

## ***Blumea manillensis* (Lessng) DC. (Compositae) – a new record for India from Assam**

**Santa Paul and Nilakshee Devi**

Department of Botany, Gauhati University, Guwahati-781014, Assam, India

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding author, E-mail: santalaceae09@gmail.com

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### **Abstract**

*Blumea manillensis* (Lessing) DC. (Compositae) is a newly recorded species from Assam for the India. In this paper morphological characterization and phenology with putative details of the species has been discussed.

**Key words:** *Blumea manillensis*, New record, Assam, India.

### **INTRODUCTION**

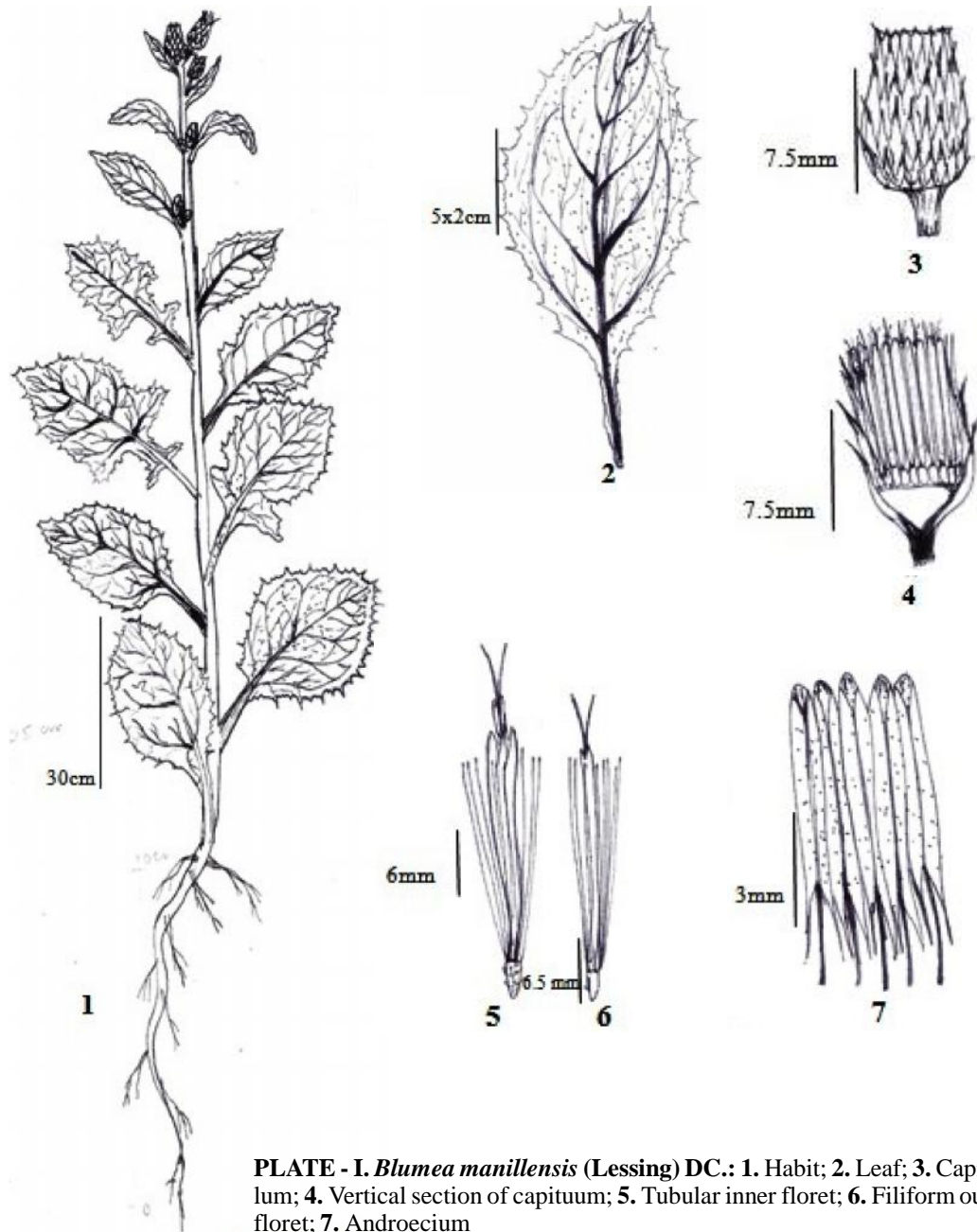
The delimitation of the genus *Blumea* DC. (Compositae) has undergone several changes over the years and has been the subject of controversy (Hooker 1882). However, the genus is represented by 36 species in *Flora of British India* (Hooker 1882), 9 species in *Flora of Assam* (Kanjilal *et al.* 1939), 13 species in *Assam's Flora* (Choudhury 2005), 5 species in *Flora of Nongpoh and its vicinity* (Joseph 1968) and 2 species in *Cherapunji Sub-division, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya* (Dam 1994).

