Botanical Exploration of Saipal Himal, Bajura District, Nepal, 2017.

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Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh





Figure 1. Meconopsis horridula and Saussurea topkegolensis growing in a gully at 4500m

Abstract

The Bajura-Saipal Himal expedition was carried out in the Saipal Himal region of Bajura District in western Nepal by staff and affiliates from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE), the Government of Nepal's Department of Plant Resources (DPR) and the University of Tokyo. The aim of the fieldwork was to collect seed, herbarium specimens, and DNA samples to support the research programmes of DPR and RBGE and contribute to the Flora of Nepal project. The expedition consisted of six members, with three from RBGE, one from DPR, one from the University of Tokyo and one from Altai State University, Russia and affiliated to RBGE to work on the Flora of Nepal. The expedition took place from 4th-24th August 2017, starting and finishing in Martadi, Bajura District. 571 herbarium collections and 62 seed collections were made. One new species of *Potentilla* and possible new *Saussurea* have been identified so far. *Stipa roborowskii* and *Sehima notatum* are new records for Nepal.

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Acknowledgements

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Figure 2. The Expedition field botany team at 4400m on Chauki Lekh, Thursday 17th August. Left to Right. William Hinchliffe, Dr Hiroshi Ikeda, Dr Polina Gudkova, Jeevan Pandey, Dr Colin Pendry, Matthew Jackson, Mingma Sherpa, Pemba Sherpa and Padam Sherpa.

Expedition Overview

Our expedition took place in August 2017. The remote district of Bajura in Western Nepal was chosen, as current knowledge of the flora of the region is poor. The expedition coincided with one of the worst monsoons in years. Preliminary plans made in Edinburgh to reach the glacial valley to the east of Saipal had to be adapted and the final route of the expedition loosely followed a pilgrimage trail to the lake of the Goddess Budhinanda. This took us up to mountain areas that were used for seasonal grazing of sheep, goats and cattle. Despite the relative remoteness of the areas visited, the impact of human pressure was evident at all locations. Herbarium specimens and DNA samples collected during fieldwork are to be analysed as part of an ongoing, international project to publish *The Flora of Nepal*. The plant communities we looked at are changing. Seasonal grazing has a strong influence on the vegetation structure. The absence of intact woodland in the area is notable and the lack of regeneration in woodlands was concerning. This is typical of the situation across much of Nepal.

Seeds were collected for the National Botanical Garden, Nepal (NBG). Permission has been sought from DPR for the export of seed to grow at RBGE for research and display but has not yet been granted.



Figure 3. Looking to the head of the valley. Above the valley's headwall is the lake of the Goddess Budhinanda. This is a very important spiritual site. Thousands of sheep and goats are brought into the valley for summer grazing. The animals graze up above 4500m during the day, returning to lower ground in the evening.

Participants



Polina Gudkova, Altai State University. **Bottom row left to right**: Jeevan Pandey, DPR; Matt Jackson, RBGE; William Hinchliffe, RBGE

Objectives

The fieldwork was purely for scientific research and had no commercial value.

The primary aims were to:

- Collect herbarium specimens and associated data used to prepare the Flora of Nepal
- Collect seed material for cultivation at RBGE and Nepal's National Botanical Garden.
- Collect herbarium specimens, DNA samples and seeds from a poorly known region of Nepal
- Support one Nepalese staff member from DPR in fieldwork, further developing their existing seed collection and herbarium techniques.

Context for the Expedition

NEPAL'S BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

The *Nepal Biodiversity Strategy* 2002 (NBS) and *Nepal Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan* 2006 (NBSIP) described the current status of conservation activities in Nepal, and the plans to strengthen and build on them in the future. Both publications note that there are major constraints to conservation from the lack of accurate base-

line information on plant taxonomy, distribution, and conservation status. These data are needed to formulate effective action plans and are being compiled in the *Flora of Nepal*.

FLORA OF NEPAL PROJECT

The *Flora of Nepal* is a priority project in NBS and NBSIP. It is an international collaboration between Nepalese, UK and Japanese institutions which have signed MOUs to work together to produce the Flora. DPR and RBGE are signatories to these MOUs and have a strong record of collaborative research, which in recent years has included joint fieldwork, training and publication, e.g.:

- The Flora of Nepal
- Fascicles of the Flora of Nepal
- Darwin Initiative Capacity Building Project (2002-2006)
- Darwin Invasive Plants Project (2016-2019)

The Flora is a long-term project, which will publish an estimated 7000 species of vascular plants in ten volumes, the first of which was published in September 2011. A further three volumes are currently in preparation, with each of the partner countries coordinating work on a different volume. The project also has an interactive website (www.floraofnepal.org) which already makes data on the plants of Nepal freely available.

Justification for the Research

HERBARIUM SPECIMEN COLLECTING IN NEPAL

Herbarium specimens are the scientific reference collections used by botanists describing plant biodiversity. When properly named they also provide an authenticated set of reference materials with which to compare unidentified samples and voucher materials for occurrence records. It is vital that national herbaria such as KATH, Nepal hold a comprehensive collection of herbarium specimens representing all plant species from their country. Duplicate herbarium specimens enable scientists in different locations to work on the same materials, sharing their experience and expertise to enhance the accuracy of identification and develop skills, and enabling them to undertake collaborative research.

The collection density of herbarium specimens in Nepal is low in comparison with other countries, so we do not yet have a complete picture of the country's plant diversity. Expeditions regularly collect species not previously known from Nepal and even species completely new to science. Uncovering this diversity requires high quality reference collections and frequently also the expertise of international specialists.

Collection density is very variable across Nepal, with some areas scarcely visited by botanists. The Saipal Himal region is poorly collected when compared with other mountain ranges in Nepal, as shown in Figure 4.

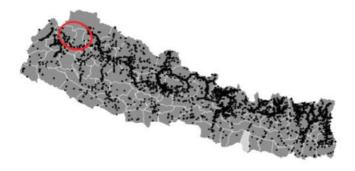


Figure 4. Distribution of all the occurrence records in the Flora of Nepal's taxonomic database system. The collecting area is shown within the red circle



Figure 5. Burned and grazed hillside cleared of trees dominated by *Cremanthodium ellisii*.

Research Methodology

HERBARIUM COLLECTIONS

- The expedition made herbarium collections of fertile material of plants using standard botanical collecting techniques.
- All herbarium samples were pressed and dried in the field using kerosene stoves.
- Herbarium specimens were collected in sets of at least four, with one set deposited at each of KATH, RBGE, TUCH (Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University, Nepal) and TI (University of Tokyo) the last two being our partner organisations and MOU signatories on the *Flora of Nepal* project. An additional specimen was collected for complex plant groups where material needed to be sent to an international expert for identification.
- The first set of all the specimens collected was deposited in the National Herbarium (KATH), and therefore type specimens of any new species will be represented at KATH.
- A small portion of leaf material from each collection was dried in silica gel for DNA extraction.



Figure 6. Polina Gudkova collecting a grass.

SPECIMEN IDENTIFICATION

- Specimens were assigned provisional identifications in the field and final identifications are now being carried out at RBGE and KATH, and for difficult groups by international experts.
- A preliminary list of collections with field names has been prepared (Appendix 4). Herbarium labels will be provided for these specimens once the initial identification process is completed (usually one year).

FIELD RECORDS

• Field observations of common, readily identified species (such as dominant trees and shrubs) were gathered to supplement the records provided as preserved specimens. These were given full location data in the database and may be linked to digital images as vouchers.

DATA COLLECTION

- Data for all the collections were compiled at the time of collection and were collated daily using a laptop computer.
- Electronic copies of the data and lists of the collections have been generated from the database and distributed to DPR.

SEED COLLECTIONS

- Small quantities of seeds were collected for cultivation at the National Botanic Garden where the plants will be used in educational displays and research.
- Seeds were also deposited at the short to medium-term seed/germplasm storage facility at DPR.

• We are hopeful that a share of seed material will be exchanged with RBGE under a Material Transfer Agreement that follows the Nagoya Protocol and in accordance with the MoFSC guidelines. The use of the seeds will be restricted to non-commercial, scientific research and educational purposes only and they will not be passed to a third party.



Figure 7. Discussing route options in Kathmandu.

Route

The area is relatively unexplored and there are very few accounts of the area. The first route option (Figure 8) was to have taken us from Martadi to Kolti then along the Kuwadu Khola (river) and up to the glacial valley below Saipal at around 3600m with higher elevations to explore up the sides of the valley. We would then walk out to Simkot and take a flight back to Kathmandu.



Figure 8 Showing the route planned back at the desk in Edinburgh.

