

INDIGOFERA GLANDULOSA WILLD. VAR. SYKESII-PAPILIONACEAE—A NEW VARIETY FROM MAHARASHTRA STATE

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DURING the studies on the genus *Indigofera* L. (Papilionaceae) in India, an interesting taxon similar to *Indigofera glandulosa* Willd. was noticed. A survey of literature¹⁻⁴ as well as correspondence with Mr. G. P. Lewis of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, U.K. revealed that although this taxon was first recognised as a distinct species, *I. sykesii* Griffith in Sched. (vide Griffith 1454; Poona, 6 October 1826 K), it was not published. Subsequently Baker (1876) considered this element under *I. glandulosa* Willd. as "var. *I. sykesii*" and diagnosed it from the type variety by the characters of the pod, globose and 1-seeded. Later Ritchie and Naik, from their collections of Belgaum and Osmanabad districts (collection numbers 1038 Dt? and 1318 Dt. 16-10-1966 respectively both in K) labelled their sheets as *I. glandulosa* Willd. var. *sykesii* Roxb. Naik^{2,3} erroneously cited Roxburgh⁴ as the author of the variety *sykesii*. Since we consider that Baker (1876) did not describe var. *sykesii* Baker, we wish to validate in the present report *I. glandulosa* var. *sykesii* Baker ex Vijay Kumar and Ramayya var nov. Differt a varietate typica *glandulosa* in racemos aliquato elongatus usque 1 cm longis ad frugifer; leguminibus globosus, 2-2.5 mm in diam. ad alae brevissimus, leguminibus ad seminis singulus (figure 1)

Holotypus: *Vijay Kumar* 1277 A (HY); Katrajghat, Poona district, 16-10-1970.

Isotypus 1277 B (K).

Differs from the typical variety *glandulosa* in having racemes rather elongate upto 1 cm at fruting; pods globose, 2-2.5 mm in diameter with very minute wings and one-seeded (figure 1).

Distribution: India: Maharashtra (endemic).

Flowering and fruiting: August-October.

The type variety is characterised by Pods oblong, 5-6×1.5-2 mm in diameter, with 4-longitudinal rows of distinctly large wings; seeds usually 2, occasionally one.

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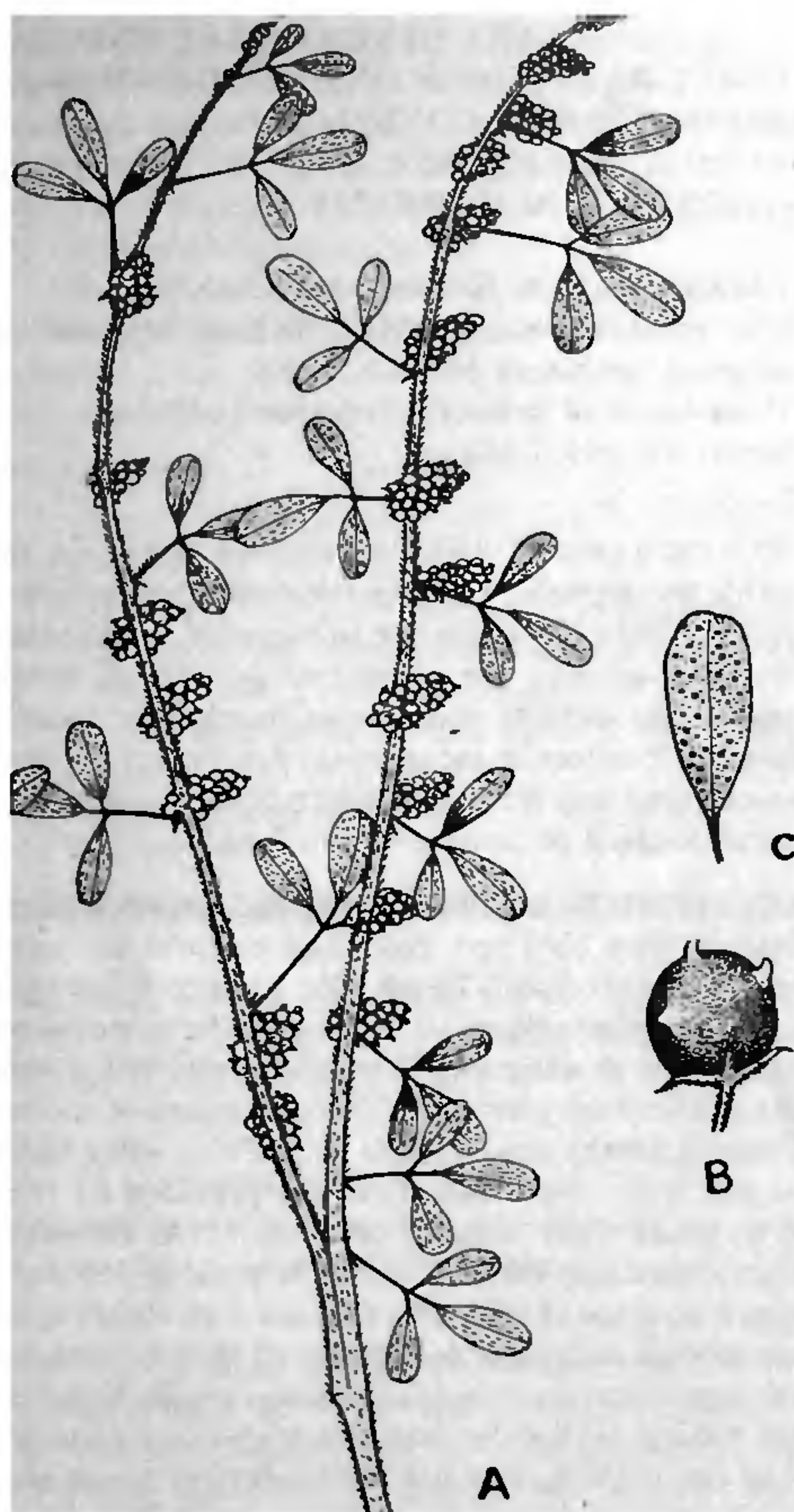


Figure 1. *Indigofera glandulosa* Willd. var. *sykesii* Baker ex Vijay Kumar & Ramayya var. nov. A. Showing habit (×1). B. Pod (×8). C. Leaflet showing glandular hairs on abaxial surface (×2).

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