

Sida angustifolia Mill. (Malvaceae): An Addition to Flora of Marathwada, Maharashtra

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Abstract

Sida angustifolia Mill. is reported as a new addition to the Flora of Marathwada of Maharashtra. A detailed description, current nomenclature and photographs are provided here to facilitate its easy and correct identification in the field.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Sida* L. comprises about 250 species chiefly distributed in the tropical and subtropical parts of the World (The Plant List, 2022). In India, the genus is represented by about 18 species including infraspecific taxa (Paul and Nayer, 1988; Paul, 1993), 21 species belong to the sections *Cordifoliae*, *Malachroideae*, *Nelavagae*, *Sida*, *Spinosa* and *Stenindae* (Tambde *et al.*, 2020). Tambde *et al.*, (2016) enumerate 11 species and a variety of the genus *Sida* L. in the Maharashtra state on the basis of mericarps and morphological characters. Recently Gavade *et al.*, (2020) recorded *Sida angustifolia* with their appropriate identity, occurrence and typification from India.

During floristic re-investigation in Maharashtra, *Sida* was collected from Sillod, Aurangabad District of Maharashtra and perusal of relevant literature the specimen was identified as *Sida angustifolia* Mill. and it was found that the species had no past record of the occurrence in Marathwada (Naik *et al.*, 1998). Therefore, the present report of *Sida angustifolia* Mill. is a new addition for the Malvaceae of Marathwada. A detailed nomenclature, distribution, specimen

examined and photographs are provided. The voucher specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of Department of Botany, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

Sida angustifolia Mill. England (cultivated), s.d. Miller s.n (BM [BM000603894]), Gard. Dict., ed. 8. n. 3. 1768, *Sida angustifolia* Mill. Gavade, *ANN. BOT. FENNICI* 57: 279-284. 2020.

Annual, *ca* 1 m tall herbs or subshrubs. Stem erect, terete, stout, branched, pubescent with short stellate hairs. Stipules 2, 0.5–1.5 mm long, ensiform, falcate, equal, acuminate, persistent, basifixed, hairy. Petiole 2–10 mm long, usually with 2–3 spiny emergences at base. Leaves 1–5 × 0.4–4 cm, oblong or ovate, acute or subcordate at base, serrate-crenate at margin, acute, rounded to truncate at apex, stellate-pubescent. Flowers axillary, solitary or 2–5 in clusters on small axillary shoots. Pedicels 1.5–6 mm long, jointed towards the middle, pubescent. Calyx 3–5 × 2.5–4 mm, campanulate, equal, triangular; lobes *ca* 3 × 2 mm, minute stellate hairy externally and along margins, glabrous inside.



Fig. 1: Habitat of *Sida angustifolia* Mill.

Corolla 1–1.2 cm in diameter, pale-yellow; petals 5–6 × 3–4 mm, slightly falcate with blunt apex, obovate, minutely stellate-hairy at base. Staminal column 2–2.5 mm long, stellate-pubescent, antheriferous at apex; anthers pale-yellow, filaments 1–1.5 mm long. Ovary 2–3 mm diameter, conical, stellate hairy; styles and stigmas 5, styles 2–2.5 mm long, stigmas globose, purplish. Fruits schizocarpic, 3–5 × 3–4.5 mm long, rounded; mericarps 5, 3–3.5 × 1.5–2 mm, completely included in calyx, trigonous with 2 divergent awns, ca. 0.2 cm long without awn, notched between awns and lower portion of mericarp, dorsally reticulate or wrinkled, awns 0.18–0.2 cm long, covered with stellate and simple hairs. Seeds 1.5–2 mm long, ovoid, rounded trigonous, brownish-black, glabrous throughout.

Flowering & Fruiting: September –January.

Habitat: The species grows abundantly on barren lands and along roadside.

Locality: Sillod, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra
Specimen examined: *Sida angustifolia*: **Baha-mas.** Bell Island. E. Freid 95-126 (USF). **Brazil.** du Bresil hort., *Anon s. n.* (LINN-HS 1157.1.); **Paran,** *Hatschbach 21151* (L2359793). **Colombia.** Tocaim, *A.E. Perez 2123* (COL000141169). **India.** Maharashtra, Amravati, *M.M. Sardesai, s.n.* (SPPU); Aurangabad, *G.M. Tambde 4* (BAMU); Badnapur, *V.N. Naik 37* (BAMU); Kolhapur, *P.D. Mahekar s.n. 117* (SUK), *G.M. Tambde s.n.70* (BAMU); Jaysingpur, *S.K. Gavade 258* (SUK); *S.K. Gavade 303* (SUK); Wardha, *M.M. Sardesai, s.n.* (SPPU); Padoda, *R.D. Gore 391* (WCAS); Jaysingpur, *S.K. Gavade 261* (SUK); Sillod, *G.M. Tambde 21* (SVC), *G.M. Tambde 25* (SVC).