A climbing team had taken the same route from the confluence of the Karnali and the Kuwadi Khola in 1992. *Evans. Saipal, 1992 The Himalayan Journal Vol.49. 1993.* They had attempted to use this route as a backdoor to climb Saipal from the glacier. Their attempts ended when an ankle was broken and a team member had to run to Simkot to arrange a helicopter rescue. Our expedition guides were unable to get clear advice on the suitability of

the route for an expedition of our size and the condition of the rivers and tracks would greatly affect progress. Figure 9 shows a mountaineer's view of the glacial valley bellow Saipal Himal.



Figure 9. Bikrum Singh, a young Nepalese guide, on the upper NE ridge of Saipal. In the middle distance, the fine, triangular snow/ice pyramid is an unclimbed 5,638m peak. The rockier peak to its left is 5,696m, also unclimbed. In the far distance lie the peaks straddling the Nepal-Tibet border. From left to right; Changla, Gorek and Kanjiroba Himals. Photo: Paolo Grobel 2011 American Alpine Club. The glacier below is covered with debris

from the slopes that bound the valley. This is typical of a Himalayan glacier.

The itinerary had to be very flexible and respond to local conditions (flooding, difficult pathways, landslides etc.) and religious areas. Due to the unusually severe monsoon rains, the schedule was reconsidered each day. There were many changes to our plans. The actual route (Figure 10) beginning and ending in Martadi (bottom left in both maps) was as much a response to the weather as it was to our initial overambitious route planning! It is very easy to underestimate the terrain when looking at a map.



Figure 10. The collecting points are depicted with red boxes.

Logistics

We engaged a trekking company that specialises in scientific expeditions in Nepal. Dawa Sherpa, the trek leader, has extensive experience accompanying botanical and geological expeditions across Nepal. Dawa arranged a team of around 40 staff to run the camps and portage between camps. Having the camp run by staff allowed the team to focus on the management of the specimens, seed, DNA samples and data. Due to the remoteness of the route porters carried all specimens. By the end of the trek we had amassed over 2000 herbarium sheets.

Daily routine

0600hrs – Wake, pack up. Dismantle drying frame, empty presses, pack up dry specimens and separate damp specimens for re-drying that evening. 0730hrs – Breakfast. 0800hrs – Leave camp for fieldwork, the camp staff would break camp and head off, marking the route to the new camp. 1700hrs – Arrive at camp. Unpack the field presses and arrange specimens for drying. Prepare DNA samples. 1900hrs – Dinner. 1930hrs – Finish off the presses and set up for drying. Add data collected from specimens to Padme (database) on the laptop.

Field work had to be coordinated and managed to ensure that a variety of habitats were properly surveyed along the route whilst still making the camp in good time to process collections.

Itinerary

01 - 04 Aug. Kathmandu

- Meetings with DPR, NBG and visit to KATH
- Visit Biodiversity Education Garden in NBG
- Meetings with DAWA Sherpa to arrange Trek logistics.
- Checking and packing up of expedition equipment.
- Purchase supplies and medical equipment
- Team briefings

05 Aug. Fly from Kathmandu to Dhangadhi drive to Sanphe Bazaar

We had hoped to make the drive to Martadi in one day but the road conditions deteriorated throughout the drive. Road conditions deteriorated so badly that we had to send back the 4x4s that we had brought from Dhangadhi and decant into a more rugged local 4x4.

06-Aug. Drive from Sanphe Bazar to Martadi.

07-Aug Martadi to Dhamkane.



Figure 11. Martadi Alt 2300m 6th August 2017. Our trekking began and ended here.



Figure 12. *Pinus roxburghii* wood-pasture viewed from Martadi. The lower limbs have been cut to provide fuel this also allows more light to improve the grazing. Many of the trees are blazed at the base to produce resinous kindling.

08-Aug Dhamkane to Pandusain



Figure 13. Pandusain 7th August. Children from Pandusain look on with interest as we set camp and sort specimens.



Figure 14. Pandusain 7th August. Women from Pandusain returning with foliage cut for fodder and bedding. Our kitchen and work tents are given the extra protection of a tarpaulin as rain approaches.

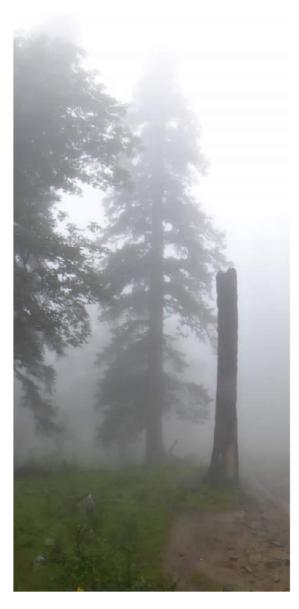


Figure 15. *Abies pindrow* in the valley between Dhamkane and Pandusain. The lower forest was less heavily grazed and wetter throughout the year. The dominant tree species was *Aesculus indica* with *Rhododendron arboreum* in small numbers. There were also tall trees of *Tsuga dumosa*. As we gained more height we entered a pure stand of *Abies pindrow*. The tallest tree was estimated at 44m. A ring count on a felled tree of 75cm diameter put the age of the tree at 240 years. The surrounding trees were of a similar size. With no regeneration due to the use of the forest for grazing this population is in decline.



Figure 16. Cautleya gracilis growing on the trunk of Aesculus indica in a wet valley



Figure 17. Colin trims down *Ligularia fischeri* next to the river swollen by the monsoon rains. The Path meandered in and out of the river as we followed it up the valley.



Figure 18. *Ligularia fischeri* growing in a wet *Aesculus indica* woodland bank in a natural setting. A planting that could be easily replicated.



09-Aug Pandusain to Nuri Khat

Figure 19 Looking down the valley to Kolti, which has an airstrip and a medical centre. Kolti would be a good place to fly into for future exploration of the area.

The previous day Polina's eye had become infected and we had to get it checked out before heading further into the hills. Polina was treated at the medical centre in Kolti and recovered well after being given antibiotic eye ointment. Without this treatment she would have had to leave the expedition.

10-Aug Nuri Khat to Dam Goth





Figure 20. *Capparis spinosa*. Specimen photographs were taken of all collections using black velvet as a background. To accurately capture key features up to 20 photos may have to be taken of each specimen. Photos are linked to the collections using Padme and will be accessible using the Flora of Nepal Website.

Figure 21. Collecting *Capparis spinosa* from cliffs in a dry gully



Figure 22. *Ficus religiosa* with a stone seat offering some welcome shade to the porters on a hot morning that soon turned into a wet afternoon.



Figure 23. *Quercus semecarpifolia*, wood-pasture. The *Quercus* is cut regularly for fodder.



Figure 24. In the woodland you can see disturbance where Ginseng is being collected for sale. The woodland was a good collecting site and contained some large specimens of *Tsuga dumosa*, *Picea smithiana*, *Aesculus indica and Quercus semecarpifolia*.



Figure 25. Collection number B26. *Phryma leptostachya* growing in the woodland. Once fertilised the calyx reflexes back along the stem. High quality images complement the herbarium specimens and increase accessibility to the fieldwork data. In this image you can clearly see the hooks on the ends of the calyx teeth.



Figure 26. Salvia hians growing in a meadow above a gully with large trees of *Tsuga dumosa* and *Abies spectabalis*. This is an artificial tree line at around 3000m. The meadow has been cleared, possibly hundreds of years ago, and is maintained by seasonal grazing and regular burning.

12-Aug Chauki Lekh (buffalo camp)

A lekh is a mountain ridge. Our camp was on a shoulder of the ridge at around 3300m. We camped two nights here, exploring the ridge in the day. The camp area was used for shelter by the buffalo and was heavily puddled. We climbed the ridge and carried out fieldwork on the way back down. This allowed for some acclimatisation to the altitude.



Figure 27. The north side of the Chauki Lekh is wetter and covered in a scrub of Rhododendron, *Betula utilis, Sorbus microphylla, Hydrangea heteromalla,* and *Acer pectinatum. Rhododendron lepidotum* in the foreground. The drier south face of the ridge had been burnt and was heavily grazed.



Figure 28. Hiroshi Ikeda photographing *Potentilla eriocarpa* var *major*, previously recorded only from Mustang District, about 250 km to the east.

13-Aug Chauki Lekh (Chorten camp)



Figure 29. The ridge was heavily grazed but rich in *Peduncularis* species



Figure 30. Bright blue berries of *Gaultheria trichophylla*.



Figure 31. The Chauki Lekh path is marked by gates with bells. Offerings of flowers are placed on the gate and the bells rung three times when passing through.



Figure 32. These gates are a striking characteristic of this region. A replica would be a great addition to the Nepalese area in the RBGE's Edinburgh garden.

