A Survey of Flora of field weeds of Chambal Commanded Area, (Kota), Rajasthan*

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Weeds are among the most important enemies to agricultural production and their control is recognised as a major problem in any land development programme. Early attempts in controlling weeds were mainly by mechanical means and the use of chemicals was introduced towards the end of the last century. Before taking any step to control weeds specially by means of chemicals a thorough knowledge about their taxonomy, morphology and life history must be known because of selective and differential behaviour of herbicides.

Considerable amount of work has been done on weed flora by Kenoyer (1924), Singh (1941, 1950), Tadulingam (1955), Thakur (1954). In Rajasthan, work on desert vegetation and flora of western and North Western parts has been done by King (1879), Ratnam (1951), Sankhla (1951), Shanti Swaroop (1951), Sharma (1958), Bajpai (1954) and Tomar & Mathur (1965). Yet, information regarding the flora of South Eastern region of Rajasthan is meagre (Vyas 1963). As such a survey was initiated to have a detailed account of the weed species occuring in Chambal Commanded area.

The area commanded by Chambal River is about thousand square miles in Kota and Bundi Districts of Rajasthan, lying between 24°N to 76.8°E longitude and elevation around 750 to 800 ft. In Bundi district, tehsils which are covered are Bundi, Talera and Patan and in Kota district, Ladpura, Digod, Barod, Anta, Mangrol, Etawa and Pipalada tehsils are benefited by Irrigation either totally or partially. In area of about 7.00 lakh acres is envisaged to be given. With the introduction of irrigation rabi weeds have also been introduced which were rare in barani conditions. Kharif weeds were frequent even before commencement of irrigation.

CLIMATE

The average rainfall is 31" which encourages profuse weed growth in kharif season. The rains start from 2nd week of June and continues to end of Oct., July and August are the wettest months. There may be occasional rains

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about 2" during December and January. With average minimum temperature upto 56°F during winters upto 105°F during summer and average humidity between 20 to 75%.

GEOLOGY AND SOIL

The area is represented by stratified sand stone and the system of geological formation is referred to come under Vindhyan system. The area comprises alluvial deposits having gray or brown soils with or without kankar layers below 120 cm. A detailed classifications of soils have been done by Mehta (1958).

DESCRIPTION OF WEEDS

Survey of all the ten tehsils stated above has been done at different intervals in the year 1966-67. In *kharif* the major crops grown are Jowar, Til, Maize, Groundnnt, and Arhar. In *rabi*. Linseed, Wheat, Gram. Coriander, and Masur are taken. Weeds growing in these crops have Leen collected and identified. Some of the rare species were compared with the herbarium of National Botanical Gardens. Lucknow. The habit, habitat, flowering and fruiting time, their important morphological characters and methods of propagation have been recorded. Only Botanical name, local name, name of the crop and season in which it has been collected has been given against each weed. Morphological description has been avoided as the same is available in different flora.

ACANTHACEAE:

Justicia quinqueangularis S. Koess (Banya Bahu) v. common K. weed, Jowar, sunhemp, groundnut and Til.

Ruellia patula Jacq, common k. weed low lying places.

Rungia repens T. Anders-common K. weed Jowar rice.

AIZOACEAE:

Mollugo latoides W & A-rare k. weed.

Trianthema portulacustrum—(Bhabra) V. common K. weed Jowar, Til.

AMARA TACEAE:

Achyranthes aspera Linn. (Andhi Jhara) Biennial or perennial herb, waste places, shaddy corners of fields.

Aerua lanata Juss-Rare K. weed waste places.

A. Scandens Wall - do -

Alternanthera paronychiodes-common k, weed waste places of fields

A. sessilis Br. — do —

Amaranthus gracilis-common k. weed, all kharif crops.

A. spinosus Linn. (Choulai) common k. weed, jowar.

A. viridis Linn. (Choulai) common k. weed, jowar.

Celosia argentea Linn. (Murgi Ka Phool) V. common k. weed, Jowar, Groundnut. Til and paddy.