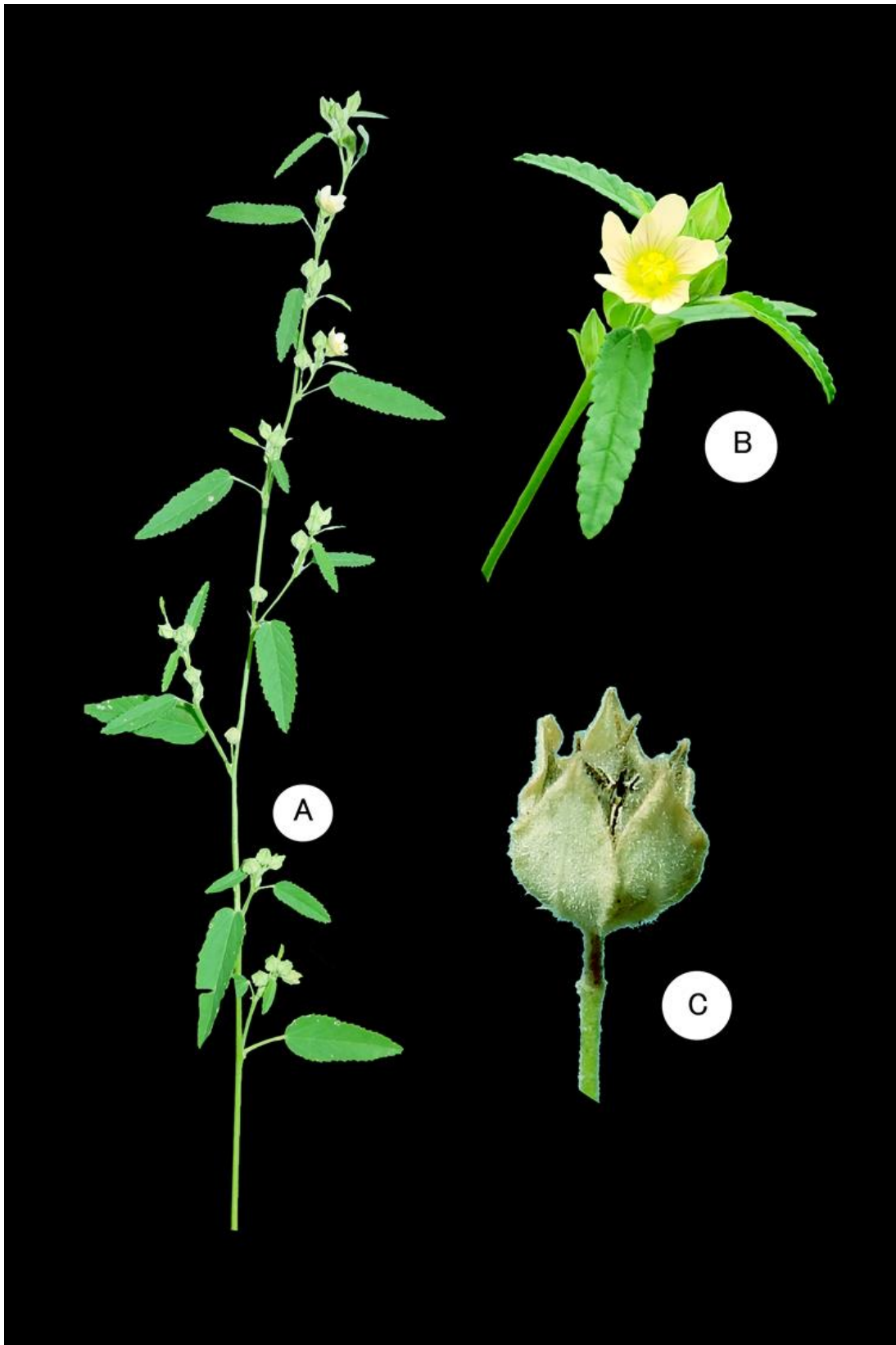


Fig. 2: (A) Habit, (B) Flower, (C) Dehiscent Fruit of *Sida angustifolia*

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