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The genus *Diplozentrum* Lindl., distributed in India and Sri Lanka, comprises only two species viz., *D. recurvum* Lindl. and *D. congestum* Wight (Misra 2007). Of these, *D. congestum* is endemic to Kerala and Karnataka states (the Western Ghats) and *D. recurvum* is distributed in southern India (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu) and Sri Lanka. During a recent floristic exploration in the Horsley Hills of Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh, an interesting orchid population was discovered with attractive purple flowers. On critical examination, this orchid was identified as *Diplozentrum recurvum*, the Recurved Double Spur Orchid. After a thorough perusal of the relevant literature (Fischer 1928; Ramakrishna 1997; Madhavachetty et al. 2008; Misra et al. 2008; Raju et al. 2008) revealed that an earlier record of this species from the Horsley Hills of Andhra Pradesh dated back to July 1884 by J.S. Gamble (Field no. 15033) and May, 1904 by C.E.C. Fischer (Field no. 4353). Since then, there had been no collection of this species from the state. Therefore, the present record comes after a gap of over 100 years. The present paper is provided with nomenclatural citation, taxonomic description, phenology, distribution pattern with maps and photographic plates (Images 1–3). The specimens are deposited at BSID (Botanical Survey of

A RE-COLLECTION OF *DIPLOCENTRUM RECURVUM* LINDL. (ORCHIDACEAE) AFTER A LAPSE OF 100 YEARS OR MORE FROM ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

Mitta Mahendranath¹, Kummara Madhava Chetty² & Kothareddy Prasad³

^{1,2} Department of Botany, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh 517501, India

³ Botanical Survey of India, Deccan Regional Centre, Plot No. 366/1, Attapur, Hyderguda, Hyderabad, Telangana 500048, India

¹mitta.mahendranath@gmail.com, ²madhavachetty@gmail.com, ³prasad.orchids@gmail.com (corresponding author)

India, Deccan Regional Centre, Hyderabad) & SVUTY (Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati) (Images 4–5).

Diplozentrum recurvum Lindl.,

Edwards's Bot. Reg. 18: t. 1522. 1832; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 6: 78. 1890; Misra, Orchids India 295. 2007; C.E.C. Fisch. in J.S. Gamble, Fl. Madras 3: 1449. 1928; Ramakrishna in Pullaiah, Fl. Andhra Pr. 3: 938. 1997; Misra et al., Bull. Bot. Surv. India 50(1–4): 129–146. 2008. *D. longifolium* Wight, Icon. Pl. Ind. Orient. 5: t. 1681. 1851 (Images 1,2).

Type: Wallich Cat. 733, sine loc.(K!)

Epiphytic herbs. Roots greenish-white, flattened, vermiform. Stems erect or pendulous, stout, thick, ca. 20cm long, with short internodes, sheathed. Leaves



DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX

Diplozentrum recurvum
Recurved Double Spur Orchid



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Image 1. Recurved Double Spur Orchid *Diplozentrum recurvum*
A - habit; B - Part of inflorescence; C - Close up of flowers; D - Lip with two spurs.

distichous, coriaceous, recurved, sessile, linear, 8–14 x 0.4–0.6 cm, unequally bilobed at apex. Inflorescence axillary, longer than leaves, ca. 20cm long, many-flowered panicles. Floral bracts minute, triangular, ca. 1x1 mm, acute, persistent. Pedicel with ovary short, ridged, 5–6 mm long. Flowers small, rose pink or brownish tinged with pink, ca. 6mm across, widely opening. Sepals subequal; dorsal sepal erect, oblong-ovate, 2.6–3 x 1.6–1.8 mm, acute, 1-veined; lateral sepals falcately obliquely obovate-oblong, 3–3.4 x 2–2.2 mm broad, acute, 3-veined. Petals oblong-ovate, 2.6 x 1.8 mm, acute, 1-veined. Lip sessile, oblong-ovate, 4.2–4.5 mm long, margins curved, 2-spurred; disk with a median thick fleshy ridge; spurs short, collateral, conical, ca. 2mm long, incurved. Column short, stout, clavate, ca. 1 mm long, without foot. Pollinia 2, yellow, ovoid.

Capsule pyriform, ca. 1.5cm long, ribbed.

Specimens examined: 1026 (SVUTY), 09.iii.2013, India: Andhra Pradesh, Horsley Hills, Chittoor District, 1200m, coll. M. Mahendranath; 006417(BSID), 10.ix.2014, Horsley Hills, Chittoor District, 1250m, coll. K. Prasad; 15033 (CAL), vii.1884, Horsley Hills, Chittoor District, 4500ft (1,370m), coll. J.S. Gamble; 4353 (CAL), 19.v.1908, Horsley Hills, Chittoor District, 4300ft (1,310m), coll. C.E.C. Fischer (Image 3).