Digera muricata Mart. (Kaningera) K. weed. V. common in Jowar, Ground-nut:

ASCLEPIADACEAE :

Calotropis procera Br. (AK) Perennial weed, found on road sides and waste places of fields.

BORAGINACEAE:

Trichodesma sedgwickienum Banerjee. K. weed, found in waste places and Jowar fields.

CAESALPINOIDEAE:

Cassia obtusifolia Linn. (Ponwadya) V. common k. weed, found in waste places and fallow fields.

C. occidentalis Linn.

— do —

Sesbenia aculeata (wild Dhancha) K. weed, Jowar.

CAPPARIDACEAE:

Capparis aphylla Roth. (Kair or Karil) Perennial, found in drier portion and waste lands in the fields:

CARYOPHYLLACEAE:

Saponaria vaccaria Linn. common R. weed in Opium and wheat fields.

Spergula arvensis Linn. (Pittapapra) common R. weed, wheat.

CHENOPODIACEAE:

Chenopodium album Linn .- (Bathua) v. common in all rabi crops.

C. murale Linn. (Bhabra)

— do —

COMMELINACEAE:

Cyanotis cucullata Kunth (Mirza) very common K. weed, Jowar and Ground-nut fields.

Commelina benghalensis Linn. (Bokna Kankowa) - do -

C. forskalı Vahl. — do —

Commelina attenuata Koen.—common, K. weed. All crops

COMPOSITAE:

Caesulia axillaris Roxb. (Telya Kan) V. common k. weed. Found in paddy fields and along channel banks.

Cnicus arvensis Hoffm.—common R. weed. Gram, Barley and wheat fields.

Blumea amplectens DC.—Common R. Weed. Linseed, Gram Mustard and

Arhar.

B. lacera DC.-Common R. Weed. Linseed, Gram, Mustard and Arhar.

 $B.\ membranacea$ — do —

Eclipta prostrata Linn. (Safed Bhangra) v. common K. weed. All crops.

Erigeron asteroides Roxb, common k. weed. Waste places around fields.

E. linifolius willd.—K. weed found in waste lands and field channels.

Gnaphalium indicum Linn. Rare weed.

G. luteoalbum Linn. Rare weed.

Goniocaulon glabrum Cass. - do -

Grangea maderaspatana Poir - do -

Launea asclenifolia Hook F. (Jangli Gobhi) common R. wood. All crops.

L. nudicaulis Hook F. - do -

Pluchea lanceolata Oliv-common R weed. Gram, Linseed. All crops.

Sonchus arvensis Linn. - do - All crops.

S. oleraceous Linn. - do -

Tridax procumbens Linn. common k, weed, found in abundance in waste lands, fields, paths and Arhar fields.

Vernonia conyzoides DC.-K. weed Jowar and Maize.

V. cinerea Less.—(Jhurjhuri) - do -

Vicoa indica Trin. (Sundal) common k. weed. sugarcane, Jowar ground-nut and Til.

 $Xanthium\ strumarium\ Linn.\ (Adha\ Sishi)\ K,\ weed\ V.\ common\ in\ waste$ places.

CONVOLVULACEAE:

Convolvulus arvensis Linn. (Gopi, Hirankhuri) v. common perennial weed in all K & R crops and in waste places.

C. microphyllus Fuluous - do -

Cuscuta sp. (Amarbel) common weed. Found in lucerne fields.

Evolvulus alsinoides Linn.—Perennial weed found in open grassy places.

Iromoea hedaracea (Nil) Jacq V. common K. weed Sunhemp and sugarcane fields.

I. hispida (Vahl) R & S and sch (Kaglyon ki belri) - do -

I. pestigrides Linn.—K. weed found in waste places of fields.

Merremia emarginata Hallier F. (Pofri. Chapti) v. common K. weed, found in all kharif crops and in waste lands.

CRUCIFERAE:

Coronopus didymus Linn.—common R. Weed. All crops.

