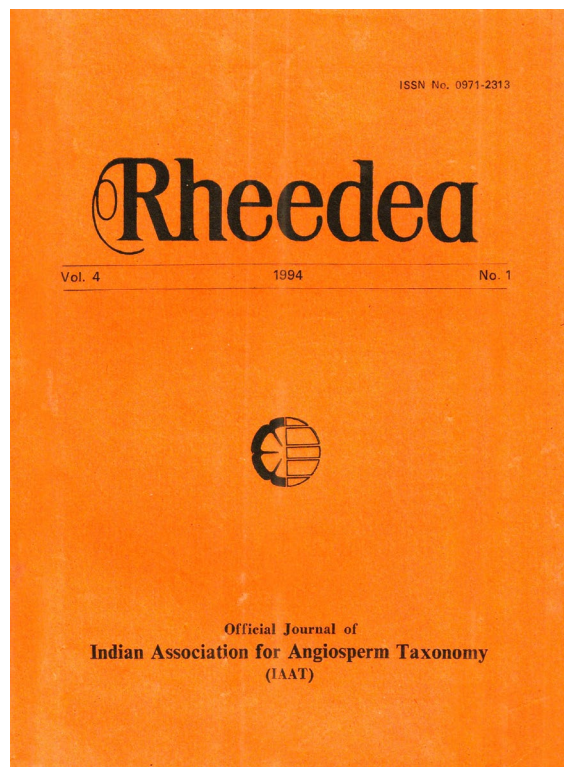




Tricholepis elongata DC. (Asteraceae), a new record for Nepal

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Tricholepis elongata DC. (Asteraceae), a new
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Abstract

The genus *Tricholepis* is, so far, reported to have only one species, viz., *T. furcata* DC. in Nepal. In this paper, we are reporting a second species of the genus, *T. elongata* DC., in this Himalayan Kingdom.

The genus *Tricholepis* DC. is known to have a single species, viz. *T. furcata* DC. in Nepal (Hooker 1881, Kitamura & Gould 1982, Naithani 1990). During the course of a revision of the genus in the Indian subcontinent, the authors came across some misidentified specimens from Nepal at CAL, which on critical studies, turned out to be *T. elongata*. So far known to occur only in India and Pakistan (Stewart 1972, Rao et al. 1988), this can be easily identified from *T. furcata* by its pubescent stem, narrowly ovate, glabrous outer phyllaries and papillose hairy staminal filaments as against glabrous stem, linear, densely ciliate outer phyllaries and glabrous staminal filaments in the latter. Obviously, earlier authors on Flora of Nepal have not taken a critical look at these specimens.

T. elongata is described and illustrated here as a new record for Nepal.

Tricholepis elongata DC., Prodr. 6: 563. 1838; Clarke, Comp. Ind. 239. 1876; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 3: 380. 1881; Collett, Fl. Simlensis 276. 1971 (rep. ed); Nair, Fl. Bashar. Himal. 168. 1977.

Carduus elongatus Wall., Cat. 2900, 2909. 1831, *nom. nud.*

Tricholepis lanuginosa Klotzsch in Reise Pr. Wald. Bot 79, t. 81 1862.

Herbs, erect, upto 6 feet long, branched; branches slender, striate, sparsely to densely puberulous. Leaves 2.0 — 8.5 × 0.2 — 1.8 cm, simple, alternate, subsessile, lanceolate or linear towards apex, cuneate at base, dentate to serrate throughout margin or only in lower part of lower leaves or pinnatifid in lower part and serrate to entire in upper part, acute with spiny

