



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Floristic Account of the Genus *Lipocarpha* R. Brown (Cyperaceae)

Shaikh Rafeeqe Ishakhoddin

Milliya Arts, Science and Management Science College, Beed

*Corresponding Author: rafeeqe.1567@gmail.com

Manuscript Details

Manuscript Submitted : 10/ 01/2023
Manuscript Revised : 22/02/2023
Manuscript Accepted : 23/02/2023
Manuscript Published : 25/02/2023

Available On

<https://plantaescentia.com/ojs>

Cite This Article As

Shaikh R I, (2023). Floristic Account of the Genus *Lipocarpha* R. Brown (Cyperaceae). *Planta Sci.* 2023; Vol. 06 Iss. 01:1-3

DOI-

<https://doi.org/10.32439/ps.v6i1.1-3>

Copyright



© The Author(s). 2023. Open Access
This article is distributed under the terms
of the Creative Commons Attribution
4.0 International License
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Indexed In

[CrossRef](#), [Scientific Indexing Services \(SIS\)](#), [Google Scholar](#), [Index Copernicus International \(ICI\)](#), [Directory of Research Journal Indexing \(DRJI\)](#), [CiteFactor](#), [Scientific Journal Impact Factor \(SJIF\)](#), [General Impact Factor](#), [Journal Factor](#), [Cosmos Impact Factor](#), [PKP Index](#), [AJIFACTOR Indexing](#), etc.

ABSTRACT

Lipocarpha R. Br. (s.str.), a small genus with over 15 species distributed through the world with high species concentration in Africa. In India it is represented with 5 species with the addition of 2 species namely *L. raynaliana* Govind. and *L. redyii* Hooper to the earlier recorded 3 species (Clarke, 1893). The genus *Lipocarpha* R. Br.(s. str.) is mainly characterised by the two hypogynous scales which are very thin hyaline lightly adhering to nuts together with the capitate inflorescence. Clarke (1893) has shown its affinity with the sec. Micranthae under *Scirpus* (= *Rikliella* J. Raynal). The hypogynous scales of *Lipocarpha* have been variously interpreted. (For detail see Bentham J. Uinn. Soc. Bot. 15:509-10 & 518.1877. Clarke in Tnislten Dyer Fl. Tropical Africa 8:468-69.1902, Kern, in Steenis Fl. Malesiana 1.7(3):521). The present report is hoped to provide basic material for further research in Cyperaceae.

Key words: *Lipocarpha*, Hypogynous scales, Capitate inflorescence, Glumes membranous, Nut stramineous.

INTRODUCTION

Type species - *Lipocarpa argentea* (Vahl) R. Br.

Annual or perennial glabrous herbs; stem tufted, erect, smooth, leafy only at the base. Leaves: elongate, linear, sheaths of basal ones open of the cauline ones closed at the base; ligule absent. Inflorescence: terminal, capitate, with 2-8 spikelets, and are subtended by some involucre bracts looks similar to the leaves. Spikelets small, sessile, terete, very densely many-flowered. Rhachilla persistent, not winged, marked by lozenge-shaped scars. Glumes spirally imbricate, acropetally caducous, not keeled, the lower 1-2 empty. Flowers hermaphrodite, the upper ones tabescent. Perianth consisting of 2 hyaline, nerved scales placed in the median plane. Stamens 1-2, anthers small, oblong to linear, with shortly produced smooth connective. Style small, not dilated at the base, continuous with the ovary, glabrous, stigmas 2-3. Nut small, dorsiventrally compressed, trigonous or planoconvex, oblong-obovate to narrowly oblong, smooth, reticulate, often slightly curved, enclosed by the hypogynous scales; epidermal cells isodiametric.

Lipocarpa (s.str.) a small genus with over 15 species distributed throughout the world with high species concentration in Africa. In India it is represented with 5 species with the addition of 2 species namely *L. raynaliana* Govind. and *L. redyii* Hooper to the earlier recorded 3 species (Clarke, 1893), 4 species in present study regions, 2 have been collected and 2 is included on Authority of respective workers.

The genus *Lipocarpa* s. str. is mainly characterised by the two hypogynous scales which are very thin hyaline lightly adhering to nuts together with the capitate inflorescence. Clarke (1893) has shown its affinity with the sec. Micranthae under *Scirpus* (= *Rikliella* J. Raynal). The hypogynous scales of *Lipocarpa* have been variously interpreted. (For detail see Bentham J. Uinn. Soc. Bot. 15:509-10 & 518.1877. Clarke in Tnislten Dyer Fl. Tropical Africa 8:468-69.1902, Kern, in Steenis Fl. Malesiana 1.7(3):521).

Ghoetghebeur & Van den Borre in Wagen. Agriculture Univ. papers 89-1.1-87.1989. By widening the generic circumscription merged 2 genera namely *Hemicarpha* Nees and *Rikliella* J. Raynal and take *Lipocarpa* in broad sense treating about 35 species in it. In the present text I have followed Clarke (1893, 1902), Kern (1974) and W. Khan (2000) *Lipocarpa* (s. str.) distinct generically.