15 – 17 Aug. Sheep corrie camp on the Chauki Lekh. Exploration of the source of the Buadi Khola and the high corries.



Figure 33. Meconopsis paniculata in seed.



Figure 34. *Meconopsis paniculata* in flower. Flower spikes to 1.8m tall.



Figure 35. Meconopsis horidula.



Figure 36. *Primula reidii* with its beautiful papery white corolla.



Figure 37. A wet gully at 4400m rich in Rheum, Cremanthodium, Primula, Meconopsis and Saussurea



Figure 38. Sharing camp with dozens of sheep and goats.

18-Aug Chauki Lekh (Chorten camp)



Figure 39. Our camp on the Chauki Lekh was at 3900m and was beside two chortens and a shelter used by pilgrims. The views from here should be fantastic but the weather did not clear at all during our time on the Chauki Lekh.

19-Aug. Descent to the village of Kuru.

Figure 40. The distinctive bark of *Prunus rufa*.





Figure 41. *Meconopsis robusta* in heavily grazed *Quercus semecarpifolia* wood pasture.

20-Aug Kuru

We stayed two nights in the village of Kuru. The village surrounds the floodplain of the Buadi Khola river. The floodplain had a parkland feel to it with specimen trees that were uncut. A network of canals and aqueducts carved from logs fed small watermills for milling grain. The 21st of August was spent collecting along the river, the meadow and river banks that were particularly rich in sedges. The village was truly beautiful.



Figure 42. Villagers chop a fallen tree for firewood. Locally employed forestry officers impose fines for the cutting down of live trees. Trees may be surreptitiously felled in the night and chopped up for firewood over a year later.



Figure 43. A local woman climbs a *Pyracantha crenulata* on the floodplain in Kuru to cut branches and snack on the fruit.

21-Aug Kuru to Kolti



Figure 44. Kuru villagers rest by a gate on the path to Kolti. The Buadi Khola river drops over 700m before reaches Kolti and the force it generates is fearsome.

22-Aug Porakhe Lagna. A camp near the pass above Pandusain.



Figure 45. One of our favourite plants of the trip was *Parnassia wightiana*. Found growing in wet grassy areas the fimbriate margins to the petals make it a stunning flower. Good seed collections have been stored at NBG and we hope to exchange them.

23-24 Aug

Return to Martadi then back to Kathmandu via Dipayal and Dhangadhi.

The personal diary of Matthew Jackson (Appendix 2) gives further detail of each location and field experience.

Collections Summary

A detailed list of the collections is included in Appendix 4. Full details will have been entered into the Padme database that outputs information to the Flora of Nepal Website. Photographs taken of individual collections will be published here once processing is complete.

571 herbarium specimens were collected and included:

- 20 species of Labiatae
- Potentilla 15 species, 1 new species discovered
- Stipae –1 new record for Nepal
- Sehima notatum, new record for Nepal
- Compositae 1 possible new species of *Saussurea* (BSH B122)

Large range extensions were identified for *Potentilla eriocarpa* var. *major* and *Saussurea topkegolensis*. Currently, half of the specimens have been determined to the species level (Appendix 4).

62 seed collections were made. Seed collections were kept to species of particular interest that would add to the living collections in the NBG and, hopefully RBGE.

Expedition Outcomes

Human capacity building

The DPR participant on the expedition, Jeevan Pandey, was further trained in fieldwork techniques, data recording, seed collecting and preparation, as well as herbarium specimen collection and preparation.

Institute capacity building

The collected materials (herbarium specimens) was shared between DPR, Tribhuvan University's Central Department of Botany and RBGE, for the use of research. The first set of specimens will be deposited at DPR (KATH), and these will be a significant enhancement to the national reference collections in Nepal. As a complete set of specimens will be deposited at KATH, any type material for new species or new records for Nepal will be represented there.

The collected seed will be used in new plantings at Nepal's National Botanical Garden, particularly the BEG, and has supplemented DPR's Seed Bank.

Staff at NBG were trained in seed collecting, processing, storage and sowing.

Increase in the knowledge of plant diversity in Nepal

The accurately identified collections will significantly increase the level of knowledge of plants growing in the study areas. These data will contribute to the national checklist and be used by Nepalese and foreign botanists in preparing accounts for the Flora of Nepal. All data, including photographs of plants collected will be made available on the Flora of Nepal's website (www.floraofnepal.org).

Publications

The research findings, including the expedition report(s), list of plants collected, additions to the Flora of Nepal and scientific publications will be jointly authored by Nepalese and foreign counterparts involved in the field research and all parties will have equal share in the authorship of research findings and ownership of data and copyright.

Troubleshooting

By the nature of this type of pioneering expedition, the route was likely to change and revisions were made on a day-to-day basis. The main aim of reaching high altitude collect localities was achieved. This was down to the experience of Dawa Sherpa, the Nepalese trek leader and his effective management and communication.

Any issues arising surrounding transport, camping, food, accommodation, movement of equipment were all quickly solved by Dawa and his team.

Cultural sensitivities meant that a planned exploration of the corrie around Budhinanda Javi lake, the source of the Baudi Khola, was abandoned. Respecting local customs and wishes is an important consideration when travelling in remote regions where few foreigners are ever seen.

Despite the severity of the monsoon rains, we were able to keep specimens dry in the excellent Japanese plastic boxes that Dawa uses on his trips. The only problem occurred in one bundle of specimens that included a *Roscoea* that had not been dried properly, and consequently it and several other specimens had begun to go mouldy. Luckily we noticed this problem before too long, and by painting on high strength alcohol with a brush then redrying the specimens we were able to stop the mould progressing and the quality of the specimens was only slightly impaired.

Summary and Conclusion

The expedition achieved its objectives and has substantially added to the botanical knowledge of one of the least studied regions of Nepal. Immediate studies arising from this expedition include *Stipa*, *Potentilla* and *Impatiens*. The Flora of Nepal will continue to undertake fieldwork in priority locations in order to complete this large-scale collaborative project.

Even without the heavy monsoon rains the original route was far too ambitious for an expedition of our size. Distances and terrain were underestimated. There is still no published account of the flora of the glacial valley of Saipal nor any herbarium specimens lodged from here. Whether the valley holds any exciting new finds is still unknown and there would be great value in accurately documenting the plant communities that exist there.

Any future expeditions in the area could save some travel time by starting the trek in Kolti but they would have to manage the logistics carefully to supply the expedition and transport specimens back to Kathmandu.

There is ongoing discussion to try to export seed collected back to RBGE. Seed from RBGE's Living Collection has been exchanged to NBG and we are hopeful that RBGE will be sent the seed collected.

A material transfer agreement is in place between RBGE and DPR. Permission for the transfer of seed was granted in 2016. RBGE follows the Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources to ensure sustainable development and benefit sharing. The politics and bureaucracy of permits can seriously disrupt conservation work where the ultimate beneficiary is always intended to be the country of origin.

Plants collected at higher altitudes cannot conceivably be conserved in *ex situ* collections at the National Botanic Garden Godavari due to climatic constraints. Alpine growers back in Edinburgh could easily bring them into cultivation for conservation as they have done with so many other collections. It was a missed opportunity not to bring back seed from this expedition and RBGE staff are working with DPR to resolve this issue. Any illegal export of plant material from Nepal have the potential to jeopardise the work of the Flora of Nepal Project.

Personal statements

MATT JACKSON



Having only learnt about botanical expeditions through lectures it was a fantastic and very enjoyable experience putting it into practice. I learnt how to press herbarium specimens in the field, make descriptions of the specimens and to take photographs *in situ* and portraits of key characters for later identification. I took responsibility for the collection of DNA samples from all accessions as well as the collection of ferns and fern allies.

Seeing the genera that I studied through my HND project on the Nepalese flora, and many more, enriched my plant knowledge not only in species but in species composition and natural landscapes which I am sure will be used later in my career through horticulture and garden design.

Working with scientists who specialise in their respective taxonomic groups such as temperate trees, grasses and Rosaceae enabled me to learn how to identify difficult groups in the field.

To see another botanic garden and the different techniques used was also fascinating. The National Botanic Garden has a lot of potential which I am sure will be enriched with the continued strong partnership between RBGE and NBG.

I am keen to go on more botanical expeditions in the future and to continue to undertake plant research during the Master of Science in Biodiversity and Taxonomy of Plants which I started in September in 2017 having been awarded a place whilst on this expedition in Nepal.

