

Material for the present study was collected from Lal Bagh, Bangalore and planted in the Botanical Garden of this University. Root tips from potted plants were pretreated with saturated solution of alpha bromonaphthaline for one and half hours and fixed in acetic alcohol (3 : 1) for overnight. Root tips were hydrolysed in 1 N HCl, stained in fuelgen and squashed in 45% acetic acid. The chromosome length and the type are given in Table I.

Somatic complement of the species contained  $2n = 58$  chromosomes (Figs. 1 and 2). This is in confirmation of previous report by Pal. Depending upon the size, the chromosomes were classified under following types :

Type A—Chromosomes more than 2.50 microns in length.

Type B—Chromosomes less than 2.50 microns and more than 2.00 microns in length.

Type C—Chromosomes less than 2.00 microns and more than 1.50 microns in length.

Type A and Type B were considered as medium and Type C as small chromosomes. There were 12 pairs of medium and 17 pairs of small chromosomes. Among the medium chromosomes one pair of metacentric and eleven pairs of submetacentric were seen. There were four pairs of metacentric and thirteen pairs of submetacentric among small chromosomes and

## A NOTE ON THE KARYOMORPHOLOGY OF *HIPTAGE BENGHALENSIS* (L.) KURZ.

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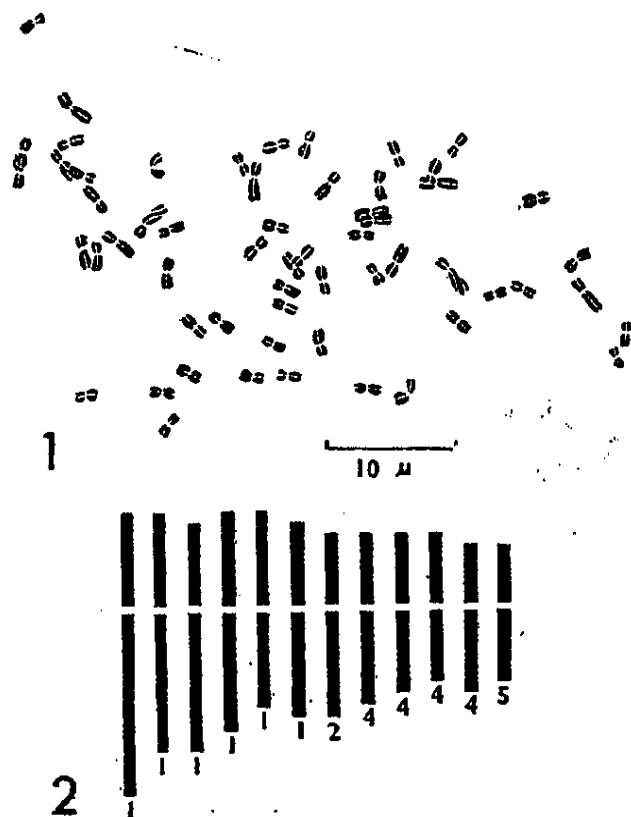
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*Hiptage benghalensis* (L.) Kurz. (*H. madoblota* Geartn.) belonging to the family Malpighiaceae is a large straggling shrub and distributed throughout hotter parts of India. This species is chiefly grown in garden for its fragrant pretty white flowers. Its chromosome number was reported earlier as  $2n = 58$  by Pal<sup>1</sup> and  $2n = 42$  and 56 by Roy *et al.*<sup>2</sup>. Thus the chromosome numbers of this species reported so far do not agree with one another. Hence the present work was undertaken to determine the correct chromosome number and also to study their karyomorphology.

TABLE I

Pairs*	Length in microns		Total length in microns	Type
	Long arm	Short arm		
I (1)	2.07	1.18	3.25	A (SM)
II (1)	1.76	1.18	2.94	A (SM)
III (1)	1.76	1.02	2.78	A (SM)
IV (1)	1.47	1.18	2.65	A (SM)
V (1)	1.18	1.18	2.36	B (M)
VI (1)	1.18	1.02	2.20	B (SM)
VII (2)	1.32	0.88	2.20	B (SM)
VIII (4)	1.18	0.88	2.06	B (SM)
IX (4)	1.02	0.88	1.90	C (SM)
X (4)	0.88	0.88	1.76	C (M)
XI (4)	1.02	0.74	1.76	C (SM)
XII (5)	0.88	0.74	1.62	C (SM)

\* Figures in brackets in the first column represent number of similar pairs in each group.



FIGS. 1-2. Fig. 1. Somatic metaphase,  $\times 2000$ .  
Fig. 2. Idiogram of an haploid complement.  
Numbers below idiogram represent pair/pairs under each category.

hence the karyotype is symmetrical. The karyotype formula determined is  $8^A(SM) + 2^B(M) + 14^B(SM) + 8^C(M) + 26^C(SM)$ .

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1. Pal, M., I, *Proc. Indian Acad. Sci.* 1964, B 60, 347.
2. Roy, R. P. and Mishra, N. C., *Proc. 49th Ind. Sci. Congr.*, Pt. 3, Abstracts, 1962, p. 335.