

# FLORA OF BANGLADESH

No. 27

TRAPACEAE

EDITOR  
MD. SALAR KHAN

June 1984

By  
M. S. KHAN AND MAHBUBA HALIM

BANGLADESH NATIONAL HERBARIUM  
BANGLADESH AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH  
COUNCIL

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DEPT. OF BOTANY  
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## TRAPACEAE

M.S. Khan and Mahbuba Halim

Floating, aquatic, annual herbs. Leaves dimorphic; floating leaves rosette, arranged in mosaic, having rhombic blades coarsely serrate, upper surface glossy, the lower pubescent; the submerged ones pinnatifid, opposite, with root-like filiform segments; the petiole with a swelling composed of spongy aerenchymatous cells near its apex. Flowers peduncled, axillary, bisexual, projecting above the water surface but after pollination the pedicel bends down so that the flower is submerged and fruit formation takes place in this condition. Calyx limb 4-partite, adnate to the lower part of the ovary, lobes 4, 2 or all becoming spines on the fruit. Corolla 4, milky white or pale lilac, inserted on the margin of the cupshaped, epigynous, sinuous, coronary disc which has a dentate margin. Stamens 4, anthers dorsifixed. Ovary semi-inferior, 2-celled, ovule solitary in each cell, anatropous, pendulous, placentation axile, stigma capitate. Fruit a nut, 4-angled, 2 or all of which spinose, indehiscent, with a short cylindrical beak at the top through which the radicle protrudes. Seed one, cotyledons unequal, endosperm absent.

### TRAPA L.,

Sp. Pl.: 120 (1753).

Leaves uniformly green; fruit with 2 horns	<i>bispinosa</i>
Leaves spotted grey at base; fruit with 4 horns, often unequal	<i>maximowiczii</i>

*T. bispinosa* Roxb., Fl. Ind. 1: 449 (1820). Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 2: 590 (1879); Subramanyam, Aqua. Angios.: 21 (1962); Prain, Beng. Pl.: 369 (1903), reprint (1963). Pl.I

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