Flowering and Fruiting: May–September.

Habitat and Ecology: This species was found growing on dense moss-covered tree trunks in tropical open dry deciduous forests in Horsley Hills at an elevation range between 1100–1300 m; more abundant at 1200–1250 m and conspicuously absent below 1100m. Fifty-six mature individuals were found during the current survey

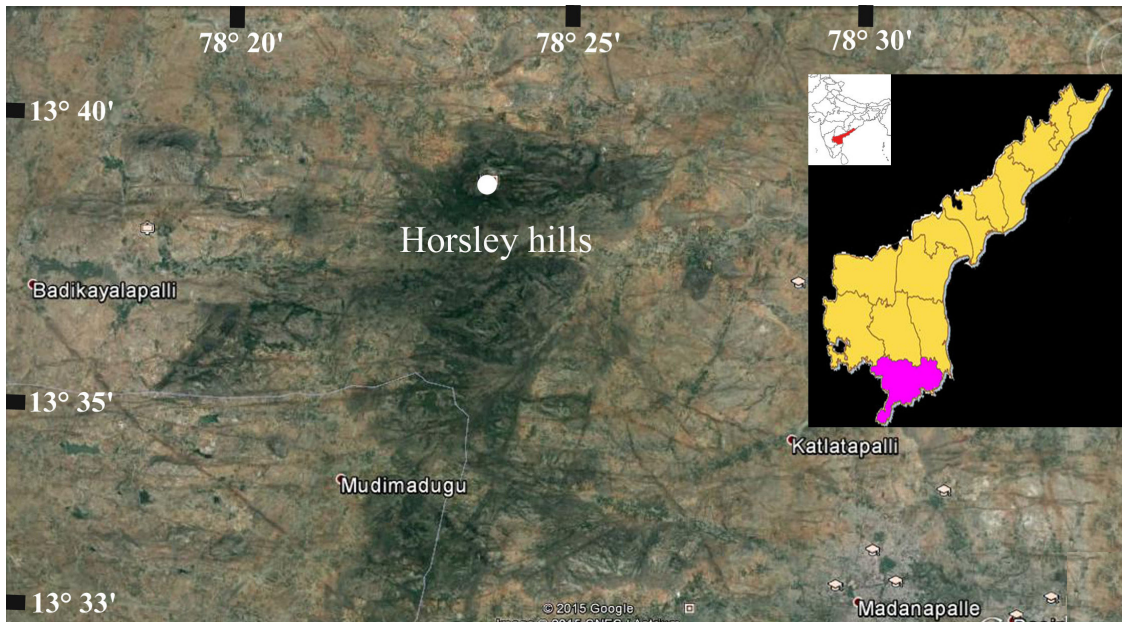


Image 2. Distribution map

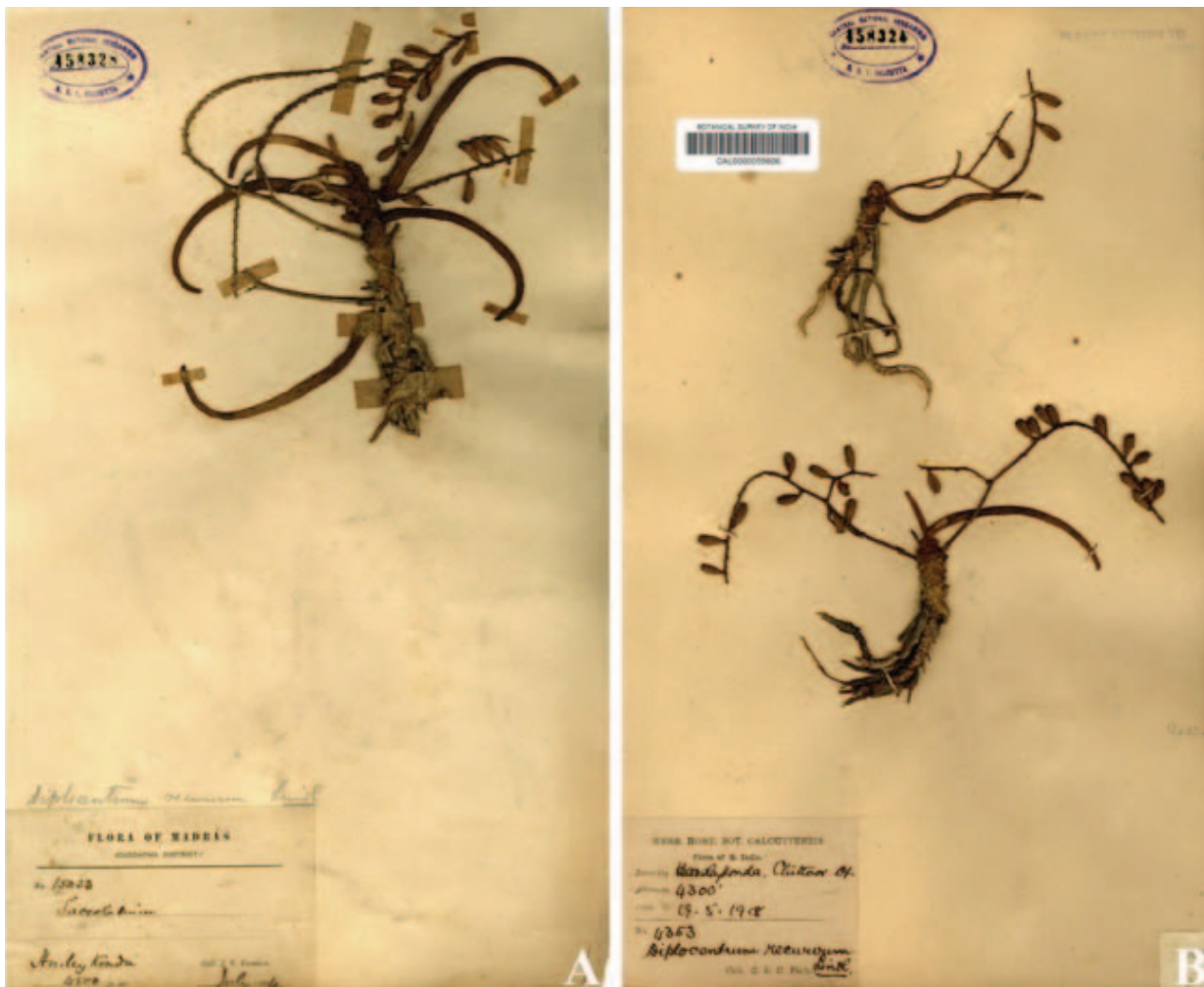


Image 3. A - J.S. Gamble collection (Field no. 15033-CAL); B - C.E.C. Fischer (Field no. 4353-CAL) collection