I would like to thank Dr Colin Pendry for inviting me as a third year BSc. Student of Horticulture and Plantsmanship (RBG Edinburgh) to join the expedition and for his tuition throughout the fieldwork. Heartfelt thanks to Simon Milne, Regius Keeper and David Knott, Curator of the Living Collections at RBG Edinburgh for their encouragement and references in support of my applications for funding. I greatly appreciate Dr Greg Kenicer's help in preparing for the expedition

WILLIAM HINCHLIFFE



To visit an unstudied region of Nepal was a fantastic experience. The human impact on the landscapes that we visited was evident at every location. To see plant communities so pressured by the dynamics of seasonal grazing surprised me and it was easy to draw parallels with the historic degradation of upland systems in the UK.

All of the woodlands that we saw were relics and in poor condition; with no regeneration and continued grazing these woodlands have little longevity and little resilience. Descending from the Chauki Lekh to Kuru, we entered into some woodland that had been cleared within the last 20 years. Buffalo had puddled the ground and enriched it with dung. The few remaining trees were regrowth from old stumps. One lone specimen of *Prunus rufa* was growing. If that tree is cut for fuel or fodder, it could be lost from that location. The threats are clear.

I am proud that the specimens that we collected, the data and the field notes will contribute to the *Flora of Nepal* and it has inspired me to continue to familiarise myself with the flora further. It was disappointing not to be granted the permission to export seed.

Despite the human pressures, there was still a great diversity of plant communities to observe. Some pasture is likely to have been more diverse than the woodlands that they have replaced. The plant communities we observed gave great inspiration for planting combinations back at RBGE. I hope to bring a more natural feel to parts of the Nepalese beds by trying to replicate these naturally occurring assemblages by splitting up an existing planting and re-spacing the plants to encourage more interplay and a loose natural feel. It is this quality inspiration that I am most thankful for. Through further development of the Nepalese plantings, I hope that we can continue to inspire more people to visit the country of Nepal, promote the work *of the Flora of Nepal* project and communicate the need to conserve the flora.

Appendix 1: Expedition Costs

Prepared by Dr Colin Pendry, Expedition Leader, RBG Edinburgh

Total Expedition Income	£	Total Expedition Actual Costs	£
RBGE Foreign Travel Fund	8925.00	Trek fee ($$28,100 = £3,703.33$ p.p.)	22219.97
Eve Bennett Trust	4000.00	Flights and airport transfers	4601.18
Davis Expedition Fund	4980.00	Visas	202.00
Hiroshi Ikeda (personal contribution)	3600.00	Equipment	1335.16
RHS	4000.00	Kathmandu subsistence	1675.11
Merlin	1500.00	Internal flights	1713.37
Kenneth Black (Hardy Plant Society)	700.00	Insurance (Matt and Polina)	395.00
Finnis Scot Foundation	3500.00	DPR daily allowance (20 x \$50 per day)	758.78
William Steele Trust	750.00	Total costs	32900.57
Total Income	31955.00		
William Hinchliffe Costs		Matthew Jackson's Costs	
Trek fee	3703.33	Trek fee	3703.33
Flight	960.54	Flight	705.00
Visa	33.00	Visa	70.00
Half of cost of seed bags	67.67	Equipment	436.00
One third share of DPR counterpart costs	1515.67	Insurance	200.00
William Hinchliffe Total Cost	6280.21	Half of cost of seed bags	67.67
		One third share of DPR counterpart costs	1515.67
		M. Jackson Total Cost	6697.34

Signed by William Hinchliffe 06/12/2017

Signed by Matthew Jackson 29/11/2017

Hinchliffe

Matt

Appendix 2: Matthew Jackson's Personal Expedition Diary

02-AUG

I arrived in Kathmandu early in the morning; Collin and Will landed later that morning. We collected the kit from the stores, which was almost an expedition in its own right, and then set it all up to check that it was complete and in working order.

03- AUG

We visited the National Botanic Garden and Herbarium, where Polina worked on their *Stipa* collections, while Will and I went into the garden to look around and see how the new Biodiversity Education Garden created by RBGE in 2016 was maturing

After that we visited the Department of Plant Resources where we met the newly appointed Director General and explained to them an outline of our plans of where we wanted to go to and what we wanted to achieve. During this visit we were given letters authorising the expedition and managed to get permission to collect seed but not to subsequently export it.

04 - Aug

All the team members assembled at Tibet Guest House for a last expedition briefing. The last items of kit were purchased around Thamel and final preparations were made for the next morning.

05-AUG KATHMANDU

After an early domestic flight to Dhanghadi, we drove to meet the Dhanghadi DPR Director, with whom we talked through our plans and the logistics for the expedition. We also had a brief discussion about the new ethnobotanical garden in Dhanghadi.

At 10am we took two Suzuki 4x4s and started the drive to Sanphe. It was my first experience of such driving conditions with the driver using (and needing to use) the horn for every overtake due to the numbers of: goats, rogue cows, tuk-tuks, coaches...

It was also my first experience of Dhal Bhat. All I can say is it's a good job that the UK doesn't have bottomless bowls!

It was with enormous excitement that I spotted *Roscoea* out of the corner of my eye as it whizzed past the jeep window. It was clinging onto the grassy walls, out of reach of the goat's voracious grazing. There was also *Ficus religiosa*, planted for religious purposes, by a riverside gravesite (or wedding?) One species is used for men and another for women.

During a stop for lunch, I found *Gossypium* and I asked the locals if we could take a seed sample back for the Nepal ethonobotanical garden. It was the first time that I had seen cotton growing.

Although I had seen *Lantana camara* growing in the Mediterranean this was the first time I had seen how much damage it can do to the native vegetation; it was good to see that people had been cutting and burning it as a control.

The roads were in good condition although the modern road surfaces did not continue all the way.

Finally we reached Sanphe Bazar by 8pm where we stayed overnight.

06-AUG SANPHE BAZAAR

I woke at 6am to see kites, with many torn or missing feathers giving them a ragged appearance, swooping low over the bazaar, looking to scavenge scraps off the streets.

Our second day of driving now found us down in the valley driving up alongside the river where we saw boys, herding their water buffalo, amusing themselves with a game of kabadi, their pitch drawn on the sandy banks. The road got steadily muddier and muddier until finally we reached an impassable section of deep ruts filled with sludge which forced us to get out of the vehicles to check it out and recce the route ahead. All of a sudden, we heard a powerful vehicle coming towards us at speed. It is a souped-up, all-terrain bus that hits the rutted road at full speed, bouncing through the ruts, caking everything in the vicinity in mud as the tyres start to lose traction. We decided that the cars are no longer capable of these road conditions and drive back to the nearest bazaar to collect a more suitable SUV with higher road clearance. The SUV had room for one passenger in the front and four in the back which was one seat short so I volunteered to ride in the back with all the kit. The back was covered with a canvassed metal cage but there was also an exterior footplate that I had great fun standing on, taking photos as we went through many large rivers and past steep ravine passes. In many places it was clear that bulldozers or diggers had removed recent, large landslides from the road. Towards the end of the journey, we realised that we had run out of properly constructed road when we passed the road construction team building the bridge over a river.

The SUV did its job and got us to just outside Martadi where we met the Sherpas who were to porter for the rest of the expedition. We had all got our rucksacks on when we realised, collectively, that our supplies of suncream was limited. Much to the amusement of the Sherpas I wiped fine clay all over my face like OTC camouflage.

After a twenty minute walk up hill we arrived in Martadi and "checked in" to our hotel and our last bed for 3 weeks. No time had been wasted though, we had already made our first collections which were then pressed in the best available space considering the heavy downpours outside. On this short walk I also saw my first Chautara which had an *Olea sp.* for shade. Chautaras are used by locals, but especially porters to rest and support their heavy loads. They are positioned on the ridgeline of a hill to maximise any wind and have a tree planted in the centre for shade. In the subtropical areas this was commonly a religious tree, *Ficus religiosa*. Dinner that evening was very civilised with a nicely laid table, another thing that wasn't to be seen for three weeks, along with a shower.

07-AUG MARTADI

After our last night in a proper bed we set off. Dawa was let down by a local pony man who failed to turn up as arranged. In the end additional porters were hired which took the total number in the porter team to thirty-four.

We only made three hundred metres out of Martadi before the science team's enthusiasm for collecting got the better of them possibly they even got a bit carried away at this early stage of the expedition. I got to lead us over the first metal suspension bridge which are being built by a government initiative and are vital to increase trade and communication between communities and access to them. Personally, I was really feeling the subtropical heat on a scorchingly hot day.

The hillsides were grazed, with *Agave sp.* grown for its fibre, as well as *Pinus roxbhurgii* which was easy to spot from a distance, with its more upright, denser needles in the inner whorl (it has 3 needles instead of the 5 of *P. wallichiana*)

Every conceivable piece of flat ground was used for rice; planted on the banks of the paddy fields were beans, as a second, minor crop, completely utilising every space.

We also found a Spiranthes sp. in hard-grazed grass hillside.

