

Maan Bahadur ROKAYA<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Saroj Kumar KASAJU<sup>c</sup> and Bijay KHADKA<sup>d</sup>: *Hoya polyneura* (*Apocynaceae*) — An Addition to the Flora of Nepal

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**Summary:** *Hoya polyneura* Hook. f. (*Apocynaceae*) is reported as a species new to the flora of Nepal. A diagnostic key to the *Hoya* species found in Nepal is also provided.

The genus *Hoya* R. Br. (*Apocynaceae*) comprises ca. 250 species, and mostly distributed from Indomalaysia to the Pacific (Mabberley 2017). To date, *Hoya* is represented by seven species in Nepal (Press et al. 2000).

During field research from Kathmandu to Indra Daha, central Nepal on August 2019, we collected an unfamiliar species of *Hoya*. The plant was epiphytic on *Myrsine capitellata*. After critical examination of its morphological features, it was identified as *Hoya polyneura* Hook. f.

*Hoya polyneura* was described by Hooker in 1883. *Hoya polyneura* has not been recorded in the floras for Nepal (Hooker 1883, Hara 1982, Press et al. 2000, Singh 2001, Rajbhandari and Rai 2017, 2019, Rajbhandari et al. 2019). Adding to the seven *Hoya* species already known in Nepal, here we report *H. polyneura* as a new addition to the Flora of Nepal.

*Hoya polyneura* Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 4: 54 (1883); Watson in Fl. Bhutan 2(2): 717 (1999); Jagtap & Singh, Fasc. Fl. Ind. 24:117 (1999); Li et al. in Fl. China 16: 233 (1995); Giri & al., Mater. Fl. Arunachal Pradesh. 2: 170 (2008).

[Figs. 1, 2]

**Type:** EAST HIMALAYA INDIA. Darjiling,

29 Apr. 1849, Herb. Griffith no. 3793 K000873092—syntype). Sikkim. Without precise locality, in 1848/1849, J. D. Hooker s.n. (K000873088, K000873089, K000873091—syntypes).

Distribution: Nepal, NE India, Bhutan, Myanmar, SW China (Xizang, NW Yunnan), Laos (Xiangkhouang Province).

Conservation status: It is considered Estimated IUCN Red List status – DD (IUCN 2016).

We checked the specimens of *Hoya polyneura* in major herbaria, and found three other specimens collected in Nepal: from Tamur River (J. D. Hooker s.n., K000873090), from Koshi Zone (M. Suzuki & al. 8821241, KATH160090), and from Arun Valley (Edinburgh Makalu Expedition 102, E00889203). Therefore, *H. polyneura* has not been reported properly, although it has been collected in Nepal from the 19th century to recent years. In addition, our collection at Indra Daha, central Nepal, revealed the westernmost distribution for *H. polyneura*.

Voucher specimens: **CENTRAL NEPAL.** Indra Daha, Daha Chowk, Kathmandu District, 1805 m (S. K. Kasaju, M. B. Rokaya & B. Khadka SK411, 19 Aug. 2019, KATH). **EAST NEPAL.** Koshi Zone, Sankhuwa Sabha District, Num – Mude (Mure) – Sakrata (Sakurate) – Kuwapani (1940 m) – Chichila (Chichira), 1540–2040 m, 3 Aug. 1988, M. Suzuki, N. Naruhashi, N. Kurosaki, Y. Kadota, M. N. Subedi, M. Minaki, S. Noshiro & H. Ikeda 8821241, KATH160090; Arun Valley, ridge between Bhotebas & Chichira, 20 Sep.



Fig. 1. *Hoya polyneura*. A. Habitat, epiphytic on *Myrsine capitella* tree. B. Flowers. C. Leaves and flowers.

1991, Edinburgh Makalu Expedition 102 (E00889203). Tamur River, 9 Dec. 1848, J. D. Hooker s.n. (K000873090).

**Key to taxa of Nepal**

- 1. Flowers yellow-brown with cream centre ..  
..... *H. fusca* Wall.
- 1. Flowers other than yellow-brown colour

