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Title: Flower color mutant and its possible significance in *Commelina benghalensis*L. (Commelinaceae)

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Abstract

Commelina benghalensis L. bears blue to blue-violet flowers. A few plants of a white flowering mutant found growing naturally at three different places in Jammu were transplanted in the Botanical Garden of University of Jammu. The two color forms were subjected to critical morphological and reproductive analyses. Apart from significant differences in only a few traits, the two flower types were largely similar in most of the morphological features and were true breeding. F_1 hybrids obtained had blue flowers and were adequately fertile. F_2 hybrids segregating in the ratio of 3(blue):1(white) were equally fertile. Results of χ^2 test indicate monohybrid inheritance of flower color with blue completely dominant over white. Besides this, the possible role of flower color variation in the species is also discussed.

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