

NOTES RELATING TO THE FLORA OF BHUTAN: XXV
Boraginaceae. I. *Onosma griersonii*, a new species from Bhutan

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The new species *Onosma griersonii* R. R. Mill (Boraginaceae) is described from Bhutan. The species belongs to *O.* sect. *Maharanga* (DC.) C. B. Clarke.

***Onosma griersonii* R. R. Mill, sp. nov. Fig. 1.**

Affinis *O. emodi* Wall. sed corollis albis, caulibus dense patente hispidis pilis flavobrunneis longis manifeste differt.

Perennial? *Rootstock* unknown. *Stem* 28–30cm, slightly flexuous, densely hispid with spreading yellowish-brown hairs 1.5–4.5mm and an underlying indumentum of sparse, retrorsely adpressed, much shorter hairs 0.2–0.3mm. *Basal leaves* narrowly oblanceolate, c.20cm × 20mm, base attenuate, apex acute, greyish both above and beneath but the lower surface paler than the upper; upper surface densely strigose with long, weak, subadpressed, antrorse setiform hairs 2–5mm and also a very dense indumentum of very short adpressed hairs; lower surface with complex indumentum: midrib and veins with rather sparse long and short retrorse hairs, lamina surface densely and shortly strigillose. *Cauline leaves* narrowly lanceolate, 4–7cm × 6–12mm, spreading, with indumentum similar to basal leaves except that the long hairs on the lower surface midrib are patent, not retrorse, and the shorter hairs are much less dense, straight and closely adpressed to midrib. *Inflorescence* of 1–3 terminal cymes, compact at anthesis. *Pedicels* 6–9mm, densely patent-hispid with yellowish hairs. *Calyx* 7–8mm, divided to c. ¾, lobes narrowly triangular, hispid outside and adpressed-pubescent within, with long silky hairs along midrib. *Corolla* whitish-cream, urceolate, c.8–10mm, 4–4.5mm wide at broadest point, similar in morphology to that of *O. emodi* Wall.; lobes suberect or finally scarcely reflexed, densely and shortly pubescent outside. *Anthers* joined only at their bases, the sterile tips included in corolla or scarcely exerted, equalling corolla lobes, with 5 apical teeth. *Style* c.11mm, exerted from corolla by up to 2mm, glabrous. *Stigma* scarcely bifid. *Nutlets* unknown.

Type: Bhutan, Punakha District: Norbding, below Pele La, in mixed forest on steep slopes, flowers creamy white, c.2550m, 16 v 1979, A. J. C. Grierson & D. G. Long 1080 (holo. E, iso. K).

This distinctive new species of *Onosma*, known at present only from the type gathering, belongs to Sect. *Maharanga* (DC.) C. B. Clarke. It can readily be separated from *O. emodi* Wall. by its white flowers (in *O. emodi*, except for rare albinos, they are pink when young changing to bluish-violet) and by the stems which lack an indumentum of shorter adpressed hairs beneath the spreading setules. It is named after the late Andrew J. C. Grierson, who with David G. Long

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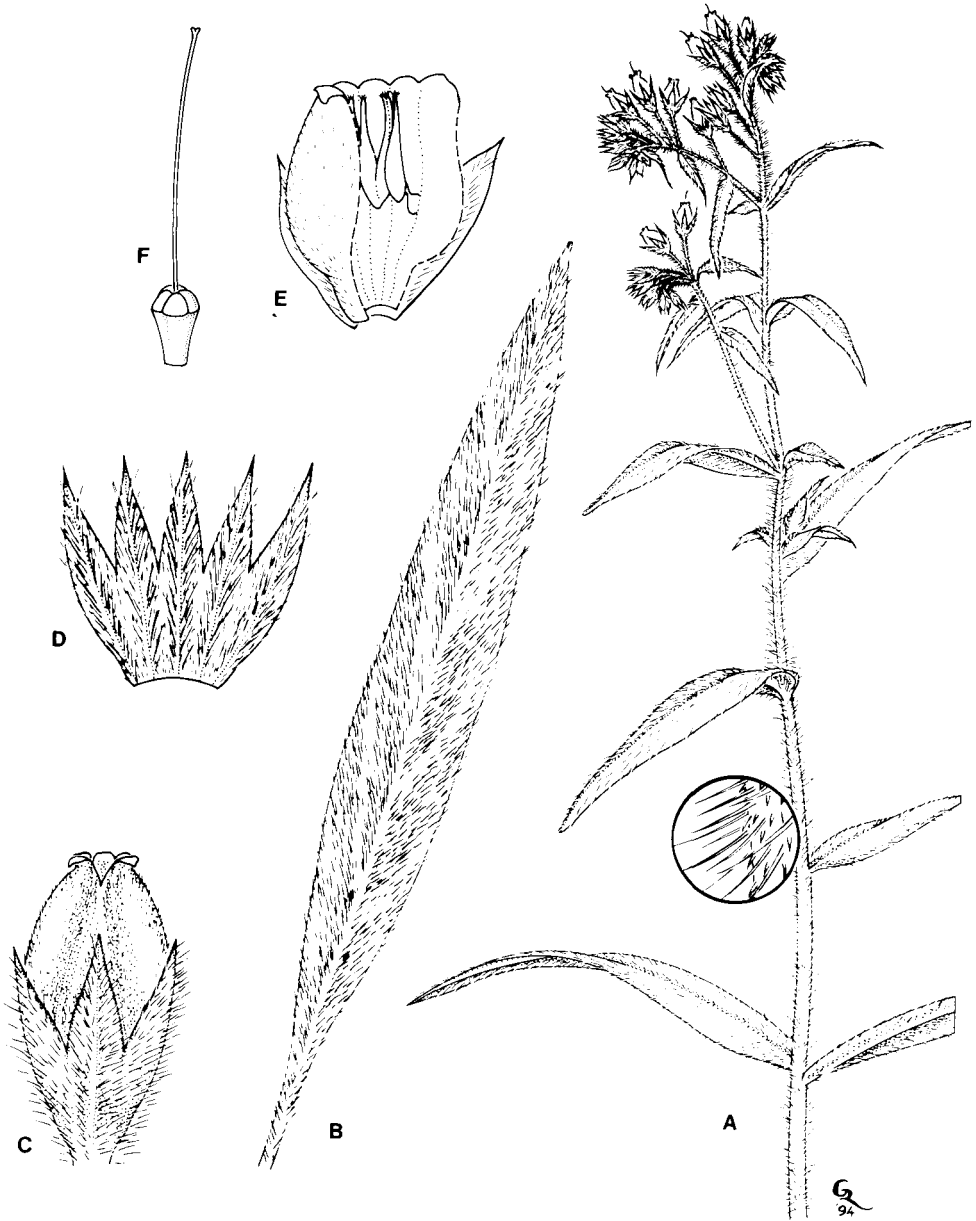


FIG. 1. *Onosma griersonii* R. R. Mill. A, habit ($\times \frac{2}{3}$), with enlargement of stem indumentum ($\times 20$); B, basal leaf ($\times \frac{2}{3}$); C, flower ($\times 4\frac{1}{2}$); D, calyx opened out ($\times 4\frac{1}{2}$); E, dissected partially opened corolla showing stamens ($\times 4\frac{1}{2}$); F, gynoecium and style ($\times 4\frac{1}{2}$). Drawn, from *Grierson & Long* 1080, by Glenn Rodrigues.

initiated the *Flora of Bhutan* project. The creamy white flowers are a good match for the colour of his hair in later life.

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