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# A Genus *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntze (*Phrymaceae*): Addition to Flora of Kachchh District- Gujarat, India

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## ABSTRACT

Floristic survey of forests areas of Bhuj taluka of Kachchh district was carried out from 2021 to 2023. *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntze. the Genus was recorded as an addition to the flora of Kachchh district. It was recorded from Bhuj west forest range of Kachchh district. A detailed taxonomical description, photographs and other details provided in present paper.

**Key words:** *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntze, Bhuj- Kachchh, Taxonomic, New Distributional record.

## Introduction

*Glossostigma* Wight & Arn. First published in Nova Acta Phys.-Med. Acad. Caes.Leop.-Carol. Nat. Cur. 18: 355 (1836) (POWO, 2023). Six species of *Glossostigma* genus recorded in world and India having one species (BSI, 2023). Initially this genus was placed in Scrophulariaceae, recent APG III and The Plant List places it now in Phrymaceae. Globally this species is recommended in the least concern (LC) category by IUCN and also mentioned as a rare plant species in the list of endemic and threatened taxa of India prepared by ENVIS Resource Partner on Biodiversity, India, (2023) and Barik *et al.* (2018).

As a part of first author's Ph.D. work on the west forest range of Bhuj taluka of Kachchh district, during intensive field trips small herb of *Phrymaceae* was observed the mud place of pond by first author from the study area. After critical examined by using available literature (Shah, 1978; Bhandari, 1990).

This is confirmed to be a species of *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntze. Further confirmed by the comparing the digital herbarium images (K001117601) on the plants of the world online (POWO, 2023). This genus has not been recorded in Kachchh district (Thaker, 1926; Shah, 1978; Rao, 1981; Bhatt, 1993; Pandey *et al.*, 2009; Patel *et al.*, 2011). Therefore it's A new generic record to the flora of Kachchh of Gujarat state. The voucher specimens were deposited at Government Science College, Mandvi-Kachchh, Gujarat - India.

## Taxonomical treatment

*Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntze first described in the Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 461 (1891).syn. *Peplidium diandrum* (L.) Voigt in Hort. Suburb.Calcutt.: 503 (1845), *Limosella diandra* L. in Mant. Pl. 1: 252 (1771), *Glossostigma spathulatum* (Hook.) Wight & Arn. in FBI, Hooker J 4: 288 (1884). FPB, Cook T, 2: 299, (1905). *Microcarpaea spathulata* Hook. in Bot. Misc. 2:

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101 (1830). *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntz in Shah FGS 1: 497 (1978); FID, Bhandari M, Rev. Edition, 251 (1990).

Small herb, prostrate, mat forming in dense patches, aquatic or terrestrial annual, glabrous, Stems filiform, leaves 3-15 X 1-3 mm linear-spathulate, glabrous, entire, petiole linear, Fl. white-purple, 1.75 diam., axillary, Pedicels erect, 4-10 mm long, Calyx 0.5-1.5 mm long, brown to green, obtusely 3-lobed; corolla white or bluish, lobes blunt, lobes 3-5, 1.5-2 mm long, Stamens 2, enclosed in corolla. Capsule minute, oblong globose, 1-2 mm Diam.

**FLS & FRS:** October -March

### Specimen examined

India, Gujarat, Kachchh, Bhuj, Kutibandh, 23° 15'42.9" N 69°34'13.0"E, 3 February 2023, Kazbanu Sumra KZBH0011, (Fig. 1).

**Habitat and Ecology:** *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.)



**Fig. 1.** *Glossostigma diandrum* (L.) Kuntze : (A) Plant habit with habitat (B) Flower; (C) Capsule

Education a small herb growing on clay plain for marshy places and pond. *Ammania multiflora* Roxb. *Alternanthera sessilis* (L.) DC. *Glinus oppositifolius* (L.) Aug. DC., *Bergia ammannioides* Roxb, *Lindernia parviflora* (Roxb.) Haines. are closely associated species of this plant.

**Distribution:** This species is distributed in the India, Sri Lanka, west tropical Africa to north Kenya (POWO, 2023).

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