At the end of the day we were welcomed to a very misty campsite with heavy rain throughout the evening.

Having shot-gunned out loud the newest tent, Colin said it was Ikeda's which was fair enough, I proceeded to ask for the next best one and was rejected in preference to another expedition member, this continued until the sixth and final one. I loved my tent. It had seen many an expedition and it was a rather damp experience with frequent dripping from the centre, all 4 pockets and both doors. However, it was definitely preferable to sleeping under a tarpaulin.

08-AUG DHAMKANE

We woke to heavy mist cloaking our campsite which remained throughout the day. The morning was spent walking through great *Rhododendron arboreum* forest, where collections were made of a climbing *Hydrangea sp*. Still following the river valley upstream, the team walked through *Abies* and *Tsuga* forests as well as a very large *Aesculus sp*. on the riverbank. I made a collection of *Tsuga sp*. using the long extendable cutting tool.

Further along we stopped to collect a Begonia sp. on a narrow path cut out of the cliff face.

We had to hurriedly move our equipment out of the way when a caravan of water buffalo came through where we were collecting. Lunch nearby was spent at the waterside with a wall of *Hedychium* alongside and *Bergenia* above that.

Another collection later that day bagged: *Ligularia, Rubus indica, Impatiens spp.* Whilst looking around for a plant I came across a sterile *Daphne sp.* population which would have been wonderful to see in bloom! Will found a particularly large *Tsuga*.

In the late afternoon we climbed up to the saddle of the ridgeline and dropped into the next valley where the woodland was heavily stripped. Foliage was being harvested for animal fodder from the epicormic growth, leaving some short branches for footholds. Apparently, this was a technique used in the UK on oaks right up until a few centuries ago. Our campsite was halfway down the hillside, walking past many small communities where the children got very excited to see us. Word of our campsite had definitely got out to the wider communities by the evening as crowds of children flocked into our campsite with intrigue and playful mischief. So much so that a Sherpa had to guard our tents so they were not accidently broken whilst the children played. In the evening, whilst we worked on the day's specimens, the children lay side by side with their heads tucked under the tent flaps giggling away watching us work.

09-AUG PANDUSAIN

Unfortunately, overnight Polina's eye had swollen up at an alarming rate causing her great discomfort. So, we walked down the hill to the closest hospital which took a look at her but recommended that we sought advice at the next hospital in Kolti. By this point, the team were concerned for her health as there was no sign of improvement. On the walk to Kolti we made few collections as Polina was our priority, however, on the way back there was only a handful of species to collect anyway. I had spotted a fertile *Taxus sp.*, which was collected on the way back, in what looked to be a community forest as grazing was not present.

The weather was still persistent rain with some heavier showers. When we arrived at camp, Will, Jeevan, Dawa and Polina went across the river to the main town in Kolti to seek medical advice whilst the rest of the team looked at the maps trying to find a potential new route to take. Whilst they were in Kolti the rivers swelled significantly following rain up-river; the river that had previously been ankle deep and could be crossed in bare feet rose to thigh depth, rolling stones along the riverbed, so that it had to be crossed wearing boots. School children waited on either side for the water levels to drop like at a pedestrian crossing.

In the evening we could hear the jackals crying in the surrounding mountains. Apparently, jackals would cry from hill to hill right across Nepal's Himalayas – maybe folklore... but awesome to picture!

10-AUG KOLTI

Straight off the bat this morning we had to cross the river twice to traverse up the tight gorge in order to access the mountain range to the North. I got some great pictures of the porters crossing the river fully laden. It was steep climb up the burnt and grazed hillside, in full sun, very hot and exposed. Here we found *Sehima notatum* (a new generic record for Nepal!) and a couple of orchids, along with sightings of griffin and Egyptian vultures. We stopped at the top for lunch when the path levelled out there was a very beautiful *Cotoneaster sp., Drosera sp.* and *Rhododendron arboreum*. I felt rather than heard the whistle of feathers above my head. It was a peregrine in a dive and I watched it swerve past a pigeon as it had to abort its dive. We passed a teahouse that had a massive, ancient, sacred oak tree alongside it.

We were still trekking as it was getting late and when we got to what we thought was going to be our camp we found it had been deemed unsuitable. The porters were not impressed but, fortunately, those porters, who had made it to the real camp, came back with torches to give the rest a hand which lifted morale. Finally, we arrived in the dark. Interestingly, we were camped in a freshly felled *Cannabis sativa* and *Urtica* field which made for a rather fragrant evening. That evening was the first time that we came together as a team and processed our day's collections with machine like efficiency.

11-AUG DOKDA

Today we descended a little into temperate woods with: *Acer cappadocicum, Impatiens sp., Anemone sp., Thalictrum sp.,* the only downside was that it was also a leech zone. From there we walked out into a stunning, south-facing, sub-alpine meadow which was quickly dubbed "Staircase to heaven". It had been grazed lightly by cattle and contained: *Delphinium sp.,* Orchids, *Silene sp., Bistorta sp., Phlomoides,* the first *Potentilla sp., Salvia sp.* (Colin's special) and *Roscoea sp.*

My shoes were coated in tiny leaches, trying to squeeze through my laces. Then heavy rain came down so much so that the leeches retreated.

Will took a collection of *Abies* in the woodland below.

At the top of the hill, in thick mist/cloud we found *Sibbaldia sp*.

Walking down into the next valley we arrived at a rather steeply sloping campsite. Having a tent on a slope made life surprisingly difficult as everything had to be levelled by wedging things underneath. The table legs had to be collapsed completely.

We met a local who asked to walk with us for the remainder of the expedition as we were going into sacred land.

12-AUG CHAUKI LEKH (BUFFALO CAMP)

Due to the experience of walking up the spine of a high ridge, we decided to go back to camp to start acclimatising - mountaineer's phrase "climb high, sleep low". In the meadows we found *Rheum* sp. and *Potentilla* spp. At one point an eagle flew out of the mist straight over our heads. We also encountered a caravan of nanny goats carrying satchels which probably would have traditionally contained salt. Higher up still, more *Rhododendron* spp. appeared, along with *Gaultheria trichophylla* sporting bright jade fruits. Right up on the top was very exposed with high winds and horizontal rain. Here we came across *Taraxacum* sp. and *Leontopodium* sp.

As we lunched below the ridge in the shelter under an overhang we found Utricularia sp. and Rhododendron sp.

By that night the camp was starting to become a quagmire. Branches were placed by doors and main pathways to walk over.

13-AUG CHAUKI LEKH (BUFFALO CAMP)

Back up to the ridge for a few more collections in the morning. Carried on a bit further (1-2 hours) until we reached our next camp. The ridge top was very heavily grazed, leaving little of botanical interest.

When we arrived at the chorten camp right on top of the ridgeline. Such great potential for magazine-quality photos, except for the 30m of visibility. There was a traditional stone sheep shelter sheltered by a large boulder. The shepherds shelter behind the next large boulder. It was so refreshing to work on flat ground! Very civilised...

14-AUG CHAUKI LEKH (CHORTEN CAMP)

Walked further along the ridge line – still heavily grazed but within fifteen minutes from starting we found *Mecanopsis horridula* in a disturbed, rocky, but sheltered area. Pika were staring at us with great interest and I saw Hoopoes – the last thing I was expecting! In a stoney outcrop *Schrophularia urticafolia* and a couple of ferns were hanging on. *Betula utilis* woodland grew below on the north side of the ridge. We stopped for a collection of *Gentiana sp.* on the ridge and dropped onto the north side to a grassland slope where we collected *Pedicularis trichoglossa*.

The ridge then ascended very sharply and the path skirted to the left. As we were running late only a handful of collections were made. We found more *Mecanopsis horridula* in narrow scree bed.

As we started to walk down into the valley, the clouds finally broke and we could see the camp far below through the sacred gate with a Chautara. This was our base camp for three nights and was the furthest camp on the expedition. There was a large sheep herd in what appeared to be permanent grazing grounds. There were great facilities; finally, a really good river to have a proper wash. It was very cold and had the added benefit of an audience of the flock of sheep and the shepherd dog. It was also where we found the first bit of *Polygonum vaccinifolium*.

15-AUG BAUDI KHOLA

We decided to walk to the large cliff below Budhinanda Javi, the sacred lake. Turning the corner into the main valley we found a big, yellow *Meconopsis paniculata*. We headed up the main valley along the river in a classic U-shaped, glacial valley. There were now more *Pedicularis sp.*, *Potentilla sp.* and *Mecanopsis horridula* sheltered under a large boulder.

