



***CERATOPHYLLUM DEMERSUM* L. : NEW RECORD FROM NACHIKETA TAL OF UTTARKASHI, UTTARAKHAND INDIA.**

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Ceratophyllum demersum L., belongs to family Ceratophyllaceae was reported by many authors (Babu, 1977; Gaur, 1999) from ponds and ditches of warmer parts of India but none of them reported from temperate wet land ecosystem. We have reported this species growing at Nachiketa Tal wet land ecosystem of Uttarakhand, a lake located in temperate zone at an elevation of 2400 m msl. The lake remains covered with snow for one and half month during winter and this hydrophyte is flourishing abundantly in the lake. The plant was collected on 05/04/2016 from the lake and deposited at herbarium of Department of Botany, Government Post Graduate College, Uttarkashi. The taxonomical description of the plant is as follows:

Ceratophyllum demersum L., Sp. Pl. 992. 1753; Hook. F. in Fl. Brit. India 5 : 639, 1888; Babu, Herb. Fl. D.Dun 471, 1977;

Taxonomic characteristics:

Rootless, slender, much branched, aquatic herb. Leaves whorled, palmatipartite, divided into filiform, brittle, serrate segments. Flowers solitary, sessile, axillary. Perianth segments several, slightly connate at base. Ovary sessile. Nuts ovoid or ellipsoid, muricate, coriaceous.

Fl. and Fr. : September – December

Reported from Nachiketa Tal, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand.

Commonly found throughout the warmer parts of India and Sir Lanka and most parts of Tropical region.

References:

Babu, C.R., 1977. Herbaceous flora of Dehra Dun Publication and Information directorate (CSIR) New Delhi. Pp : 721.

Gaur, R.D., 1999. Flora of the District Garhwal North West Himalaya (With ethnobotanical notes). Trans Media Publishers, Srinagar (Garhwal) : pp 811.