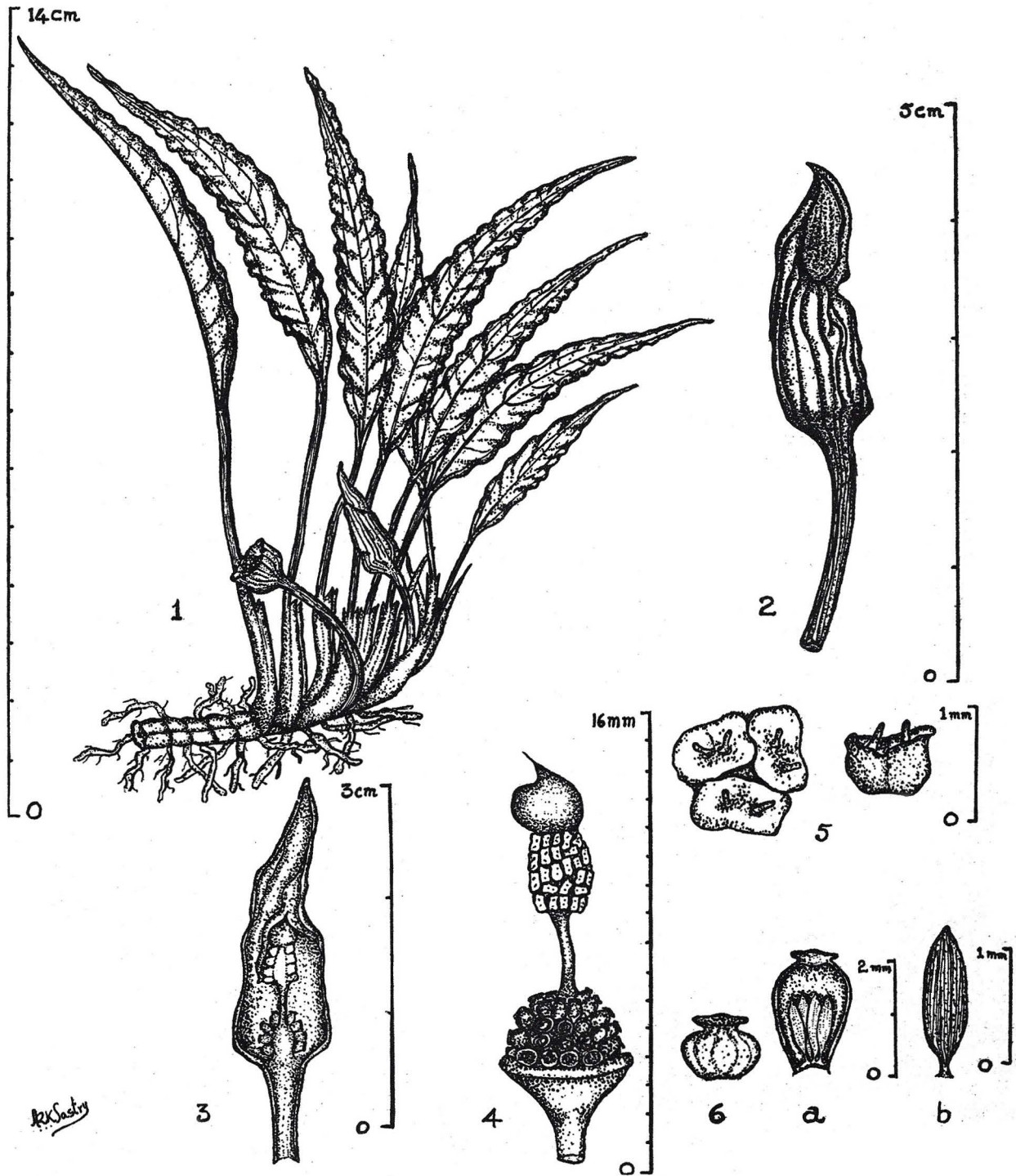


Sastry 1967

LAGENANDRA UNDULATA— A NEW SPECIES OF ARACEAE

An Araceous plant forming dense patches on partly submerged rocks in a stream was identified as *Lagenandra* Dalz., a genus hitherto unrecorded in the Himalayan region. Of the 6 known species of this genus, 2 occur in South Concan in the Western Ghats and the other 4 further south, in

Ceylon. Thus the present discovery of this genus in Subansiri District in the Eastern Himalayas, is of phytogeographic interest. A tentative identification of these to near either *L. lancifolia* (Sch.) Thw. or *L. thwaitesii* Engler, proved incorrect when verified with reference to authentic specimens of the



Lagenandra undulata Sastry spec. nov.

Figs. 1-6 : 1. Habit. 2. Spathe. 3. L. S. of spathe. 4. Spadix. 5. Anthers. 6. Ovary. 6a. L. S. of ovary. 6b. Ovule.

two species. The Subansiri plants are quite distinctive. Incidentally, the two Calcutta specimens annotated by Engler as *L. lancifolia* (Sch.) Thw. and *L. thwaitesii* Engl. with *Thwaites* C. P. No. 3173 and C. P. No. 3174 respectively (now verified), indicate a transposition of the two numbers as published in *Pflanzenreich* 73: 230-231, 1920.

