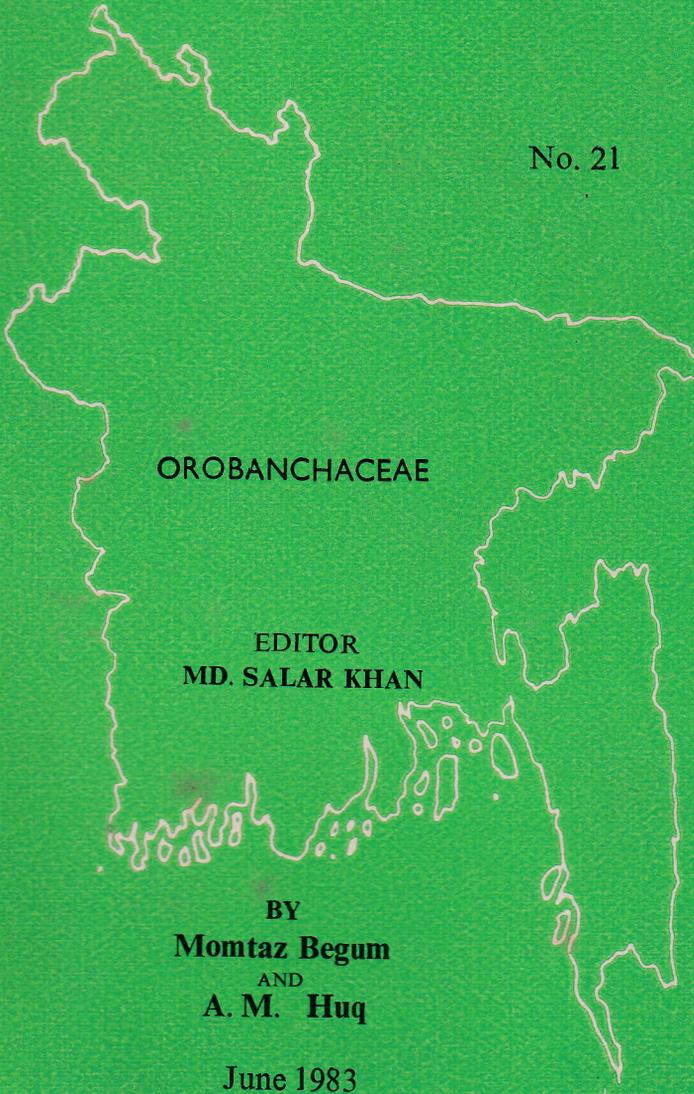


FLORA OF BANGLADESH

No. 21



OROBANCHACEAE

EDITOR
MD. SALAR KHAN

BY
Momtaz Begum
AND
A. M. Huq

June 1983

BANGLADESH NATIONAL HERBARIUM
BANGLADESH AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
COUNCIL

FLORA OF BANGLADESH

EDITOR

MD. SALAR KHAN
DEPT. OF BOTANY
UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA

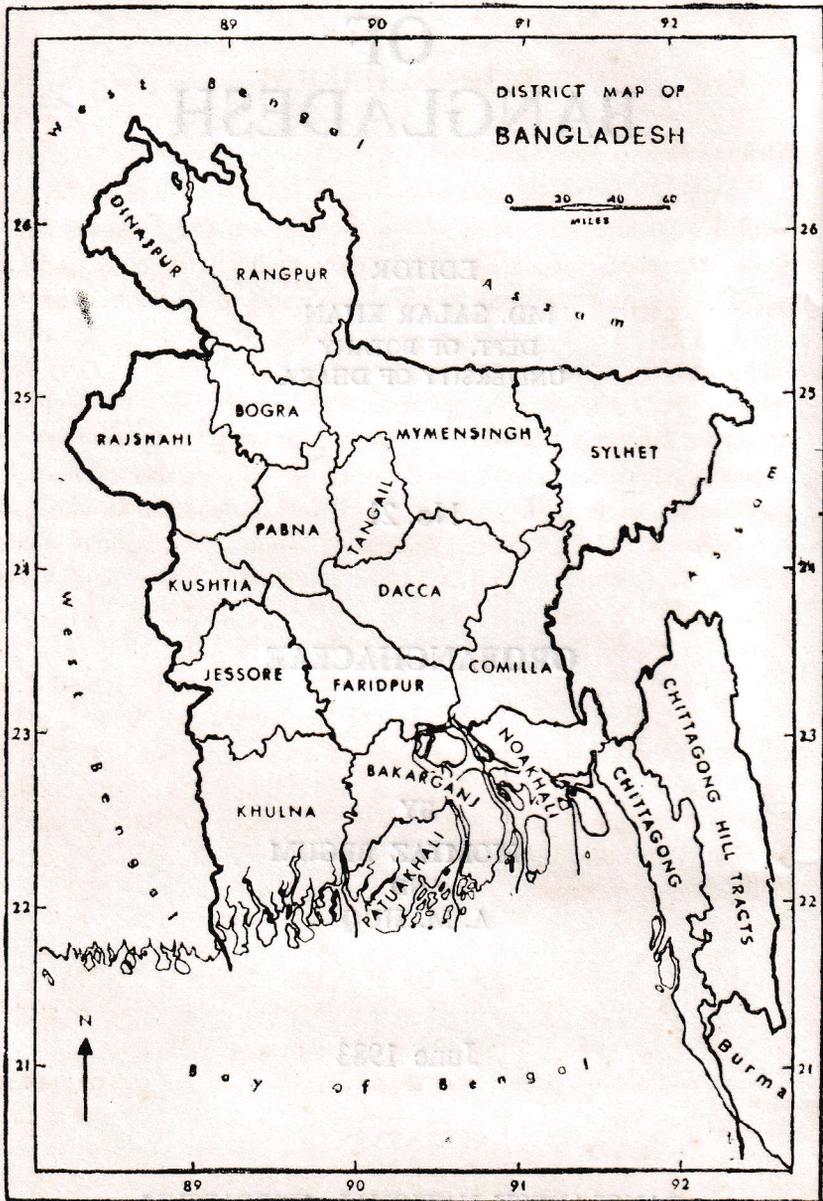
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OROBANCHACEAE