When we reached the cliff face, what a spectacular place! Numerous waterfalls cascading down with a large, dry, overhang in the middle. The ground underneath the overhang was terraced and we used it as the last campsite before the pilgrimage up to the lake. In the vicinity we found: *Primula reidii* (Lithophytic), *Mecanopsis horridula* (Lithophytic), *Saussarea sp., Corydalis sp.* and *Myosotis sp.*

16-AUG BAUDI KHOLA

Today we walked to the east up the ridge in a torrential downpour on a par with the rain on Benbecula OTC summer camp (Hebrides)... It was a steep ascent up to meadows in full flower; *Potentilla, Bistora, Pedicularis* amongst others.

Half the team scrambled up the rocky ridgeline as far as we could with steep scree gulleys on each side densely populated with *Rheum*. We found a nest of a blue-winged, large bird up there and collected some *Stipa spp*.

When we met back up for lunch, clouds were sweeping past giving glimpses of the other side of the valley. Walking over the ridge into the valley we stopped for another collection: three ferns, *Potentilla sp., Primula*?

17-AUG BAUDI KHOLA

Today we walked back to the site of our high ridge camp. We collected along the skirting pass as it was under collected on our first pass through and added *Caltha palustris* and *Juniperus sp.*.

I thought the weather might break in the evening and we would finally get some views of the Himalayas but no, although I did get some atmospheric, moody shots of the sacred archways.

That night we finished at a civilised time of eight pm and I managed to look at the Flora of Nepal and, even, played Dobble and Pass the Pigs with some of the Sherpas

18-AUG CHAUKI LEKH (CHORTEN CAMP)

All downhill from here! We dropped off the heavily grazed ridgeline and descended. Stopping off by a small patch of sparse woodland of *Prunus* and *Betula*, we collected *Sassaurea sp.* As we descended there were many, very mature, large *Betula*. The areas we were descending through had obviously been unsustainably grazed by livestock before as the vegetation did not look natural however, we found *Meconopsis robusta* growing in the meadow.

When we stopped to collect *Sorbus* and some epiphytic ferns, a lady was collecting a root of a plant for medicinal purposes for the stomach. A couple more minutes down the path we came across a mud swamp that was previously a field. It had been churned up by water buffalo. I hadn't seen a field in such a state before.

At the bottom of the summer grazing fields we collected *Lilium* and *Artemesia*.

The pathway got steeper and steeper and equally as churned up. It felt like this was the only path up to the summer grazing areas for all the livestock from the communities below. We were walking through large oak trees in a mature woodland, as we came out of the other side we had dropped below the thick clouds and into sunshine. A stunning view of the valley bottom below and waterfalls on the sides of the gorge was revealed to our right. Men sitting by their traditional hut, were weaving bamboo baskets for collecting fruits. The path now changed to an actual built wider track and levelled with stone wall to the outside. It zig-zagged down to the valley floor where we all felt a sense of euphoria on reaching the bottom. The sun was shining and it was nice and warm. We were surrounded by orchards. The valley bottom was wide and flat with an English parkland feel with large mature trees of *Aesculus*.

19-AUG KURU

We conducted a lot of collecting around the parkland itself by the river. This included visiting the mill house. When we collected tree specimens the local children gathered around in curiosity. Women on the riverbanks were washing clothes with their feet which created washing pools. We walked over the river on an impressive solid wood bridge. On the inside bend of the river we made more collections. There was an impressive, very floriferous and productive *Pyracantha* orchard. Some ladies came to harvest some berries to eat. We collected many tiny sedges and an *Equisetum sp*.

When we walked further upstream past the camp we found a family chopping wood from a fallen tree. A group of young men were walking back with large bundles of bamboo. We collected *Arisaema* and *Spiranthes*.

That evening I became rather ill. I was excused from dinner and I went straight to bed.

20-AUG KURU

To get to Kolti the next day the team followed the river downstream, moving from a temperate to a subtropical zone. The fields changed from millet to rice/corn fields.

I was still very dehydrated and not feeling well at all. There were also many landslides but at least the sun was out again. We made the following collections: *Cornus* and *Erythrina*.

At camp I was able to take rehydration salts and I had a proper wash which made things feel so much better.

21-AUG KOLTI

As we were reaching the end of the trip we agreed not to collect anything fleshy as they needed to dry within a day or two.

It was a long steady walk up the large valley. There weren't many collections as we had walked over it already and there are not many species anyway. We did collect *Taxus* sp.

We pitched camp at the top of the valley with Martadi at the bottom of the next valley over. There was a nice lake where I swam.

22-AUG PORAKHE LAGNA

The porters we had employed from Martadi screamed on ahead as they could finish as soon as they got there. We didn't make many collections this day.

When we arrived in Martadi we finished processing material and set the drier going as early as possible. It felt like the expedition was coming to a close, we had a nice dinner and then I walked out to have a shower without a headtorch - slipped and landed in goodness knows what! But I had a shower/whiskey/cake and a bed to sleep in!

23-AUG MARTADI

We had an early start so that we could finish processing all the material, get it all packed away and load all the kit into the trailer ready for the tractor to take down to the bus. We walked down to the bottom where we had been dropped off two weeks before. We couldn't get a car so we started to walk. The tractor came up behind us, I took advantage and jumped on - a very bumpy experience! I helped to load the kit onto the roof of the bus and met back up with the team later when they arrived at the bus.

I tried to sleep on the bus but it's a very bumpy experience! We arrived mid-afternoon at Dipayal with personal kit to fly with and specimens. We said our goodbyes to the staff and worked on specimens in the hotel's meeting room, sorting specimens into collectors A, B, C, D etc. We used alcohol to remove mould from some specimens that had packed away with an incompletely dried specimen of *Roscoea*.

24-AUG DIPAYAL

We said goodbye to Jeevan at the airport. I was so excited. I was on the left side (N facing) of the plane and I would finally get to see the mountains! It was cloudy. I could see the tips of some of the tallest ones, the Annapurnas. I imagined they were there by placing the flight magazine to the window. We arrived at the Tibet Guest House late that evening.

Appendix 3: Equipment used

Essential Equipment

Collecting

- Digging trowel: for digging up specimens as the roots/corms/bulbs are important characteristics
- Secateurs/extendable pole to collect large woody material where only the fertile (fruits & flowers) material is needed
- Camera and black velvet background for taking detailed close up photographs

Pressing

• Newspaper and field press to pressing plants throughout the day

The drying process

- Blotter sheets, metal corrugate sheets, wooden press-ends and compression straps for the specimens, in their newspaper, to be pressed in for drying
- Drying rack, foil-insulated skirt and kerosene burners. Presses sat on the elevated rack. Wick kerosene stoves are used for their slow gentle heat to reduce damage to the specimens during drying. A skirt clipped around the sides of the drying frame channels the hot air through the presses

Campsite set up

- Science tent: used for processing all the material
- Drying tent with drying frames and storage
- Kitchen tent
- Personal tents

Appendix 4. A Preliminary List of Collections

A1	Potentilla indica (Andrews) Th.Wolf
A10	Henckelia pumila (D.Don) A.Dietr.
A100	Potentilla leuconota D.Don
A101	Sedum L.
A102	Impatiens L.
A103	Ligularia amplexicaulis DC.
A104	Bistorta appendiculata
A105	Euphorbia L.
A106	Potentilla polyphylla Wall. ex Lehm.
A107	Rhodiola chrysanthemifolia (H.Lév.)
S.H.Fu	
A108	Sedum L.
A109	Rosa brunonii Lindl.
A11	Galium L.
A110	Umbelliferae
A111	Epilobium L.
A112	Rumex L.
A113	Plantago L.
A114	Polygonum R. Br.
A115	Chenopodium album L.
A116	Chenopodium L.
A117	Polygonum R. Br.
A118	Urtica H. Lev.
A119	Urtica H. Lev.
A12	Galium L.
A120	Caryophyllaceae
A121	Caryophyllaceae
A122	Boenninghausenia albiflora (Hook.) Rchb.
ex Meisi	n.
A123	Bistorta appendiculata
A124	Persicaria (Willd.) M. Gomez
A125	Hedyotis L.
A126	Bulbostylis densa (Wall.) HandMazz.
A127	Geum roylei Wall. ex Bolle
A128	Bupleurum Wall. ex DC.
A129	Bupleurum Wall. ex DC.
A13	Roscoea purpurea Sm.
A130	Stellaria L.
A131	Pilea Lindl.
A133	Stellaria L.
A134	Sinocrassula A.Berger
A135	Phyllanthus L.
A136	Smilax aspera L.
A137	Streptolirion volubile Edgew.
A138	Rubia L.
A139	Scrophulariaceae
A14	Impatiens L.
A140	Androsace L.
A141	Achyranthes aspera L.

