

## MORPHOTAXONOMIC STUDIES OF FAMILY POACEAE, TRIBE PANICEAE OF KARANJASOHL BLACK BUCK SANCTUARY

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### ABSTRACT

*Karanja(Lad) Sohol Black Buck sanctuary is situated in Karanja tahasil of Washim district. Washim district was previously a part of Akola district recently in July 1998 independent Washim district was created. Flora of Akola district has been already studied by Kamble and Pardhan (1988). During last 20 years no survey was conducted of the area. Floristic survey of Washim district conducted during 2002-2010 revealed 41 grass species belonging to 28 genera of family poaceae. Of these species 14 belongs to Andropogoneae, 2 Maydeae, 6 Paniceae and 6 pooideae. Some of the rare species are Alloteropsiscimicina(L) Stapf. Heteropogon triticeus (R.Br.) Stapf ex. Craib. Mothikusali and Peenisetumpedicelatum Trin.*

*Keywords : Morphotaxonomic, poaceae Karanja Sohol Black Buck Sanctuary, Washim district.*

### Introduction

Recently Karanja Sohol Black Buck Sanctuary has declared as a reserve area for the conservation of Black Buck. It is situated in Washim district of Maharashtra. Washim district has six tahasil. Karanja (Lad) is one of them. This sanctuary is seven kilometer away from Karanja town, along the side of Adanriver. It has total 1835.10 hector area. This area is dominated by grasses so that it is useful habitat for the conservation of Black Buck. Along with Black Buck, Blue Bull, wild Pig, Rabbit, Monkey were also present in the area. It is a hilly region near Girda, Pasarni, Dadgaon and Somthana, this area has gravelly, rocky and light red soil. Climate- Minimum temperature 9.6°C and maximum temperature 44.6°C. Average rain fall 842.6 mm.

### PANICUM L.

- 1a – Lower glume acuminate at apex.  
*P. trypheron*  
1b – Lower glume subacute at apex. *P. psilopodium*

### Plant Description

**Panicum silopodium** Trin Gram. *Panic.* 217, 1826; *Hook. f. FBI* 7: 46, 1896; *Sharma et al., Fl. MS. Monocot.* 551, 1996; *Kambale and Pradhan, Fl. Ak.* 277, 1988; *Naik, Fl. Mar.* 2: 1069, 1998.

*Annual herbs. Culms tufted, terete, 30-40 cm tall; nodes distinct, black, glabrous. Leaves: sheaths compressed, 4.5-6 cm long, glabrous, smooth; ligule a ciliate rim; blades flat, linear-lanceolate, 10-25 x 0.8-1.2 cm, glabrous, glaucous; apex acute. Panicles ovate-oblong to pyramidal, 10-15 cm long, effuse; rachis triquetrous, smooth; branches capillary, flexuous; pedicles capillary, discoid at the apex. Spikelets elliptic-lanceolate, 3.5-3.8 mm long, greenish-purple, acute. Lower glume thinly membranous, ovate, 1-1.25 mm long, 3-5-nerved; apex subacute. Upper glume membranous, elliptic-lanceolate, 3.3-3.5 mm long, 13-15-nerved; apex subacute. Lower lemma empty, thinner, otherwise similar in shape and size to the upper glume, 9-11-nerved. Palea hyaline, oblong, 2.7-3 mm long, 2-keeled; apex subacute. Upper lemma chartaceous to coriaceous, elliptic, 2.3-2.5 mm long; margins broad, inflexing similar textured*

*palea. Lodicules 2. Stamens 3. Grain elliptic.*

Fls. and Frts. – August to October  
Occurrence – Occasional in cultivated fields

Exsiccata – Girida, AND 1397

***Panicum trypheron* Schult.** Syst. Veg. 2: Mant. 244, 1824; Hook. f. FBI 7: 47, 1896; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bom. 3: 452, 1958 (Repr.); Sharma et al., Fl. MS. Monocot. 389, 1996; Kambale and Pradhan, Fl. Ak. 277, 1988; Naik, Fl. Mar. 2: 1071, 1998.

