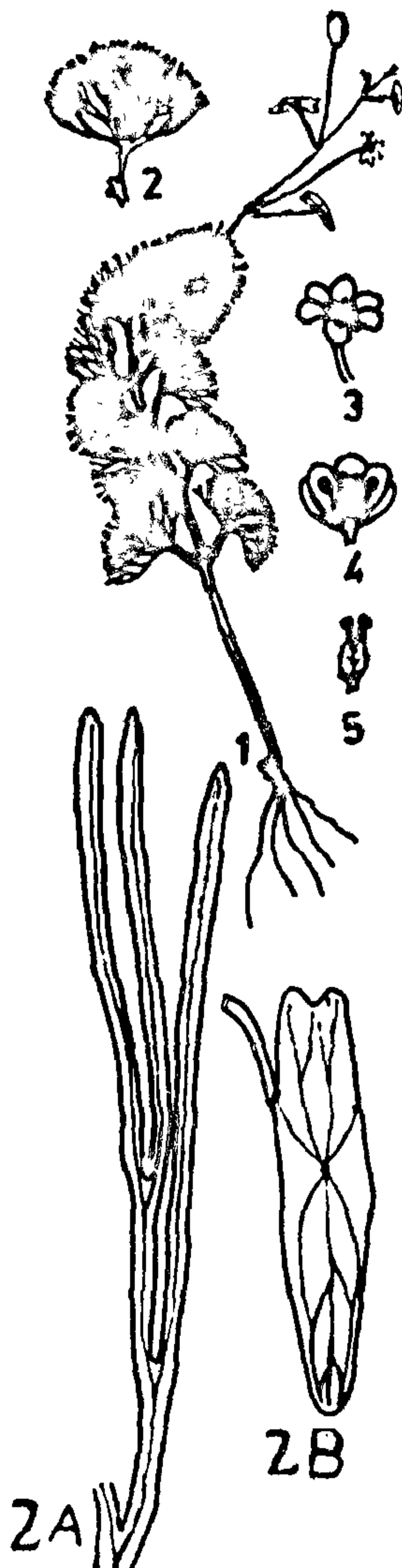


may find several plants new to India and some new to science world. The present plant has been deposited in the herbarium, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam. This species is reported and illustrated with a view that

the material will be useful at the time of the revision of the flora of India—a scheme undertaken by Botanical Survey of India.

Our thanks are due to Dr. P. S. Green, Deputy Director and Keeper of the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England, for confirming the identification.

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FIGS. 1-5. 1, Habit sketch; 2, Submerged leaf; 2A, Portion of submerged leaf (enlarged); 2B, Aerial leaf (enlarged); 3, Flower; 4, Longitudinal section of flower; 5, Carpel.

SOMATIC CHROMOSOMES OF AN ESTUARINE FISH, *TRYPAUCHEN VAGINA* (FAM.: GOBIIDAE) FROM SAGAR ISLAND, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

THE present communication deals with the diploid number, morphology and merical analysis of chromosomes in the males of *Trypauchen vagina* (Bloch & Schneider), on which cytological investigations do not seem to have been carried out earlier.

6 adult living specimens, all of which later turned out to be males, of *Trypauchen vagina*, collected from the creeks of Sagar Island bathed with saline water, constituted the materials for the present study. Slides for cytological observations were prepared both from kidneys and testes of colchicized specimens according to the flame-drying-Giemsa-stain schedule described elsewhere¹. Unfortunately no divisional stages were obtained from the testis, presumably because it regressed after breeding activity and in spite of some effort, no male specimens were available for the study of germinal chromosomes, nor could any female specimen be collected which could be utilized for the comparison of somatic karyotypes in the two sexes. The arm ratio ("r" value) of individual chromosomes in the karyotype was taken as parameter for morphological nomenclature following Levan *et al.*².

The kidney metaphase complements (Fig. 1, PM. 1) consisted of 46 chromosomes in the majority of spreads though a few contained 45 or 47 chromosomes. The diploid number in the male of *T. vagina* was, therefore, decided to be 46.

The karyotype (Fig. 2) revealed 23 homomorphic pairs of gradually seriated chromosomes that measured between 2.4 and 1.2 micra in length. The maximum difference in size between any two successive pairs in the karyotype was 0.21 micron (Nos. 1-2) and there was little difference between some adjacent pairs, e.g. Nos. 7-9, 10-11, 15-16. The differences between