A142	Molluginaceae
A143	Euphorbia L.
A144	Rosa webbiana Wall. ex Royle
A145	Impatiens L.
A146	Impatiens L.
A147	Parnassia wightiana Wall. ex Wight & Arn.
A148	Impatiens L.
A149	Monochoria C. Presl
A15	Galium L.
A150	Hydrocharitaceae
A16	Commelina maculata Edgew.
A17	Cautleya gracilis (Sm.) Dandy
A18	Begonia L.
A19	Elatostema Wedd.
A2	Galium L.
A20	Cyanotis vaga (Lour.) Schult.f.
A21	Spiraea L.
A22	Rubus franchetianus H.Lév.
A23	Bistorta Scop.
A24	Sedum L.
A25	Impatiens L.
A26	Impatiens L.
A27	Cyanotis cristata (L.) D.Don
A28	Ajuga bracteosa Wall. ex Benth.
A29	Euphorbia L.
A3	Commelina maculata Edgew.
A30	Solanum L.
A31	Euphorbia L.
A32	Jasminum L.
A34	Cotoneaster microphyllus Wall. ex Lindl.
A35	Rosa macrophylla Lindl.
A36	Impatiens L.
A37	Potentilla griffithii Hook.f.
A38	Sorbaria tomentosa (Lindl.) Rehder
A39	Impatiens L.
A4	Persicaria capitata (BuchHam. ex D.Don)
H.Gross	_
A40	Impatiens L.
A41	Impatiens L.
A42	Cotoneaster Medik.
A43	Arisaema consanguineum Schott
A44	Arisaema tortuosum (Wall.) Schott
A45	Urticaceae
A46	Impatiens L.
A47	Impatiens L.
A48	Cremanthodium arnicoides (DC. ex Royle)
R. Good	-
A49	Potentilla atrosanguinea Lodd.
A5	Impatiens L.

A50 Bistorta affinis (D.Don) Greene A51 Rhodiola wallichiana (Hook.) S.H.Fu Rhodiola bupleuroides (Wall. ex Hook.f. & A52 Thomson) S.H.Fu A53 Crucihimalaya himalaica (Edgew.) Al-Shehbaz, O'Kane & R.A.Price A54 Potentilla eriocarpa var. major Murata A55 Potentilla festiva Soják A56 Aconogonon molle (D.Don) H.Hara Oxygraphis endlicheri (Walp.) Bennet & A57 Sum.Chandra A58 Saxifraga L. A59 Potentilla fruticosa L. A6 Leptodermis Wall. Rosa sericea Lindl. A60 Galium L. A61 Galium L. A62 Euphorbia L. A63 Rhodiola L. A64 A65 Saxifraga L. A66 Parnassia nubicola Wall. ex Royle A67 Impatiens L. A68 Valeriana hardwickii Wall. A69 Potentilla cuneata Wall. ex Lehm. A7 Agrimonia L. A70 Boraginaceae A71 Onosma L. A72 Potentilla peduncularis D.Don A73 Potentilla x micropeduncularis H.Ikeda & H.Ohba A74 Impatiens L. A75 Saxifraga L. A76 Bistorta vivipara (L.) Gray A77 Bistorta macrophylla (D.Don) Sojak A78 Saxifraga L. A79 Impatiens L. A8 Impatiens L. A80 Sanguisorba diandra (Hook.f.) Nordborg A81 Oxyria digyna (L.) Hill Gypsophila L. A82 Rhodiola L. A83 A84 Rhodiola L. A85 Sibbaldia cuneata Hornem. ex Kuntze A86 Sibbaldia macropetala Murav. Caltha palustris L. A87 A88 Bistorta affinis (D.Don) Greene A89 Potentilla x micropeduncularis H.Ikeda & H.Ohba A9 Houttuynia cordata Thunb. A90 Bistorta affinis (D.Don) Greene A91 Sibbaldia purpurea Royle

A92 Potentilla L.

- A93 Potentilla peduncularis D.Don A94 Potentilla commutata Lehm. var. commutata Potentilla tristis Soják A95 A96 Geum elatum Wall. ex G.Don A97 Saxifraga L. A98 Potentilla microphylla D.Don A99 Potentilla x micropeduncularis H.Ikeda & H.Ohba B1 Unknown B10 Apocynaceae B100 Aster diplostephioides (DC.) C. B. Clarke B101 Meconopsis paniculata (D.Don) Prain B102 Saussurea auriculata (DC.) Sch. Bip. B103 Saxifraga L. B104 Myosotis L. Corydalis DC. nom cons. B105 B106 Primula reidii Duthie B107 Corydalis DC. nom cons. B108 Cremanthodium ellisii (Hook. f.) Kitam. ex Kitam. & Gould B109 Saxifraga L. B11 Fern B110 Microula Benth. Leontopodium himalayanum DC. B111 B112 Saussurea topkegolensis H. Ohba & S. Akiyama B113 Rheum australe D.Don B114 Myosotis L. B115 Geranium donianum Sweet B116 Pedicularis siphonantha D.Don B117 Campanula aristata Wall. Draba gracillima Hook.f. & Thomson B118 B119 Caryophyllaceae B12 Origanum vulgare L. Primula L. B120 B121 Cyananthus lobatus Wall. ex Benth. B122 Saussurea chrysotricha Ludlow B123 Pedicularis pectinata Wall. ex Benth. B124 Caltha palustris L. B125 Boraginaceae B126 Cynoglossum L. B127 Nardostachys grandiflora DC. B128 Draba amoena O.E.Schulz B129 Draba amoena O.E.Schulz B13 Bupleurum Wall. ex DC. B130 Senecio kunthianus Wall. ex DC. B131 Erigeron multiradiatus (Lindl. ex DC.) C.
- B. Clarke
- B132 Anaphalis contorta (D.Don) Hook. f.
- B133 Anaphalis royleana DC.
- B134 Senecio raphanifolius Wall. ex DC.

B135 Saussurea nimborum W.W.Sm. B136 Jurinea dolomiaea Boiss. B137 Dubyaea hispida DC. B138 Meconopsis robusta Hook.f. & Thomson B139 Myriactis wallichii Less. B14 Hedyotis lindleyana Hook. ex Wight & Arn. B140 Delphinium vestitum Wall. ex Royle B141 Doronicum kamaonense (DC.) Álv. Fern. B142 Artemisia incisa Pamp. B143 Anaphalis Hook. f. B144 Holboellia latifolia var. angustifolia (Wall.) Hook.f. & Thomson B145 Scurrula elata (Edgew.) Danser B146 Aster ageratoides Turcz. B147 Pseudognaphalium affine (D.Don) Anderb. B148 Conyza bonariensis (L.) Cronquist B149 Conyza stricta Willd. B15 Clinopodium umbrosum (M. Bieb.) C. Koch B150 Geranium nepalense Sweet B151 Corydalis DC. nom cons. B152 Viola L. B153 Crucihimalaya lasiocarpa (Hook.f. & Thomson) Al-Shehbaz, O'Kane & R.A.Price B154 Scrophularia Wall. ex Benth. Trigonella pubescens Edgew. ex Baker B155 B156 Geranium robertianum L. B157 Solanum L. B158 Sopubia Buch.-Ham. ex D.Don B159 Dicliptera bupleuroides Nees B16 Scrophulariaceae B160 Erigeron karvinskianus DC. B161 Lindenbergia muraria (Roxb. ex D.Don) Bruhl B162 biflora Micromeria (Buch.-Ham. ex D.Don) Benth. B163 Leucas lanata Benth. B164 Mentha royleana Wall. ex Benth. B165 Scrophularia Wall. ex Benth. B166 Lindernia All. B167 Stellaria L. B168 Justicia pubigera (Nees) C.B.Clarke B169 Sigesbeckia orientalis L. B17 Begonia L. B170 Henckelia pumila (D.Don) A.Dietr. B171 Polygala persicariifolia DC. B172 Ipomoea purpurea (L.) Roth. B173 Justicia simplex D.Don B174 Bidens pilosa L. B175 Barleria cristata L. B176 Unknown