A species of *Blumea* was collected from the Jalukbari area of Guwahati in Assam which was later on identified as *Blumea manillensis* (Lessing) DC. through the consultation of specimens at CAL and images of authentic specimens from different herbaria including K, NY, MO, MNHN and CANB. For the nomenclature [www.plantlist.org/1.1](http://www.plantlist.org/1.1) has been consulted. Literature consultation including Hooker (1882), Kanjilal *et al.* (1939), Deb (1983), Hajra *et al.* (1995), Barua & Nath (1998), Choudhury (2005). From consultation of literature and herbarium specimens, it has been observed that *Blumea manillensis* (Lessing) DC. is not so far reported from India.

### **TAXONOMIC TREATMENT**

*Blumea manillensis* (Lessing) DC., Prodr. 5.435.1836. Miquel, Fl. Ind. Bat. 2.42.1867; F-Vill. Novis. App. 115. 1880; Elm, Leaflet. Philip. Bot. 1.116.1906. *Conyza manillensis* Lessing, Linnaea 6. 135. 1831. *C. gouanii* Blanco, Fl. Filip. 627. 1837.

Annual herb; stems unbranched, erect, 15 – 40 cm tall, pubescent. Leaves ovate-lanceolate, 0.8 - 5cm x 0.5 - 2.5 cm, doubly dentate, acute, base tapering-attenuate, margins the upper entire, the lower lyratly lobed, pubescent on both surfaces,. Heads sessile in terminal lax panicles, clustered at the ends of branches, 0.8 - 1.2 cm x 0.5 cm. Involucral bracts green, multiseriate, outer smaller, 2 mm in long, oblanceolate, hairy, inner bracts, linear, 6-7.5 mm, long. Receptacle flat or slightly convex, alveolate, slightly pubescent. Central bisexual florets, tubular, 6 - 7 mm long, 5 lobed; lobes acute, pubescent; outer female filiform florets 5.5 - 6.5



**PLATE - I.** *Blumea manillensis* (Lessing) DC.: **1.** Habit; **2.** Leaf; **3.** Capitulum; **4.** Vertical section of capitulum; **5.** Tubular inner floret; **6.** Filiform outer floret; **7.** Androecium

mm long, 3 - 4 lobed, glabrous. Achenes brown, lanceolate, hairy, 8 - 10 ribbed. Pappus white, 5 - 6 mm long.

**Flowering and Fruiting:** January – March.

**Association:** On old walls, hilly slopes and moist area. In association with *Ageratum conyzoides* Linnaeus, *Alternanthera sessilis* Lamarck, *Centella asiatica* (Linnaeus) Urban, *Oxalis corniculata* Linnaeus, and also with some grasses, bryophytes and ferns.

**Distribution:** World: Philippine. INDIA: Assam (Kamrup, Karbi Anglong).

**Specimens Examined:** Philippines, Province of Rizal, January 1906, *F. W. Foxworthy* 38866 (Herbarium of Bureau of Science) (CAL); Assam: Jalukbari, Guwahati, 09.04.2012, *Santa Paul*, 0088; Silonijan, Karbi Anglong, 27.03.2013, *Santa Paul* 00116.

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