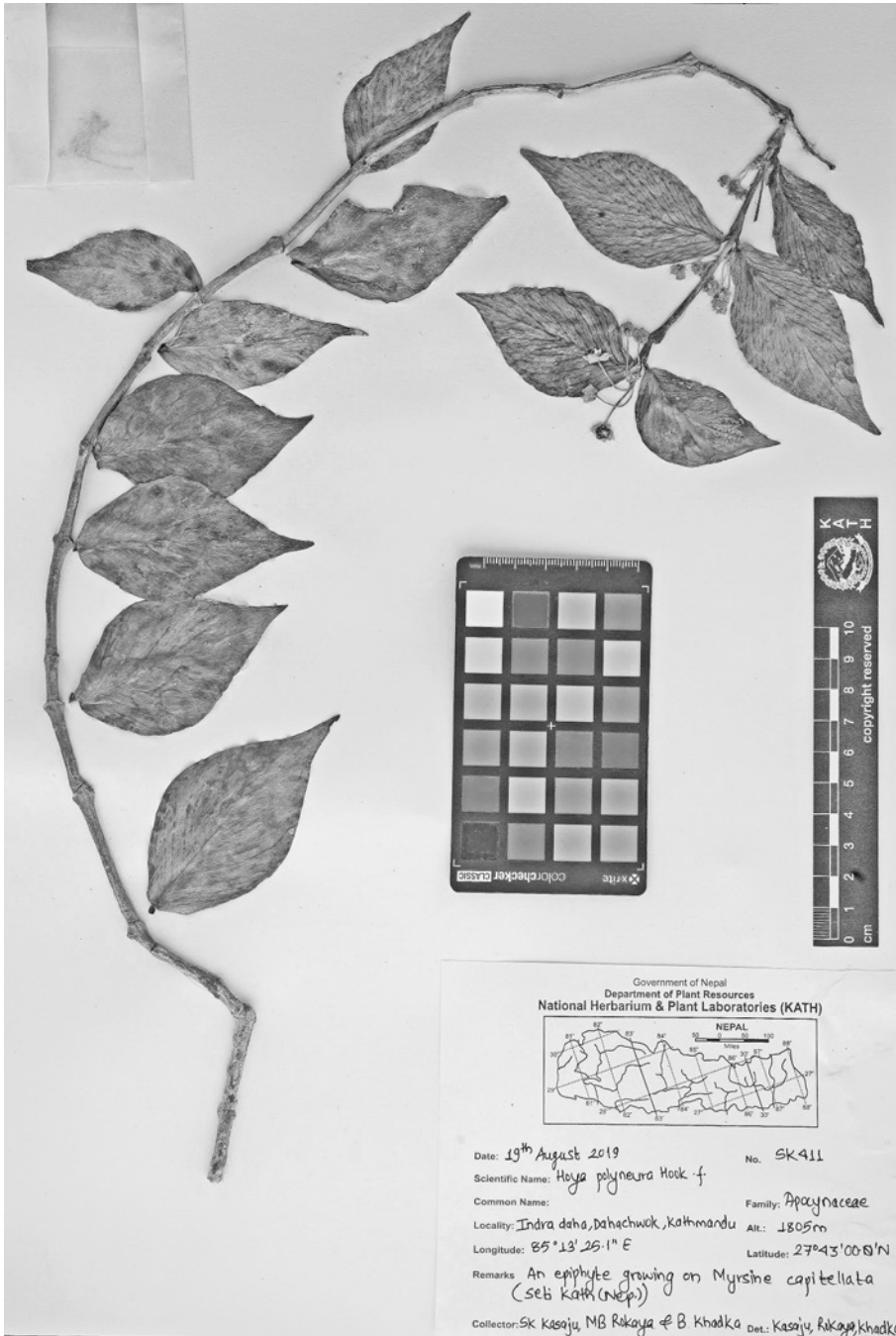


Fig. 2. *Hoya polyneura* collected in central Nepal (S. K. Kasaju & al. SK411, 19 Aug. 2019, KATH).

- without cream centre ..... 2
- 2. Stem glabrous *H. longifolia* Wall ex Wight
- 2. Stem pubescent ..... 3
- 3. Leaves ovate-lanceolate, margins involute

- ..... *H. lanceolata* Wall ex D. Don
- 3. Leaves not ovate-lanceolate, margins not involute ..... 4
- 4. Leaves linear, less than 5 mm wide .....

- ..... *H. linearis* Wall ex D. Don, 5
4. Leaves not linear, usually more than 6 mm wide ..... 6
5. Corolla papilloso-puberulous within, corolla lobes ovate flattened .....  
..... *H. linearis* var. *linearis*
5. Corolla glabrous within, corolla lobes longer narrower sub-cylindric .....  
..... *H. linearis* var. *sikkimensis* Hook. f.
6. Leaves broadly rhombic, lateral nerves numerous and parallel, at an acute angle with midrib ..... *H. polyneura*
6. Leaves ovate, elliptic, obovate or oblong, nerves not as above ..... 7
7. Leaf base rounded to subcordate, apex rounded ..... *H. serpens* Hook. f.
7. Leaf base cuneate to rounded, apex abruptly acuminate to caudate, or acute to acuminate ..... 8
8. Flowers cream to pale yellow-pink, slightly scented ..... *H. arnottiana* Wight
8. Flowers waxy-white to yellow, not scented ..... *H. edenii* King ex Hook. f.

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M. B. Rokaya<sup>ab</sup>, S. K. Kasaju<sup>c</sup>, B. Khadka<sup>d</sup>: ネパール新産の *Hoya polyneura* (キョウチクトウ科)

キョウチクトウ科サクララン属の1種, *Hoya polyneura* Hook. f. をネパールから初めて記録した。産地は中部の Kathmandu District と東部の Sankhuwa Sabha District である。サクララン属は 350–400 種ほどが知られ、ネパールには本種を加えて合計 8 種となる。

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