Floristic Account:

Lipocarpa chinensis (Obs.) Kern in Blumea suppl. 4:167. 1958 et in Steenis Fl. Malesiana 1.7(3):720.1974;

Goetghebeur & V. den Borre Wagen. Agri. Univ. papers 89-1:27.1989. Brahmam & Saxena in Fl. Orissa : 4.2195.1996; L'narshimhn in Sharma et al Fl. Maharashtra (Monocot):332.1996. *Scirpus chinensis* Obs. Dagb. Ostind. Resa:220.1757. *Hypolytrum argenteum* Vahl En. Pl. 2:283.1806. nom. illegit. *Lipocarpa argentea* R. Br. Ex. Nees Linnea 9:287.1854. Clarke in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 6:667.1893; Fischer in Gamble Fl. Pres. Madras (1931) 3:1670 (repr.ed.) 1994. *L. triceps* Camus in Fl. Gen. I-C. 7:144.1912 non Nees. Simpson & Koyama in Fl. Thailand 6(4):406.1998.

Annual; stems tufted, erect, rather stiff, obtusely trigonous, striate, sulcate, smooth, 20-50 cm x 1-2 mm. Leaves: usually much shorter than the stem, rather rigid, flat or involute, gradually attenuate, obtuse, practically smooth 2-4 mm wide. Inflorescence: 1-1.5 cm across. Involucral bracts 2-3 (5), much overtopping the inflorescence, finally horizontally spreading to reflexed, dilated at the base, the longest up to 10-15 cm. Spikelets 3 - 6 (10) ovoid to oblong - ovoid, terete, obtuse, whitish, 5-8 x 4-5 mm. Glumes membranous, spatulate to oblong-obovate, subtruncate at the apex with obtuse triangular tip, concave, with strong midnerve and faintly 1-2 nerved sides, often purplish lineolate, 1.5-2.5 x 1-1.2 mm. Hypogynous scales oblong, 5-7 nerved, much longer than the nut, 1.3-2 mm long. Stamens 1(2) anthers linear. Style 3-fid. Nut oblong-obovate to oblong, straight or slightly curved, minutely apiculate, stramineous to fuscous, 1-1.4 x 0.3-0.4. (Fig. 1)

Common in marshes, on margins of water courses, edges of rice field.



Fig. 1. *Lipocarpa chinensis* (Obs.) Kern
A - Habit, B - Glume, C - Nut.

Flowers and Fruits: October to December.

Specimens examined: A.P. Krishna Dist. *Shaikh R. I.* 992. Orissa, Gajanan (Chatrapur) Dist. on road side, *Shaikh R. I.* 1098. T.N. Tiruchchirappalli Dist. Bharatidasan University, *Shaikh R.I.* 780.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is thankful to Dr. M. A. Wadoodkhan ex Reader and Head, Dept. of Botany, Herbarium of Cyperaceae, Majalgaon College Majalgaon (HCMCM) for the confirmation of identity of taxa and going through the manuscript. Dr. Mohammad Ilyas Fazil, the Principal of the College for his constant support and the Principal, Majalgaon College Majalgaon for herbarium, laboratory and library facilities.

REFERENCES

Britto S. J. (1983). Cyperaceae in Flora of Tamil Nadu Carnatic, vol. 3: 1723-88. The Rapinat Herbarum St. Joseph's College Tiruchirapalli, India.

Chennaiah (1997). Flora of Andhra Pradesh Vol. III. Sci. Publishers Jodhpur. India.

Datar Rekha and Vartak V. D. (1976). Taxonomic study of the Genera *Lipocarpa* R. Br. and *Bulbostylis* Kunth from India in J. Univ. Poona Sci. Tech. 48: 19-32.

Fischer C. E. C. (1931). Cyperaceae in Gamble Flora of Presidency of Madras 3(9): 1620-1687 (repr.ed. 1994) Bishen Singh M. P. S. Dehra Dun.

Goetghebeur, P. and A. Van den Boree, (1989). Studies in Cyperaceae B. A. Revision of *Lipocarpa* including *Hemicarpa* and *Rikliella*, Wageningen Agri. Univ. Papers. 89-1:1-87.

Henry A. N., Kumari, G. R. & Chitra V. (1985). Flora of Tamilnadu Ser. 1. Analysis Vol. 2 BSI- Coimbtore.

Nair N. C. and Henry A. N. (1983). Flora of Tamilnadu Ser. 1 Analysis Vol. I BSI- Coimbatore.

Ramakrishnaiah, V. (1990). *Flora of Guntur, District, Andhra Pradesh*, India. Ph. D. Thesis, S.K. University.

Wadoodkhan M. A. (2015). Cyperaceae of Western Ghats, West Coast and Maharashtra, Dattsons publication, Nagpur, India. 149-254.