

New record of *Lepisorus ussuriensis* (Regel et Maack) Ching from Sikkim, India

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THE genus *Lepisorus* is wide spread in the tropical and subtropical parts of the old world. According to Ching (1933) about 40 species are distributed worldwide. Mehra and Bir (1964) listed 9 species of *Lepisorus* from Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya. Bir and Trikha (1969) reported *L. ussuriensis* from Himalaya. They collected this plant from various localities around Simla in western Himalaya and Darjeeling (Lebong forest, 1650m) in eastern part of Himalaya. This is the first report of occurrence of this species from Sikkim.

The plant of *Lepisorus ussuriensis* (Regel et Maack) Ching was collected during September, 2003 from Maenum Wildlife Sanctuary (3235m), South Sikkim. The specimen is stored in the herbarium of

Department of Botany, University of Burdwan, having the field No. GG-77.

Lepisorus ussuriensis (Regel et Maack) Ching, *Bull. Fan Mem. Inst. Biol.* 4: 91 (1933). *Pleopeltis ussuriensis* Regel et Maack, *Mem. Acad. Petersb.* 7 (4): 175 (1861).

Rhizome creeping, thin, 0.9-1.0 mm in diameter, woody, scaly throughout; scales dark brown, concolourous, adpressed, lanceolate, apex long acuminate, attenuate, margin more or less smooth with short teeth like projections (Fig. 1E). Leaves uniseriate, 0.5-1.0 cm apart, simple. Stipes 1.5-3.5 cm long, stramineous, thin, 1.5-2.0 mm in diameter, sparsely scaly; scales deciduous, brown, ovate, acuminate, margin more or less smooth with minute teeth like

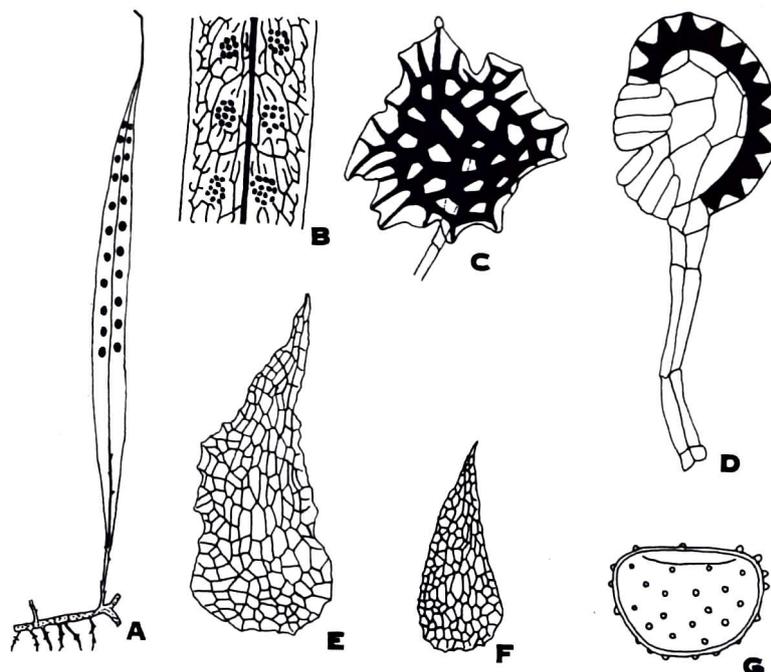


Fig. 1: A. Habit sketch, $\times 0.75$, B. Venation and position of sori, $\times 6$, C. Single paraphysis, $\times 105$, D. Single sporangium, $\times 105$, E. Rhizome scale and its cellular structure, $\times 56$, F. Stipe scale, $\times 35$, G. Spore, $\times 420$

projections (Fig. 1F). Lamina 10-16 cm long, 0.3-1.2 cm broad, linear-lanceolate, apex long acuminate, margin entire, texture thick, both surfaces glabrous; veins anastomosing to form areoles; areoles are with included veinlets which dichotomously fork at its tip (Figs. 1A, B). Sori medial, round, extended more than half of the lamina and paraphysate; paraphyses peltate, clathrate, deep brown, with an apical gland (Fig. 1C). Sporangia stalked, capsule globose, annulus vertical, stomial cells distinct (Fig. 1D). Spores yellowish brown, monolete, exospore tuberculate with blunt projections, 40-54 μm \times 30-48 μm (Fig. 1G).

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