**Duchesnea indica** (Rosaceae): An addition to the flora of Odisha, India

T Kar¹, A K Nayak¹, B R Dash¹ and K K Mandal²

¹Similipal Tiger Reserve, Bhanjpur, Baripada, Odisha, India-757002
²P. G. Department of Botany, North Orissa University, Baripada, Odisha -757003.
kumar.kishore718@gmail.com

**ABSTRACT**

*Duchesnea indica* (Andrews) Focke is reported first time for Odisha from Similipal Biosphere Reserve. A detailed description with nomenclature, photograph, notes on occurrence and distribution of this taxon are provided for easy identification.

**Keywords:** Duchesnea indica, New record, Rosaceae, Similipal.

**INTRODUCTION**

The genus *Duchesnea* Smith belonging to the family Rosaceae is distributed throughout the World (Weber, 2003). A few interesting specimens of *Duchesnea* were collected from National Park range of Similipal Biosphere Reserve, Odisha. After critical study with relevant literature (Hooker, 1878; Haines, 1921-25; Kanjilal *et al.*, 1934; Saxena & Brahmam, 1994 and Singh *et al.*, 2001) they are identified as *Duchesnea indica* (Andrews) Focke. This taxon is reported from North east and Southern regions of India and its occurrence from Similipal Biosphere Reserve hence form a new distributional record for Odisha State. Detailed description along with photograph, occurrence in Similipal, phenology and distribution is provided for easy identification.

**Taxonomic treatments:**


Perennial herbs. Rhizome robust, stolons 1-3, up to 100 cm long, thin, pilose. Leaves digitate trifoliolate; leaflets obovate to rhombic-oblong, 2-4 x 1-2 cm, base cuneate, margins serrate, apex acute, strigose above and below on the nerves only. Petioles 1-4 cm long; stipules oblong-lanceolate, up to 1 cm long. Flowers solitary on long axillary peduncles, yellow, 1-4 cm in diameter. Sepals 5, ovate, margin ciliolate, apex acute; epicalyx segments obovate, longer than sepals, apex 3 lobed. Petals 5, obovate, 1.5 x 0.8-1.2 cm, rounded at apex. Stamens 20-25. Carpels numerous, free. Aggregate fruits ripening red, shining, 1-2.5 cm in diameter, spongy. Achenes small, ovoid, glabrous, pitted.  

**Flowering:** August-September; **Fruiting:** September-November.  

**Habitat:** Occasional in Semi evergreen forests.  

**Distribution:** Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Odisha, Manipur, Mizoram) Japan, Nepal.  

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