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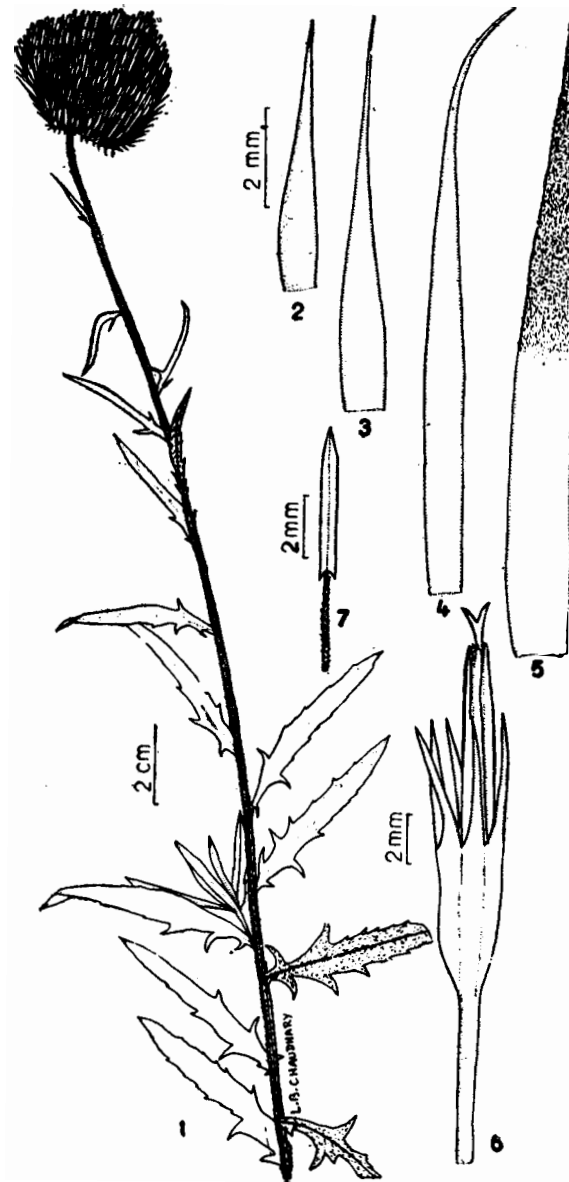


Fig. 1-7 *Tricholepis elongata*. 1. Habit, 2-5. Pyllaries, 6. A floret, 7. A anther with filament. (1- 5: Polunin, Sykes & Williams 5406, 6- 7: Stainton, Sykes Williams 7864).

Tricholepis elongata DC. (Asteraceae) in Nepal

structure at apex, glabrous to minutely puberulous above, adpressed tomentose below, sometimes hairs adpressed on both surfaces, lateral veins and midrib raised below and puberulous. Heads 2—3 cm in diam., terminal, solitary, erect ovoid, subtruncate at base; phyllaries 5—13 \times 0.8—1.0 mm, unequal, shorter in outer whorls, longer in inner whorls, outer phyllaries narrowly ovate with more acuminate tip, upper portion black (in dried specimens), middle phyllaries linear-oblong, narrower at tip, glabrous, black and deflexed towards tip; inner phyllaries linear-oblong with acuminate tip, glabrous below, pubescent and black towards tip. Corolla pale yellow, 22 mm long, 5-lobed, lobes 6 mm long. Anther filaments papillose-hairy. Style bifid at apex, longer than stamens. Achenes 4 \times 1.5 mm, oblong, slightly narrower and oblique at base, truncate at apex, smooth, glabrous. Pappus 4—20 mm long, unequal, outer whorls shorter deciduous, connate at base, filiform, barbellate.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Nepal.

Flowers: August through September.

Ecology: In open grassy slopes; altitudes 8000 — 10000 ft.

Specimens examined: NEPAL: near Gurjakhani, 8000 ft., *Stainton, Sykes & Williams* 4355; Lete (S. of Tukucha), Kali Gandaki, 8000 ft., *Stainton, Sykes & Williams* 7864; near Hurikot, 10000 ft., *O. Polunin, W. R. Sykes & M. J. Williams* 5406; Pina (Ping) near ara, 8000 ft., *O. Polunin, W. R. Sykes & H. J. Williams* 3046.

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