Sysymbrium irio (Jangli Sarson) - do -

Lapidum sativum-R. weed.

CUCURBITACEAE:

Cucumis trigonus Roxb. common K. weed, Maize Sorghum and Arhar.

Melothria maderaspatana (Lal Chirunkli) K. weed found along drains and waste places.

Memordica cochinchinensis Spreng :— (Kakora) common K. weed. All Kharif crops.

CYPERACEAE:

Cyperus aristatus-common k. weed, Groundnut and Paddy fields.

C. differmis Linn. common k. weed, paddy field and other moist places.

C. rotundus Linn. (Motha, Mogda) v. common perennial weed. All kharif crops and in waste places.

Scirpus royelei-common k. weed. paddy fields, Tanks and Marshy places.

EUPHORBIACEAE :

Acalypha Indica Linn. (Kuppi) v. common k. weed Jowar and Groundnut fields.

Chrozophora prostrata Dalz. commom k. weed, Jowar and Groundnut fields and in waste lands.

C. rottlers A. Juss - do -

Euphorbia decumbens willd—common k, weed. Found on road sides in fields.

E. prolifera Ham. v. common r. weed, waste places, Masur, Wheat and linseed crops.

E. hypericifolia Linn. common weed on road sides in the fields.

E. dracunculoides Lamk.—common R. weed wheat and linseed crops.

E. pilulifera Linn. (Badi Dudhi) v. common k. weed. In cultivated and waste lands and on roadsides in fields.

E. microphylla Heyne—(Chhoti Dudhi) - do -

E. rosea, Retz.-Perennial weed. In waste places.

Phyllanthus niruri Linn, (Hazar dana) V. common K. weed cultivated and waste lands in kharif season.

P. maderaspatensis Linn. — common k. weed, common along irrigation channels.

FUMARIACEAE:

Fumaria indica-common R. weed in wheat,

GENTIANACEAE:

Enicostema verticillatum Linn. Syn E. littorale.

GERANIACEAE:

Biophytum sensitivum DC. Rare, K weed, Jowar fields.

Oxalis corniculate Linn.—Perennial weed v. common along water channels.

GRAMINEAE :

Andropogon annulatus, Syn. Dichanthium annulatus Stapf. K. weed.

Apluda mutica var aristata Linn, common k. weed.

Chionachne koengii. Spr. Rare K. weed.

Chloris virgata, SW.-v. common k, weed,

Cynodon dactylon Linn. (Dub)—Perennial grass, common in all crops and waste lands.

Dactyloctenium aegypticum (willd) Beauv.

 $Digitaria\ adscendens\ {\it Henr.}\ {\it Sub-sp.}\ adscendens\ {\it Bor\ var\ criniformis\ Henr.}\ {\it K.\ weed.}$

Dinebra retroflexa Panz. - do -

Echinochloa colonum (Sama ghas) v. common Perennial Weed.

Eleusine indica Gaertn-k. weed, waste lands in the fields.

Eragrostis pumila-k. weed - do -

E. tenella R & S. K. weed Arhar and shaddy places.

Melenocenchrus royalanea k. weed - do -

Panicum trypheran Schult k. weed - do -

P. antidotale Retz. - do -

Setaria verticillata, Wall-k. weed Jowar and Maize.

Sporobolus indicus, Br.-k weed, Jowar fields.

Sacchrum spontaneum Linn. (Kans) Perennial weed in wheat crops and waste lands.

Sorghum halepense Wall-R. weed.

LABIATAE :

Leucas aspera Spreng (Guma) V. common k, weed. All crops.

L. cephalotes Spreng

- do -

LILIACEAE:

Asphodelus tenuifolius Cav. (Pyazi) v. common R. weed. All crops.

LYTHRACEAE:

Ammania baccifera Linn. (Tamnya) K. weed moist places and in paddy fields.

A. pentandra Roxb. (Tamnya) K. weed moist places and in paddy fields. Rottela densiflora—k. weed, paddy fields.

MALVACEAE :

Abutilon graveolens W & A-K. weed, found in waste places around fields.