Montaz Begum and A.M. Huq

Annual or perennial leaf-less root-parasites, reddish brown, purplish to white in colour. Stem or scapes usually simple, sometimes branched, slender to stout, often bulbous at base. Leaves scale-like, distantly arranged or often imbricated at the base. Inflorescence in racemes or spikes or solitary flowered. Flowers bracteate, bracts mostly scaly, ovate to lanceolate, bracteoles 1-2, scale-like, usually free. Flowers zygomorphic, hermaphrodite, hypogynous, variously coloured. Sepals 2-5, united or cleft, entire, lobed or toothed, cylindrical or campanulate below, scaly or membranous to spathaceous, more or less persistent. Petals 5, unequal to subequal or bilabiate, base tubular, sometimes throat with villous folds. Stamens 4, subequal or didynamous, epipetalous, rarely single staminode present; filaments filiform, often pubescent at the base, anthers 1-2 celled, or one cell imperfect, sometimes cell spurred, mostly connivent, often with woolly hairs, dehiscence by longitudinal slits or by apical pores. Carpels two or rarely three, united, ovary unilocular, or some times two loculed, ovules numerous on parietal placentae; style simple, often long with curved tip, more or less 2-lobed or rarely capitate stigma. Fruit an ovoid to oblong capsule, 1-celled, sometimes imperfectly or perfectly 2-celled, opening loculicidally. Seeds numerous, rarely few, minute. Endosperm fleshy with small embryo.

1. Flowers solitary to few, corolla subequally 5-lobed, calyx spathaceous, anther cells unequal. **Aeginetia**

— Flowers many, corolla bilabiate, calyx not spathaceous, anther cells equal **Orobanche**

AEGINETIA L.

Sp. Pl. : 632(1753); Gen. Pl. ed. 5: 280 (1754)

Leafless herbs with simple or branched, scaly scapes or stems. Flowers bracteate, 1-few, large, solitary or in corymbose inflorescence. Calyx with spathaceous sepals, apparently tubular below but

split near to the apex. Corolla subequally 5-lobed, petals united, tubular at base with broad limbs. Stamens 4, didynamous, anther cells unequal, one fertile and the other sterile with basal spur. Ovary 1-celled with two or more lobed parietal placentas, ovules many covering the whole placenta; style single, slender, little curved at the terminal end with more or less obscurely large peltate stigma. Fruit a partially 2-valved capsule with numerous pitted or reticulate seeds.

1. Scapes slender; flower ebracteate, corolla purple; placentas multifid. Seeds yellowish-white... .. **indica**
 — Scapes rather short and stout; flower bracteate, corolla yellow with bluish throat. Placentas 2-lamellate. Seeds brown. **pedunculata**

A. **indica** L., Sp. Pl.: 632 (1753); Roxb., Fl. Ind. 3: 30 (1832); Hook. f, Fl. Br. Ind. 4: 329 (1884); Prain, Beng. Pl.: 580(1903)-rep. 1963. Pl. 1

Leafless herbs. Scape purplish-red, slender, single or 2-3 from the base, up to 25 cm long, with 1-few brownish scales near the base. Flowers solitary, ebracteate. Calyx spathaceous, connate near the base but split on the upper side, sepals up to 3.5 cm long, acute at the terminal end, bases broad, encircling the corolla tube, glabrous, longitudinally veined, light yellowish to pinkish. Corolla subequally five lobed, each lobe upto 1.0 cm long, tube upto 3.0 cm long, bent downwards, glabrous, purple with fine darker venation. Stamens 4, epipetalous, didynamous, the longer filaments upto 1.0 cm long and the shorter up to 0.6 cm long, anther two celled, lobes unequal, the lower sterile one with an obtuse spur, dehiscence longitudinal. Ovary one celled with multifid placentas and numerous minute ovules, style single, c. 1.2-1.8 cm long, curved at the end, almost glabrous with large peltate stigma. Fruit a partially two valved capsule up to 2×1.5 cm, enclosed by more or less persistent calyx and permanent styler base, surface longitudinally ribbed. Seeds numerous, very minute, more or less oblong, yellowish-white, reticulatre to pitted. Fl. 7-9 (-12). *Undergrowth of the sal forest and along with tall grasses in forests.*

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