Annual herbs. Culms terete, 30-40 cm long, erect or geniculate at base, slender; nodes glabrous. Leaves: sheaths slightly compressed, 2-7.5 cm long, hispid; margins ciliate; ligule fimbriate, short; blades flat, linear-lanceolate, 3-25 x 0.3-0.8 cm, densely or sparsely hispid, scabrid and ciliate with tubercle based hairs along margins, acute at apex. Panicles oblong-lanceolate, 10-30 cm long, lax; branches alternate, scabrid; rachis angular, scaberulous. Spikelets elliptic-lanceolate, 3.2-3.5 mm long, acuminate. Lower glume membranous, ovate, 2-2.5 mm long, clasping at base, 3 or obscurely 5-nerved, cuspidate-acuminate. Upper glume membranous, elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate at apex. Lower lemma empty, membranous, otherwise similar in shape and size to the upper glume, 9 or 7-nerved. Palea hyaline, elliptic, 1.5-2.2 mm long, 2-keeled; margins with broad basal flaps. Upper lemma chartaceous, oblong-elliptic, faintly 5-nerved, whitish, obtuse. Palea similar, 2-keeled. Lodicules 2. Stamens 3; anthers 1.2-1.5 mm long, sagittate, purplish. Grain oblong.

Fls. and Frts. – July to October  
Occurrence – Frequent in open grasslands  
Exsiccata – Somthana, AND 1401

### **PASPALIDIUM Stapf.**

1a – Spike shorter than the internodes  
*P. flavidum*

1b – Spikes longer than the internodes  
*P. geminatum*

***Paspalidium geminatum* (Forssk.) Stapf** in Prain, Fl. Trop. Afr. 9: 583, 1920; Sharma et al., Fl. MS. Monocot. 556, 1996; *P. paspaloides* Pers. Syn. 1: 81, 1805; Hook. f. FBI 7: 30, 1896; *Panicum flutans* Retz. Obs. Bot. 3: 8, 1783; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bom. 3: 446, 1958 (Repr.); Kambale and Pradhan, Fl. Ak. 278, 1988; Naik, Fl. Mar. 2: 1073, 1998;

Perennial herbs with creeping stolons. Culms subcompressed, 40-50 cm long, nodes; glabrous. Leaves: sheaths compressed, 2.5-8 mm long, glabrous, loose; ligule hairy, very short, annular; blades flat, linear-lanceolate, 10-20 x 0.4-1 cm, glabrous; apex finely acuminate. Racemes 6-8, sessile, erect and appressed to the rachis, 1-2 cm long, alternate, longer than the internodes; rachis flexuous, flattened; pedicels very short, discoid. Spikelets solitary, sub-imbricate, ovate, 2.5-3 mm long, pale-green, gibbous, glabrous, acute. Lower glume hyaline, ovate, nerveless, rounded at apex. Upper glume membranous, ovate-oblong, convex 5-nerved, rounded or obtuse at hyaline apex. Lower lemma empty, membranous, ovate-oblong; keels 2, greenish; margins inflexed; apex acute. Upper lemma chartaceous to coriaceous, elliptic, faintly 5-nerved, apiculate.

Fls. and Frts. – July to October  
Occurrence – Occasional in waterlogged places, shallow ditches and along margins of ponds.

Exsiccata – Pasarni, AND 1404

**PENNISETUM Rich.ex Pers.**

*Pennisetum pedicelatum* Trin. In Mem.

Acad. Petersb. Ser. 6, 3: 184, 1834;

Hook. f. FBI 7: 86, 1896; Bor, Gr.

Burma, Ceylon, Ind. and Pak. 346, 1960.

Annual herbs. Culms terete, 30-120 cm tall, simple; nodes glabrous. Leaves: sheaths terete, 50-100 cm long, glabrous or pilose; ligule membranous, 1-1.5 mm long, fimbriate; blades flat, linear-lanceolate, 5-30 x 0.3-1.5 cm, glabrous or hispid; margins scabrid, sometimes beset with distant tubercle-based hairs towards base; apex acuminate. Spikes 5-10 cm long, erect, nodding with age, dense, reddish-purple; rachis angular, smooth or scaberulous. Involucres sessile; bristles unequal, the inner upto 3 cm long, free to the base and densely villous, white to red; pedicles of

the spikelets slender, 1-2 mm long, with silky hairs on the back. Upper glume hyaline, oblong-lanceolate, 5-6 mm long, with silky hairs on the back, 5-nerved, cuspidate at apex. Lower lemma empty, hyaline, oblong, pubescent, 5-nerved, 3-toothed, at apex. Palea hyaline, narrowly oblong, 2-keeled; margins broadly inflexed, almost meeting in the centre; apex lacerate. Upper lemma chartaceous, elliptic, smooth, faintly 5-nerved, ciliolate along margins, mucicous at apex. Palea similar, 2-keeled. Lodicules 2. Stamens 3. Grain oblong-lanceolate.

Fls. and Frts. – September to December  
Occurrence – Occasional, along road sides

Exsiccata – Wadi-Ramrao, AND  
1407

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