

DISTRIBUTIONAL AND ECOLOGICAL NOTE ON *UTRICULARIA MALABARICA*
(LENTIBULARIACEAE)—A RECENTLY DESCRIBED BLADDERWORT

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ABSTRACT

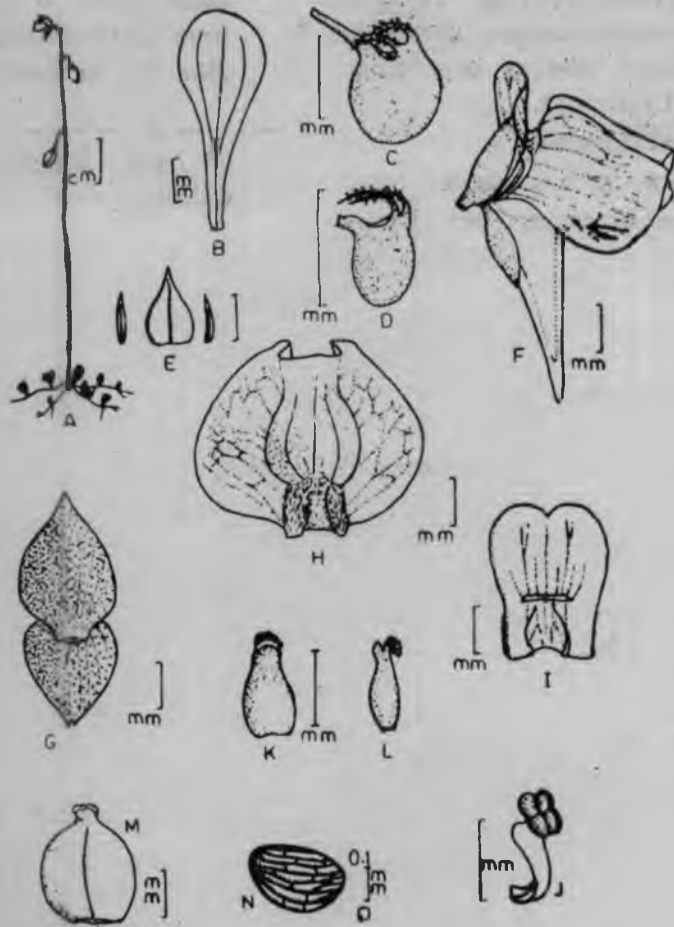
Utricularia malabarica, hitherto known only by its type collection from Kerala is reported for Konkan and Goa area. Description, illustration and ecological details are provided.

Utricularia malabarica M.K. Janarthanam & A.N. Henry, described from Mulleriya, Kasaragod district, Kerala was hitherto known only by its type collection. In type locality it occurs on wet barren laterite rocks (M.K. Janarthanam & A.N. Henry 1989 & 1992). Now this has been collected from Goa and observed growing in Konkan areas of Maharashtra, where it occurs abundantly along the peripheries of puddles and moist places on laterite rocks, especially the plateaus. Unlike in type locality it is associated with species of *Eriocaulon*, *Rotala Lindernia* and *Smithia*. It shows sympatric distribution with other bladderworts viz. *Utricularia praeterita* P. Taylor, *U. caerulea* L. and *U. reticulata* Smith.

As the present collection forms the first collection other than the type and new record to Konkan and Goa area extending the distribution from the type locality in Kerala, a brief description with illustrations is provided to facilitate identification.

Utricularia malabarica M.K. Janarthanam & A.N. Henry in J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 86(1) : 84. 1989 & Bladderworts of India 69. v. 18. 1992.

Herbs. Rhizoids absent, if present up to 1 mm long; branches simple, papillose. Stolons partially embedded in mud. Leaves at base of inflorescence and on stolons, up to 5 x 2 mm, obovate to spatulate, 3-nerved. Traps on stolons and on leaves, up to 2 x 1.5 mm, ovoid, flattened laterally, subdimorphic, sessile on leaves, stalked elsewhere; mouth basal; appendages 2, simple, incurved, often glandular hairy. Racemes 1-5 flowered, erect, up to 9 cm high; peduncle slightly angular, grooved, rarely branched. Flowers up to 7 x 5 mm; bracts and bract-coles basifixed; pedicel up to 5 mm long, flattened, recurved in fruit. Calyx 2-lobed, accrescent, ovate, up to 4 x 3 mm in fruit, minutely papillose in flower. Corolla bilipped, spurred, violet to pink in colour; upper lip ca 3 x 2 mm; lower lip ca 5 x 4 mm,



Figs. A—N. *Utricularia malabarica* Janarthanam & Henry

A. Plant; B. Leaf; C. Trap on stolon; D. Trap on leaves; E. Bract and bracteoles; F. Flower lateral view; G. Calyx-dorsal view; H. Corolla lower lip (spread); I. Corolla-upper lip; J. Stamen; K. Pistil-dorsal view; L. Pistil-lateral view; M. Capsule; N. Seed.

galeate; spur conical, up to 4 mm long, descending. Stamens 2; filaments ca 1 mm long, flattened, curved; anther cells distinct. Pistil ca 1.5 x 0.7 mm; ovary ovoid; style indistinct; stigma 2-lipped. Capsule ca 2 x

2 mm, ovoid, enclosed in calyx lobes, wall uniformly membranous. Seeds ca 0.3 mm long ovoid, subglobose to ellipsoid; testa reticulate, testa cells elongate (Figs. A-N).

Janarthanam

Specimen examined: Goa, Taleigao Plateau, Goa University campus, 15-8-1993, M.K. Janarthanam s.n. (Botany department Herbarium, Goa University).

REFERENCES

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bulariaceae). A terrestrial bladderwort from Southern India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 86: 84-85.

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