Image 4. Herbarium of *Diplozentrum recurvum* 1026 (SVUTY) deposited at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati

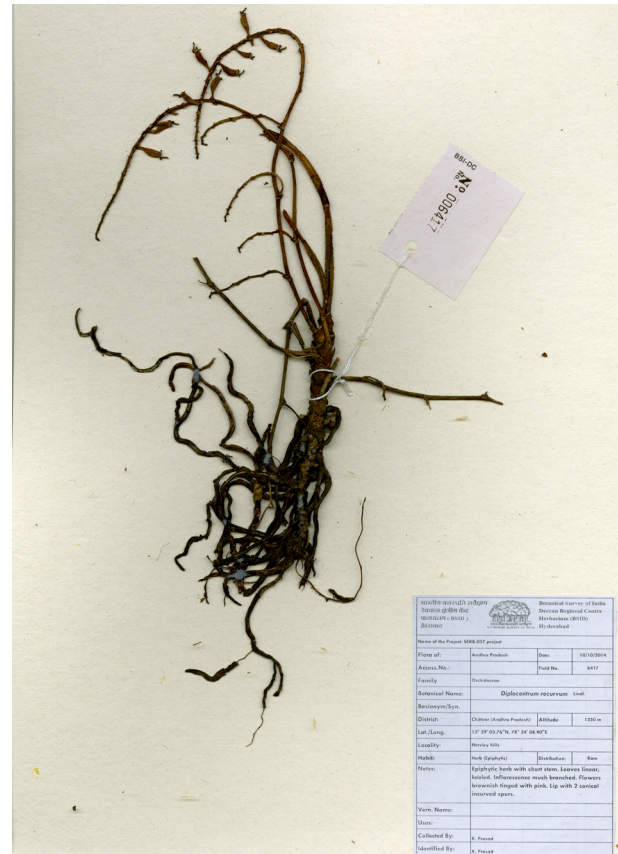


Image 5. Herbarium of *Diplozentrum recurvum* 006417 (BSID) deposited at Botanical Survey of India, Deccan Regional Centre, Hyderabad

at Horsley Hills. Presently this species faces threats in the natural habitat due to anthropogenic activities like fuelwood collection by local people, and due to plantations and tourist activities.

Distribution: Sri Lanka and India: Andhra Pradesh (Horsley Hills, Chittoor District), Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

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