

DOMINANCE OF GENUS *CYPERUS* L. IN THE FLORA OF ETAWAH DISTRICT (U.P.), INDIA

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The genus *Cyperus* L. belongs to family Cyperaceae. Family Cyperaceae has 5 genera and 37 species of Angiosperms in the flora of Etawah district. Out of these genera *Cyperus* L. has 18 species. The present paper describes key of species of genus *Cyperus* L.

Keywords : *Cyperus* L.; Etawah; Flora.

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| 1. | +Glumes few (up to 14 in <i>C. compactus</i>) ... | 2 |
| | -Rachilla of spikelets deciduous.. | 14 |
| 2. | +Stigma 3, nut 3-quetrous.. | 3 |
| | -Stigma 2, nut flattened.. | 13 |
| 3. | +spikelets spicate, sometimes very shortly spicate, rarely subracemose.. | 4 |
| | -spikelets digitate or clustered.. | 9 |
| 4. | +Inflorescence compound umbel. Perennial with rhizomes and stolons. | 5 |
| | -Inflorescence spicate, Tufted annuals without rhizomes and stolons.... | 6 |
| 5. | +spikelets numerous in elongated spikes.. | <i>C. exaltatus</i> |
| | -spikelets 3-8 in short spikes.. | <i>C. rotundus</i> ssp. <i>rotundus</i> |
| 6. | +spikelets very shortly spicate.... | 7 |
| | - spikelets on elongated spikes... | 8 |
| 7. | +excurved mucros of the glumes. Stamens solitary.... | <i>C. squarrosus</i> |
| | -spikelets, 1.25-3.0 cm long, strongly compressed, glumes not or scarcely mucronate. Stamens-3.. | <i>C. compressus</i> |
| 8. | +Rachilla of spikelets pubescent. Dorsal glume 7- nerved.. | <i>C. alutatus.</i> |
| | -Rachilla of spikelets glabrous. Dorsal glume 3 or 5 nerved.. | <i>C. iria</i> |
| 9. | +Stout, rhizmatous perennials... | <i>C. niveus</i> |
| | -Slender, tufted annuals, without rhizome... | 10 |
| 10. | +Spikelets in compact heads. Nut smooth, as long as the glume. Stramineous or pale brown... | <i>C. difformis</i> |
| | -Spikelets on rays of simple or compound umbel. Nut minutely verruculose, marble- white, 1/3 as long as the glume... | <i>C. tenuispica</i> |
| 11. | +Flowering glume with reurred mucros.. | <i>C. cuspidatus</i> |

- Flowering glume obtuse... 12
12. +Spikelets in solitary head, Nut dorsally compressed, *i.e.* more of its width tangential to rachilla.. 13
- Spikelets in umbel. Nut compressed, *i.e.* more of its width radial or rachilla...
C. pumilus
13. +Leaf-blade short or obscure. Inflorescence pseudolateral because of a bract looking like the continuation of stem. Spikelets terete. *C. laevigatus*
- Leaf blade well developed. Inflorescence terminal; bracts leafy. Spikelets strongly compressed.. *C. pygmaeus*
14. +Stigmas 3. Nut 3-quetrous... 15
- Stigmas 2. Nut flattened... 16
15. +Spikelets in long, cylindric spicate, on rays of simple umbel... *C. cyperoides*
- Spikelets very shortly spicate or in heads, on the rays of compound umbel.... *C. Compactus*
16. +Rhizome short, tufted. Heads normally with 3-5 subequal clusters of Spikelets, though a few stems may bear a single spike... *C. triceps*
- Rhizome long, creeping. Heads normally of single cluster of Spikelets, though a few stems may have smaller additional lateral-clusters.. 17
17. +Spikes straw-coloured. Spikelets ellipsoid- ovoid, keel of glume distinctly winged... *C. kyllingia*
- Spikes green, Spikelets ovoid- lanceolate. keel or glume wingless.. *C. brevifolius*

Acknowledgement

I am thankful to Dr. B. K. Misra, Reader, Department of Botany, B.N.D. College, Kanpur for his concern and encouragement of present work.