A. indicum G. Don. - do -

Hibiscus abelmoschus Linn. (Jangli Bhindi) common k. weed Road sides and waste places in fields.

H. ficulneus, Linn—(Jangli Bhindi) common k. weed. Road sides and waste places in fields.

H panduraeformis Burm. (Kajlya) K. weed. Groundnut and Jowar fields.

H. trionum Linn. K. weed waste places and around fields.

Malva rotundifolia, Linn. R. weed, common in wheat, coriander fields.

Malvastrum mandelianum Linn. Garcke-(Santh) K. Weed.

Sida acuta Burm (Kharati) K. weed, Jowar.

S. spinosa Linn (Kali Kharathi) - do -

MENISPERMACEAE :

Cocculus villosus DC. (Sanratha) Perennial weed in Arhar, Jowar and waste places.

C. Leaeba, DC.

- do -

MIMOSOIDEAE :

Mimosa pudica Linn, (Chuimui, Lajwanti) K. weed waste lands.

NYCTAGINACEAE :

Boerhavia diffusa Linn (Santh) common k. weed. All crops.

ONAGRACEAE:

Ludwigia parviflora, Roxb-k. weed, Rice fields and moist lands.

PAPAVERACEAE:

Argemone mexicana Linn. (Satyanashi) Perennial weed waste lands.

PAPILIO ACEAE:

Alhagi camelorum (Jawasa) Perennial, found in all alkaline patches and cultivated fields.

Alysicarpus monilifer DC-Perennial, waste lands.

A. longifclius W & A (Badi Gual) K. weed Jowar, Til, Groundnut fields.

A. rugosus DC .- var. Heyneaenus (Choti Gual) k. weed.

A. rugosus var. styracifolius, Baker, k, weed - do -

Chtoria ternatea Linn. (Koyli) Perennial creeper around field boundary and hedges.

Croialaria prostrata Roxb. k. weed, around cropped 'ands.

Doliches biflorus Linn. (Bhanwar Lat Ki Phali) R weed. Coriander, wheat fields.

Hevlandia laterbrosa DC, Road side weed.

Indigetera cordifolia Heyne-k, weed. - All crops.

I. enneasphylla, Linn. - do -

I. glandulosa Willd (Jojhru) v. common k. weed. All crops.

1. linifolia Retz.-K. weed, along road sides and grassy places in fields.

I. tinctoria Linn. k. weed. - do -

I trita Linn. - do -

Lathyrus sativus Linn. (Jangli Matar) Common R. Weed wheat.

Medicago denticulata willd - do -

Melilotus alba Lamk (safed sanji) - do -

M. indica All (Pilli Sanji) - do -

Pha eolus trilobus Ait (Jungli Moth) v. common k. weed. Along bunds and fallow fields.

Psoralea corylifolia, Linn. (Bapcha) v. common weed of Jowar, Til, Groundnut fields.

Rhyncosia minima DC. (Teen patti) - do -

Trigonella corniculata, Linn.-v. common R. weed in wheat crop.

T. polycerata, Linn. - do Vicia hirsuta koch - do V. sativa Linn, - do V. faba Linn, - do -

PASSIFLORACEAF .

Passiflora foetida Linn.

POLYGALACEAE :

Polygala erioptera DC.—Rare K. weed, Jowar fields:

POLYGONACEAE:

Polygonum glabrum Willd-found in fields near river banks.

P. plebejum Br. var. brevifolius-found in waste lands.

P. plebejum Br. var effusa - do -

Rumex dentatus Linn. Near drains and moist places.

PORTULACAEAE:

Portulaca oleracea Linn. (Lunkya) common k. weed, G. nut.

P. quadrifida Linn. (Chota Lunkya) - do -

PRIMULACEAE:

Anagallis arvensis Linn. (Krishna nil) common R. weed wheat fields.

RHAMNACEAE:

Zizyphus mauritiaua Ham (Bare) Perennial weed waste lands.

