. Heads axillary or terminal.

South Asia: Common along road side and railway tracks.

Fl. & Fr. : October- May

Allahabad, 19153; Mirzapur, 19417

Blumea fistulosa (Roxb.) Kurz in J. Asiat. Soc. Bengal **46(2)**: 187. 1877. *Conyza fistulosa* Roxb., Fl. India **3**: 429. 1832. *B. glomerata* DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India **15**. 1834; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India **3**:266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903.

Erect, pubescent herb up to 1m tall. Leaves sinuately incised, obovate-oblanceolate, upper leaves smaller. Heads in small, sessile, axillary clusters along branches in compact globose clusters.

Paleotropic: in open grassland and forest margins.

Fl. & Fr.: December-May

Gonda, 19165

Blumea laciniata (Roxb.) DC., Prodr. **5**: 436. 1836; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India **3**:266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903. *Conyza laciniata* Roxb., Fl. India **3**: 428. 1832.

Erect, pubescent herb up to 2 m high. Leaves radical and cauline, lower leaves lyrate lobed, pilose on both side. Heads yellow, combined into large, lax terminal panicle.

India to New guinea: along road sides, in garden or in waste places.

Fl. & Fr. : January- May

Allahabad, 19366; Maharajganj, 19364; Gorakhpur, 19087

Blumea lacera (Burm. f.) DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India **15**. 1834; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India **3**:266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903. *Conyza lacera* Burm. f. Fl. India 180. T. 59. F. **1**. 1768. *B. subcapitata* DC., Prodr. **5**: 439. 1836. *B. lacera* DC. var. *cinerascens* Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India **3**: 263. 1881. *B. lacera* DC. var. *glandulosa* Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India **3**: 263. 1881.

Herbs, erect, aromatic, tomentose to white velutinous up to 1m tall. Leaves elliptic oblong to obovate entire or lyrate lobed. Heads in axillary or terminal panicles.

Paleotropic: Common in waste and unused places.

Fl. & Fr. : February- June

Mau, 19164

Blumea membranacea DC., Prodr. **5**: 440. 1836; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **3**:266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903. *B. virens* Sensus Haines, Botany **2**: 494, *pro. part. non* DC. 1834.

Herbs, annual, slender herb up to 5-15 cm tall. Leaves ovate-lanceolate or obovate, lower leaves lyrate lobed, all hairy on both surface. Heads in terminal lax panicles, clusters at the end of branches.

Indomalaysia: in unused lands and waste places.

Fl. & Fr. : January- May

Ambedkarnagar, 19167; Sonbhadra, 19294

Blumea mollis (D. Don) Merr. in Philipp. Jour. Sci. Bot. **5**: 395. 1910; *Erigeron molle* D. Don, Prodr. Fl. Nepal. 172. 1825. *B. wightiana* DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India **14**. 1834; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **3**:266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903.

Erect, slender, softly pilose herb up to 90 cm tall. Leaves ovate- oblong, lower leaves large, long petiolate, the upper gradually smaller and with short petioles, finally passing into bracts. Capitula in dense terminal narrow, speciform panicles.

Paleotropic: along road sides, in gardens or in waste places.

Fl.& Fr. : December- June

Kushinagar, 19374

Blumea obliqua (L.) Druce, Rep. Bot. Exch. Club Brit. Isles **4**: 609. 1916. *Blumea amplexans* DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India **13**. 1834; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **3**: 266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903.

Erect, dichotomously branched herb. Stem yellowish puberulous. Leaves elliptic oblong to lanceolate, base half amplexicaul to obtuse. Heads solitary, terminal and axillary, long pedunculate.

India, Ceylon: in waste land, near roads, along railway tracks.

Fl. & Fr. : February- May

Deoria, 19042

Blumea oxydonta DC. in Wight, Contr. Bot. India **15**. 1834; Hook. *f.*, Fl. Brit. India **3**: 266. 1881; Duthie, FUGP. **1**: 452. 1903.

Multicauline, procumbent- ascending herbs. Leaves oblong-obovate, villous with long white silky hairs and stalked glands on both surfaces. Heads in terminal and axillary compact or lax, few headed corymbose panicles.

South Asia: Common along road sides or railway tracks.

Fl. & Fr. October- May

Faizabad, 19018.

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