Lagenandra undulata Sastry spec. nov.

Herba perennis, submersa; *rhizoma* repens, ca. 5 mm crassum, paulum applanatum, vulgo simplex; *internodia* ca. 4 mm longa; radices robustae, fibrosae. *Cataphylla* ad 3 cm longa, lineari-lanceolata, convoluta, decidua. *Folia* albo-punctulata, alterna, petiolata, vaginata; vagina imbricata, 1-2 cm longa, ca. 2 mm lata, 2-carinata, membranacea; petioli 1-7.5 cm longi, ca. 2 mm lati, laminae subaequales, fortiter striati, adaxialiter alte sulcati; lamina 1.5-9 × 0.5-1.5 cm, elliptico-lanceolata, acuminata, viva carnosae, sicca evadens gracilis, marginibus undulatis, basi cuneata, nervo medio distincto, ventraliter canaliculato, dorsaliter porcato, nervorum lateralium paribus duobus. *Pedunculus* axillaris, partim in vagina inclusus, ca. 2 cm longus, ca. 2 mm crassus, teres, fortiter striatus. *Spatha* ca. 2 cm longa, ca. 7 mm lata ad basin, infra tubularis, contracta ad medium, levis, ornata nervis emphaticis parallelis; limbus ovato-acuminatus, paulum contortus, apice breviter hamato, purpureo-maculatus et oblique septatus ad basin intus. *Inflorescentia mascula* subterminalis, ca. 3.5 × 2.5 mm cylindrica, appendice subglobosa, carnosae, minute aristata sterili coronata; antherae sessiles, aggregatae, cupulares, ornatae appendice una binave tubulari intrinsecus. *Inflorescentia foeminea* ca. 3 mm infra masculam, globosa, ca. 3 mm diam.; ovaria sessilia, unicellularia, plura, in verticillos 3-4 disposita; stigma amplum, discoideum; ovula 4, ca. 1 mm longa, elliptico-oblonga, leviter striata. *Syncarpium* juvenile viride, globosum, ca. 4 mm in diam., inclusum parte basali cupulari spathae.

Holotypus A. R. K. Sastry 45489A lectus ad Amjee, ad alt. 1220 m, in distr. Subansiri, die 21 maii 1966 et positus in CAL. Isotypi A. R. K. Sastry 45489 B-F positi in ASSAM.

Lagenandra undulata Sastry spec. nov. (Figs. 1-6)

Submerged perennial herbs, in patches. *Rootstock* creeping, about 5 mm thick, slightly flattened, usu-

ally simple; internodes about 4 mm long; roots stout, fibrous. *Cataphylls* upto 3 cm long, linear-lanceolate, convolute, deciduous. *Leaves* white punctulate, alternate, petiolate, sheathed; sheaths imbricate, 1-2 cm long, about 2 mm broad, 2-keeled, membranous; petiole 1-7.5 cm long, about 2 mm broad, about equal to the lamina, strongly striate, adaxially deeply grooved; lamina 1.5-9 × 0.5-1.5 cm, elliptico-lanceolate, acuminate, fleshy when fresh, becoming thin on drying, margins undulate, base cuneate; midrib distinct, ventrally channelled, dorsally ridged, with two pairs of lateral nerves, the first pair from the base extending above the middle, the second pair starting about the middle and arched upwards to the tip; other veins few, faint. *Peduncle* axillary, partly enclosed in the leaf sheath, about 2 cm long, about 2 mm thick, terete, strongly striate. *Spatha* about 2 cm long, about 7 mm broad at base, tubular below, constricted in the middle, smooth with emphatic longitudinal parallel veins; limb ovate-acuminate, slightly twisted, apex shortly hooked, dark purple-blotched inside, obliquely septate at base within. *Male inflorescence* subterminal about 3.5 × 2.5 mm cylindric, crowned with a sub-globose, fleshy, minutely awned sterile appendage; anthers sessile, crowded, cupular, with 1 or 2 small tubular appendages inside. *Female inflorescence* about 3 mm below the male, globose, about 3 mm in diameter; ovaries sessile, 1-celled, many, in 3-4 whorls; stigma large, discoid; ovules 4, about 1 mm long, elliptico-oblong, faintly striate. *Young syncarpium* green, globose, about 4 mm in diameter, enclosed in the persistent, cupular basal part of the spathe.

A. R. K. Sastry 45489A from Amjee, about alt. 1220 m, Subansiri District, North East Frontier Agency, India, 21st May, 1966, is the Holotype (CAL). A. R. K. Sastry 45489 B-F, Isotypes (ASSAM).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to record my sincere thanks to Rev. Fr. H. Santapau, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta, for kindly rendering the description into Latin; to Dr. S. K. Mukerjee, Keeper, Central National Herbarium, Calcutta, for loan of specimens and to Dr. A. S. Rao, Regional Botanist, Shillong, for his kind guidance and facilities.

A. RAMAKRISHNA SASTRY
Botanical Survey of India, Shillong