Z. nummularia (Burn f.) W & A (Jharberi) — Common perennial weed of waste land and cultivated fields.

RUBIACEAE :

Oldenlandia aspera, DC-k. weed paddy fields.

O. dichotoma HK. f. - do -

Borreria stricta-Rare K. weed, Jowar fields.

SAPINDACEAE:

Cardiospermum helicacabum Linn. common K. weed, Jowar fields:

SAXIFRAGACEAE:

Vahlia viscosa Roxb.

SCROPHULARIACEAE:

Stemodia viscosa Roxb. (Basli Rukhri) common k, weed, Jowar and ground-nut fields.

Kickxia ramossima

- do -

Striga euphrasioides Benth (rookhri) common k. weed, Jowar fields.

Celsia coromandeliana Vahl-found in fields near river bank,

Lindenbergia urticaefolia

- do -

SOLANACEAE:

Datura metal Linn. (Dhatura) k. weed waste places and roadsides in fields.

Physalis minima Linn (Jangli ras-bhari) common k. weed, found in waste places, Jowar and Til fields.

Solanum nigrum Linn. (Makoi) v. common k. weed found on road sides, waste lands and in cultivated fields.

S. surattense Burm f. (Kantali) common k. weed found on road sides, waste lands and in cultivated fields.

TILIACEAE:

Corchorus aestuans Ham (Linn) Common k. weed Jowar and Groundnut:

- C. fascicularis Lamk (Jangli jute) v. common k. weed, Jowar, Maize, Til fields.
 - C. olitorius Wall-v. common k. weed, Jowar, Maize, Til and fallow fields.

C. tridens Linn. K. weed

- do -

C. trilocularis Linn,

— do —

Triumfetta barlramia, Roxb. common weed found in waste lands.

TYPHACEAE:

Typha angustata chaub (Era) V. common Perennial weed along drains and ditches.

VERBINACEAE:

Phyla nodiflora Linn. (Syn. Lippia nodiflora) K. weed found along drains in the fields.

ZYGOPHYLLACEAE:

Tribulus terrestris Linn. common k. weed found in waste lands:

STATISTICAL SYNOPSIS

Table I. :- Weed classification in different families, genera and species.

S. No.	Family	Genera	Species	Percentage of the total species
1.	Leguminaceae	18	31	16.49
2.	Compositae	15	22	11 70
*3.	Gramineae	17	19	10.10
4.	Euphorbiaceae	4	12	6.38
5.	Amaranthaceae	6 -	10	5 31
6.	Malvaceae	5	10	5.31
7.	Convolvulaceae	5	8	4,25
8.	Tiliaceae		6	3.19
9.	Scrophulariaceae	2 5	5	2,65
10,	Polygonagasas	0	5	2.65
*11.	Polygonaceae	2 2	4	
*12.	Commelinaceae	2	4	2 12
13	Cyperaceae	2 3		9.12
14.	Solanaceae	3	4	2.12
	Acanthaceae	3	3	1.59
15.	Cruciferae	3	3	1.59
16.	Cucurbitaceae	3	3	1 59
17.	Lythraceae	2	3	1.59
18.	Rubiaceae	2	3	1 59
19.	Aizoaceae	2 2	2 2 2	1 59
20.	Caryophyllaceae	2	2	1.59
21.	Chenopodiaceae	1	2	1.59
22.	Geraniaceae	2	2	1.59
23.	Labiatae	1	2	1.59
24.	Menispermeae	1 10 10 1	2	1.59
25.	Portulaceae	resident of 1	2	1.59
26.	Rhamnaceae	1.	2	1.59
27.	Asclepiadaceae	1	1	0,53
28.	Boraginaceae	1	1	0.53
29.	Capparidaceae	1	1	0.53
30.	Fumariaceae	. 1	1	0 53
31.	Gentianaceae	1	1	0.53
*32.	Liliaceae	1	1	0.53
33.	Nyctaginaceae	1	1	0 53
34.	Onagraceae	1	1	0.53
35.	Papaveraceae	1	1	0.53
36.	Passifloraceae	1	1	0.53
37.	Polygalaceae	1	1	0.53
38.	Primulaceae	1	1	0.53
39.	Sapindaceae	1	1	0,53
40	Saxifragaceae	1	1	0.53
*41.	Typhaceae	1	1	0.53
42.	Verbinaceae	1	1	0.53
43.	Zygophyllaceae	1	1	0.53

