

Costus pictus D.Don.ex Lindl. new records to flora of Maharashtra, India.

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Abstract

During the field survey in Paithan Tehsil of Aurangabad District some Specimens were collected and identified *Costus pictus* D.Don ex Lindl which was not recorded for Flora of Maharashtra so far. This paper records them with updated nomenclature, descriptions and note on phenology and Images for its easy identity.

Keywords: *Costus pictus*, Maharashtra, New records

INTRODUCTION

T. Cooke (1958) in his monumental work has reported occurrence of 1 species of *Costus* Afterwards Lakshminarsimhan (1996, 2000) recorded *Costus speciosus* and *Costus speciosus* (Koen.)J.E. Sm.var. *dilnavazii* M.R.&R.R. Almeida as in account on flowering plants of Maharashtra. Later on Sabu (2006) I revisionary study of South Indian Costaceae accounts 3 species of *Costus* L. the genus *Costus* L. accounts 1 species and one variety for Maharashtra.

During our field survey, some specimens of genus *Costus* L. were collected from Paithan tehsil of Aurangabad District, Maharashtra state. Specimens were brought to laboratory and processed for herbarium specimens with standard procedures. specimens were satisfactorily identified by using pertinent literature (Lakshminarsimhan,1996,2001; Sabu,2006) and After critical investigations, authors found that taxa belongs to *Costus pictus* D.Don ex Lindl was unrecorded to the flora of Maharashtra Therefore, in the present paper, correct and updated citation, a short description and note on its phenology is depicted for taxon followed by a note on ecology and taxonomic identity. The voucher specimens are deposited in ¹Pratishtan Mahavidhyalaya, Paithan, Aurangabad(M.S.) India.

ENUMERATION

Costus pictus D.Don ex Lindl. Edwards's Bot. Meg. 19: t. 1594; Horan. Monogr. 37.1862; K.Schum. in Engler, pflanzer. 4(46):396.1904. *Costus mexicanus* Liebm.,Bot. Tidsskr 18:261. T.16. 1862; K.Schum. in Engler, pflanzer. 4(46):397. 1904
 Lectotype : D. Don, Bot. Reg. 19: t. 1594 (1833); LT designated by Maas, Fl. Neotrop. 8: 74 (1972)

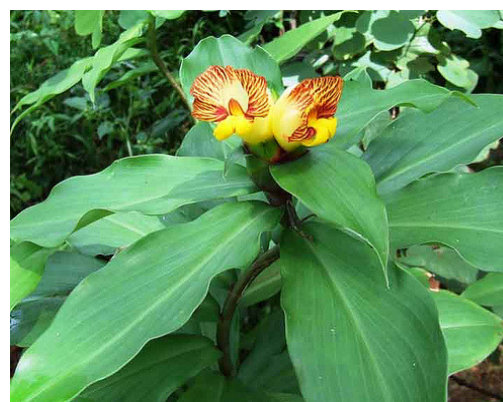
Perennial rhizomatous herb, Leaves shoot 1-1.5 m high, petiolate, 20-21x 7 cm, subsessile, oblong lanceolate glabrous. Inflorescence terminal, spike compact. bract numerous ovate-apiculate, glabrous, labellum creamy yellow, Lateral lobes with reddish brown stripes, lateral staminodes, obsolete, filaments 2x1

cm, yellow, ovary 0.6x0.3, trigonus, pubescent or villous. Native of South and Central America.

Fls and Frts: Aug–Feb.

Locality: Botanical Garden, Pratishtan College, Paithan, Aurangabad.

Note: The Plant is used as remedy for diabetes



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are deeply indebted to our Principal, Pratishtan Mahavidhyalaya, Paithan, Dist.-Aurangabad, for providing the laboratory facilities, for constant support and encouragements.

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Received: Nov 20, 2012; Revised: Dec 03, 2012; Accepted: Dec 26, 2012.

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