

Notes on a new herb traditionally used by *Nyishi* tribe of Arunachal Pradesh

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New use of *Impatiens vidyae* R.C. Srivastava, traditionally used by *Nyishi* tribe of Arunachal Pradesh has been described and illustrated.

Keywords: Ethnomedicine, *Nyishi* tribe, Arunachal Pradesh

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Impatiens vidyae R.C. Srivastava in V.P.A.P.52 (4):264.2009. (Fig.1)

Herbs, up to 45 cm high; stems, branches and petioles succulent. Leaves oblong-elliptic, 6-12cm long, acuminate at apices, attenuate at base, distantly serrate along margins, glabrous, dark green above, paler below. Flowers bright yellow, ca 4 cm long including spur; spur ca 2.5 cm long, purplish and coiled below; stigma stout, yellowish white. Young capsular fruits whitish, ca 3 cm long (excl. stalk.)

Allied to *I. helferi* but differs in having very ornamental bright yellow flowers; presence of red-brown streaks on inner side of mouth of the spurred petal, and stout short white stigma.

Affinis I. helferi *seid deffiert in flores et folia.*

Fl. & Fr.: Aug-Oct./

Habitat: Along watercourses, stream, rivulets.

Distribution: INDIA : Arunachal Pradesh, Kurungkume district: Langro village to Sarlee. Common.

Holotype: INDIA : Arunachal Pradesh, Kurung Kume district, Langro village, *Bamong Taniang s.n.* 19.08.2008 (ARUN)

Etymology: The specific epithet is in honour of my wife Vidya, who has been a source of inspiration for me during the period of this work A

Traditional Use: Leaves are eaten (cooked in various ways and much liked by the *Nyishi* people. Since remote epoch

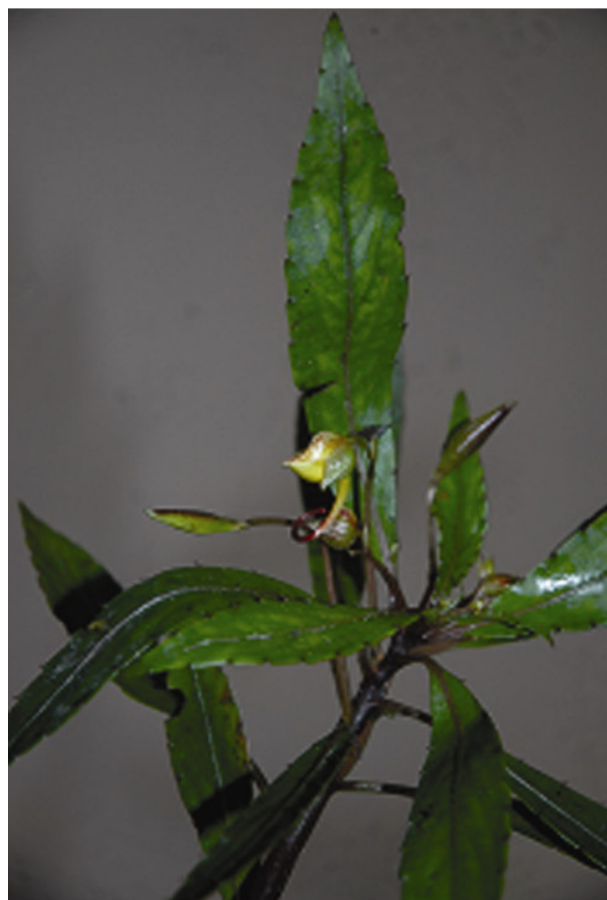


Fig.1 — *Impatiens vidyae* R.C.Srivastava

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