N.B.: - Monocots have been marked with an esterisk,

Table 2. :-	Weed Distribution in Number and Percantage of Families,	
	Genera and Species in Dicot and Monocot.	

	Dicot			Monocot		1000
	%	Number	% 1	Number	Total	
Families	88.37	38	11.63	5	43	
Genera	81.88	104	18.12	23	127	
Species	84.57	159	15 43	29	188	

Table 1 shows that except Gramineae, monocots are poorly represented. Out of a total of 29 species under monocots 19 species belong to Gramineae and rest ten belong to other four families. In case of dicots out of 159 species 31 belong to leguminaceae and rest 129 species belong to 37 different families.

Out of 43 families, 22 families are represented by one genus. Among the rest 21 families 9 have 2 genera, 4 have 3 genera, 1 have 4 genera, 3 have 5 genera, 1 have 6. The Compositeae, Gramineae, Leguminoseae are represented by 15, 17 and 18 genera respectively.

Out of 127 genera 89 are represented by 1 sp 25 by 2, 6 by 3, 4 by 4, 1 by 5, 1 by 6, 1 by 7 species. The largest genera Euphorbia, Indigofera and Corchorous having 7, 6 and 5 spp respectively. As far as the number of species is concerned all the genera are poorly represented.

Table 2 shows the proportions of monocot & dicot is 1:7.6 of families, 1:4.5 of genera and 1:5.4 of species.

The proportion of rabi and kharif weeds is about 1:3. Relationship of the flora:

Most of weed flora resembles with flora of south India (Tadulingam) Sabins (1929) and Nair (1956) in the reports of desert of Sindh and Rajasthan and that of Chairawa, reported dominance of families Leguminasae, Compositeae and Gramineae which are also observed to hold same key position in this region.

SUMMARY

A detailed collection of weeds in ten tehsils of Chambal Commanded Area, have been listed with a statistical synopsis in the present paper. Leguminaceae, Compositeae and Gramineae make more than 1/3 of the flora, these coupled with Euphorbiaceae and Amaranthaceae cover about fifty per cent of the flora. The remaining flora is composed of thirtyeight families. Except Gramineae monocots are poorly developed. Euphorbia, Indigofera, Corchorous have more than four species. Other genera are poorly represented.

Digera, Psoralia, Celosia, Alysicarpus, Rungia, Justicia and Euphorbia are very common in kharif season. Obnoxious creeping weeds of this season are Cynotis, Merremia, Trianthema, Convolvulus and Ipomea spp. In Rabi season Chenopodium, Sonchus, Trigonella, Medicago, and some species of Euphorbia are very common in this area. The only parasites found in the crops in this area are Striga euphrasioides and Cuscuta spp.

Certain crop weed associations need special mention because of their severe competition with crops and further studies are required regarding the relative losses and their extent due to such competition. Wheat crop suffers due to Chenopodium album, C. murale and Convolvulus arvensis, Paddy due to Ammania baccifera, Rottela densiflora, Cyperus aristatus and Caesulia axillaris. In kharif sorghum, pluses, Til, Groundnut, in general sustain a strong competition with Digera muricata, Rungia repens, Celosia argentea, Echinochola colonum, Psoralea corylifolia, Merremia emarginata, Cyperus rotundus, Justicia quinqueangularis, Vernon:a conyzoides, Vicoa indica etc: These weeds are very common and under favourable conditions of good rainfall even total crop losses in some fields do occur due to these competitions. Selective association of Cuscuta in Lucerne, Striga in Jowar and Ipomea in sunhemp are also worth recording.

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