

***Sinarundinaria langtangensis* sp. nov. (Gramineae: Bambuseae) from Nepal Himalaya**

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Abstract

Sinarundinaria langtangensis R. Manandhar *et* Bajracharya (Gramineae: Bambuseae), a new species from Langtang National Park, Nepal is described and illustrated.

Key words: *Sinarundinaria langtangensis*, New record, Nepal Himalaya

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Sinarundinaria* Nakai (Gramineae: Bambuseae) comprises approximately 50 species in the world and distributed from Himalaya to Madagascar (Cho & Renvoize 1989). Li (1996) proposed to conserve the name *Sinarundinaria* Nakai (Gramineae) with a conserved type. Seethalakshmi & Kumar (1998) included all the genus *Arundinaria*, *Chimonobasmbusa*, *Drepanostachyum*, *Indocalamus*, *Semiarundinaria* and *Sinobambusa* are in *Sinarundinaria* based on her studies. Stapleton (1994 a, b, c) reported one species of *Arundinaria*, and three species of *Drepanostachyum* from Nepal. Press *et al* (2002) also reported three species of *Drepanostachyum* from Nepal. Until now no species of *Indocalamus*, *Semiarundinaria* and *Sinobambusa* are reported from Nepal. However, on a critical study on the collected specimen it shows variation in culm sheath and rhizome structure from other species of *Arundinaria*, *Chimonobasmbusa*, *Drepanostachyum*, *Indocalamus*, *Semiarundinaria* and *Sinobambusa*. This species is described as and illustrated here as a new species of *Sinarundinaria* Nakai.

***Sinarundinaria langtangensis* R. Manandhar & Bajracharya, sp. nov.**

Sinarundinaria langtangensis similis ad *Sinarundiaria anceps* sed differit by brevis rhizome, praesentia ciliatus super culmus varginae humerus et longus et rectus culmus vegina lamina.

Types: Nepal, Bagmati zone, Rasuwa District, Ghodeabela 3010 m, 16th November 2005, R. Manandhar 216 (*Holotypus*- KATH; *Isotypus* -TUCH).

Rhizome sympodial, culms caespitose 3 – 6 m high, 0.6-1cm in diameter, olive green when young and dark brown to reddish when old, smooth with scars of fallen culm sheath, internodes 10 – 12.8 cm long with prominent and slightly swollen nodes. Culm sheaths shorter than internodes; culm sheaths 8.5 – 11.5 cm x 1.5 – 2.3 cm, papery, smooth and shiny with cross veins towards inner surface and rough with ridges on the outer surface. Culm sheath shoulder

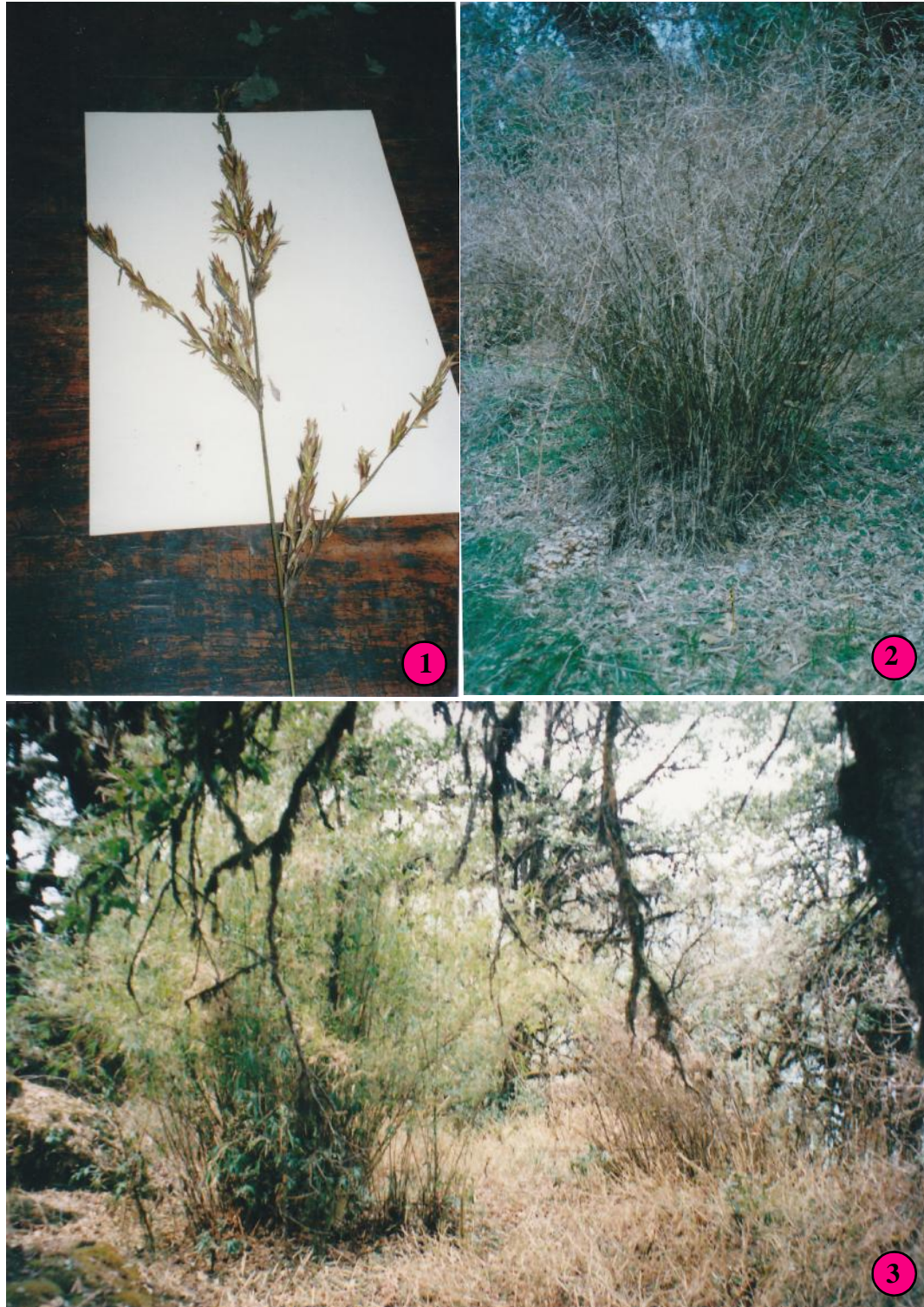


PLATE I: *Sinarundinaria langtangensis* R. Manandhar & Bajracharya: 1. Flowering branch; 2. Habit of the plant; 3. Habitat of the plant

ciliated, auricles undeveloped with few hairs, ligules 0.5 – 1 mm tall, sheath blade long, pointed, 2 – 4.5 cm long straight. Branches many at each node. Lamina linear 3.5 – 4.5 cm x 3 – 4 mm pointed to apex, green, leaf sheaths auricle tall with brown hairs, ligule inconspicuous.

Etymology: The specific epithet of the new taxon is based on its type locality Langtang National Park.

Note: This species is similar to *S. anceps* but can be distinguished by short rhizomes, presence of cilia on culm sheath shoulder and long and straight culm sheath blade.

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