

Extended distribution record of *Alternanthera kanhae* A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P.S. Nagar (Amaranthaceae) from estuarian ecosystem to fresh water ecosystem in Gujarat state, India

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Abstract

This species has been previously recorded, and described from only single site in Sabarmati estuarian area, Gujarat state, India. Authors have listed *Alternanthera kanhae* from two inland wetlands of Mahisagar district and one inland wetland of Aravalli district of Gujarat, India. Previously this species was only known for its estuarian habitat only. In this paper author have described its new distributional record along with extended distributional record in Gujarat state, India.

Key words : *Alternanthera*, Amaranthaceae, Aravalli, Inland Wetland, Mahisagar, New distribution.

Alternanthera kanhae A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P.S. Nagar previously recorded from estuarian area in India. before that only 7 species of *Alternanthera* Forsk. have been known for India⁷. After addition of *Alternanthera kanhae* A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P.S. Nagar now 8 species have been known from India. In Gujarat, where it was recorded first time from estuarian part of Sabarmati River by Vanzara, *et al.*;⁷. This single locality is providing evidence of its presence and ecology in India. During study of inland wetlands vegetation of two district of Gujarat, *i.e.*, Aravalli and Mahisagar showed distribution of *Alternanthera*

kanhae. Authors collected one unknown specimen from three sites of wetlands out of them two sites are situated in Mahisagar district and one site is situated in Aravalli district.

After critical observation of its morphological and floral characters, this species has been identified as *Alternanthera kanhae* A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P. S. Nagar⁷. This species was previously identified and described first time from single site of India according to literature¹⁻⁷.

It was found near coastal region and it

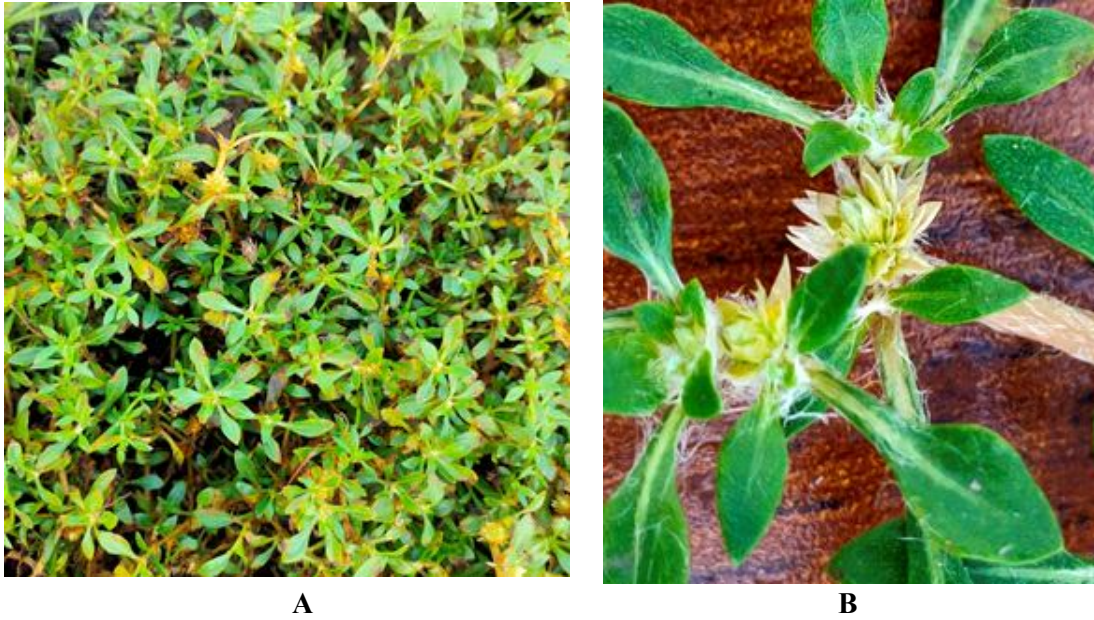


Fig. 1. *Alternanthera kanhae* A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P.S. Nagar,
A. Habit, **B.** Close view of plant

is distributed near to fresh water region also, so due to its presence in different habitats, authors have described its new locality for future study opportunity of its vegetational distribution in India. This paper describes new distributional record of *Alternanthera kanhae* A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P.S. Nagar from three additional sites in Gujarat, India.

Alternanthera kanhae : A. G. Vanzara, I. Katara & P.S. Nagar in *Phytotaxa.*, **500** (1): 021–028.

Description : Prostrate herb. Stem dirty white to yellowish, green–pinkish red at maturity, less or densely villous at apex and nodes. Leaves 9–15 × 3–4 mm, apex acute, margins entire, light–dark green, villous on both surfaces, sometimes pubescence at upper surface; midrib raised on abaxial surface.

Spike, axillary, globular or slightly ovoid, flowers; peduncle ± sessile., greenish white to yellowish white. For more detailed description refers article *Alternanthera kanhae* (Amaranthaceae), a new species from Sabarmati Estuary of India⁷.

Specimen examined : Kothamba Wetland, Lunawada., 07/08/2022., GPS; 23 01' 01" N 73 31' 00" E.; Swarup Sagar Wetland, Lunawada., 07/08/2022., GPS; 23 06' 27.8" N 73 27' 26.3" E.; Gotapur Wetland, Aravalli District., 09/07/2022; GPS; 23 15' 19" N 73 23' 15" E.

Note; Plant mostly seen near water. Plant found in small patches (3-5) and in Gotapur Wetland only 2 specimens were observed. Associate flora are herbs like *Phyla nodiflora* (L.) Greene, *Cyperus compressus* L., *Cynodon*

dactylon (L.) Pers. And some tree canopy like *Prosopis juliflora* (Sw.) DC. Found closely at wetland area.

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