B176 Anaphalis Hook. f. B18 Begonia L. B19 Hypericum himalaicum N. Robson B2 Peperomia Ruiz & Pav. **B20** Stellaria L. B21 Verbascum thapsus L. B22 Oxalis L. B23 Desmodium elegans DC. B24 Fagopyrum Mill. B25 Strobilanthes C. B. Clarke B26 Myriactis nepalensis Less. B27 Conyza canadensis (L.) Cronquist B28 Hydrangea anomala D.Don B29 Begonia L. B3 Erigeron bonariensis L. B30 Scurrula elata (Edgew.) Danser Didymocarpus aromaticus Wall. ex D.Don B31 B32 Indigofera atropurpurea Buch.-Ham. ex Hornem. **B**33 Berberis aristata DC. B34 Lyonia Nutt. B35 Isodon coetsa (Buch.-Ham. ex D.Don) Kudô B36 Boenninghausenia albiflora (Hook.) Rchb. ex Meisn. B37 Platystemma violoides Wall. Ligularia fischeri (Ledeb.) Turcz. **B**38 **B**39 Lecanthus Wedd. Galinsoga ciliata (Raf.) Blake B4 B40 Phlomoides macrophylla (Wall. ex Benth.) Kamelin & Makhm. B41 Notochaete hamosa Benth. Stachys melissifolia Benth. B42 Micromeria biflora (Buch.-Ham. B43 ex D.Don) Benth. B44 Leucas cephalotes (Roth) Spreng. B45 Vitex negundo L. B46 Capparis spinosa L. B47 Launaea secunda (C. B. Clarke) Hook.f. Pedicularis bifida (Buch.-Ham. ex D.Don) B48 Pennell B49 Polygala abyssinica R. Br. ex Fresen. B5 Cynoglossum L. **B50** Eriosema himalaicum H. Ohashi Geranium nepalense Sweet B51 Salvia moorcroftiana Wall. ex Benth. B52 B53 Leguminosae B54 Androsace L. Stachys sericea Wall. ex Benth. B55 B56 Salvia nubicola Wall. ex Sweet B57 Desmodium DC. **B58** Stachys melissifolia Benth.

D.50	
B59	Anemone vitifolia BuchHam. ex DC.
B6	Cynoglossum L.
B60	Anemone rivularis BuchHam. ex DC.
B61	Carpesium nepalense Less.
B62	Achyranthes aspera L.
B63	Strobilanthes C. B. Clarke
B64	Panax pseudo-ginseng Wall.
B65	Ranunculus diffusus DC.
B66	Circaea L.
B67	Phryma leptostachya var. oblongifolia
(Koidz.) Honda
B68	Wulfenia Jacq.
B69	Scutellaria L.
B7	Cirsium wallichii DC.
B70	Pedicularis gracilis Wall. ex Benth.
B71	Veronica deltigera Wall. ex Benth.
B72	Salvia hians Royle ex Benth.
B73	Tanacetum dolichophyllum (Kitam.)
Kitam.	
B74	Anaphalis nepalensis (Spreng.) Hand
Mazz.	
B75	Leontopodium jacotianum Beauverd
B76	Pedicularis gracilis Wall. ex Benth.
B77	Pedicularis hoffmeisteri Klotzsch
B78	Taraxacum Soest
B79	Corydalis DC. nom cons.
B8	Erigeron karvinskianus DC.
B80	Cardamine impatiens L.
B81	Nepeta laevigata (D.Don) HandMazz.
B82	Arisaema griffithii Schott
B83	Circaea L.
B84	Lamium album L.
B85	Delphinium himalayense Chowdhury ex
Mukerje	
B86	Phlomoides bracteosa (Royle ex Benth.)
Kameli	n & Makhm.
B87	Geranium wallichianum D.Don ex Sweet
B88	Cirsium nishiokae Kitam.
B89	Viola biflora L.
B9	Bistorta Scop.
B90	Pedicularis pectinata Wall. ex Benth.
B91	Acanthocalyx nepalensis (D.Don)
M.J.Ca	• •
B92	Parnassia L.
B93	Meconopsis horridula Hook.f. & Thomson
B94	Parnassia pusilla Wall. ex Arn.
B94 B95	Scrophularia urticifolia Wall. ex Benth.
B95 B96	Cassiope (Wall.) D.Don
B90 B97	Mulgedium lessertianum DC.
B98	Pedicularis trichoglossa Hook. f.
Б98 В99	Pedicularis porrecta Wall. ex Benth.
С1	Setaria palmifolia (Koenig) Stapf
	searra parmitona (Roemg) Stapi

C10	Elymus (Hook. f.) Melderis
C100	Erioscirpus comosus (Wall.) Palla
C101	Sporobolus diander (Retz.) P. Beauv.
C102	Arundinella Raddi
C103	Murdannia nudiflora (L.) Brenan
C104	Eragrostis Wolf
C105	Glyceria R. Br.
C11	Setaria pumila (Poir.) Roem. & Schult.
C12	Eragrostis nigra Nees ex Steud.
C13	Elymus (Hook. f.) Melderis
C14	Eulalia Kunth
C15	Dactylis glomerata L.
C16	Brachypodium sylvaticum (Huds.) P.
Beauv.	
C17	Poa L.
C18	Festuca gigantea (L.) Vill.
C19	Dactyloctenium aegyptium (L.) P. Beauv.
C2	Brachypodium sylvaticum (Huds.) P.
Beauv.	
C20	Urochloa panicoides P. Beauv.
C21	Cyperus niveus Retz.
C22	Sporobolus diander (Retz.) P. Beauv.
C23	Sehima notatum (Hack.) A.Camus
C24	Fimbristylis falcata (Vahl) Kunth
C25	Erioscirpus comosus (Wall.) Palla
C26	Carex filicina Nees
C27	Festuca gigantea (L.) Vill.
C28	Juncus L.
C29	Agrostis micrantha Steud.
C3	Arundinella Raddi
C30	Muhlenbergia duthieana Hack.
C31	Koeleria Pers.
C32	Danthonia cumminsii Hook. f.
C33	Calamagrostis filiformis Griseb.
C34	Bromus L.
C35	Trisetum spicatum (L.) K. Richt.
C36	Trisetum spicatum (L.) K. Richt.
C37	Calamagrostis Adans.
C38	Clintonia udensis Trautv. & Meyer
C39	Festuca L.
C4	Chrysopogon gryllus (L.) Trin.
C40	Agrostis nervosa Nees ex Trin.
C40A	Calamagrostis filiformis Griseb.
C41	Poa L.
C42	Ptilagrostis dichotoma Y.L.Keng ex
Tzvelev	
C44	Agrostis L.
C45	Festuca L.
C46	Kobresia Willd.
C47	Juncus L.
C48	Agrostis L.
C49	Poa L.

C50	A anastis nomeoso Naos av Tuin
C50 C51	Agrostis nervosa Nees ex Trin. Poa L.
C52	
C32 Tzvelev	
C53	Calamagrostis Adans.
C54	Poa L.
C55	Kobresia Willd.
C56	Calamagrostis lahulensis G.Singh
C57	Aletris pauciflora (Klotzsch) HandMazz.
C58	Juncus himalensis Klotzsch
C59	Juncus benghalensis Kunth
C5A	Agrostis L.
C5B	Isachne Bor
C6	Commelina L.
C60	Juncus benghalensis Kunth
C61	Juncus L.
C62	Agrostis nervosa Nees ex Trin.
C63	Trisetum spicatum (L.) K. Richt.
C64	Agrostis L.
C65	Agrostis L.
C66	Calamagrostis filiformis Griseb.
C67	Juncus duthiei (C. B. Clarke) Noltie
C68	Maianthemum purpureum (Wall.)
LaFranl	cie
C69	Carex nubigena D.Don ex Tilloch & Taylor
C7	Commelinaceae
C70	Polygonatum verticillatum (L.) All.
C71	Pennisetum flaccidum Griseb.
C72	Pycreus flavidus (Retz.) T. Koyama
C73	Carex nubigena D.Don ex Tilloch & Taylor
C74	Juncus wallichianus Laharpe
C75	Kyllinga brevifolia Rottb.
C76	Glyceria R. Br.
C77	Fimbristylis complanata (Retz.) Link
C78	Eragrostis nigra Nees ex Steud.
C79	Calamagrostis Adans.
C8	Festuca gigantea (L.) Vill.
C80	Echinochloa crus-galli (L.) P. Beauv.
C81	Digitaria ciliaris (Retz.) Koeler
C82	Festuca gigantea (L.) Vill.
C83	Bothriochloa bladhii (Retz.) S.T.Blake
C84	Cyanotis vaga (Lour.) Schult.f.
C85	Commelina maculata Edgew.
C86	Tripogon filiformis Nees ex Steud.
C87	Bulbostylis densa (Wall.) HandMazz.
C88	Agrostis L.
C89	Agrostis L.
C9	Eragrostis nigra Nees ex Steud.
C90	Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers.
C91	Eragrostis nigra Nees ex Steud.
C92	Brachiaria villosa (Lam.) A. Camus
C93	Cyperus cuspidatus Kunth

C94	Cyperus cuspidatus Kunth
C95	Carex filicina Nees
C96	Microstegium nudum (Trin.) A. Camus
C97	Oplismenus compositus (L.) P. Beauv.
C98	Cymbopogon (Hook. f.) Raizada & Jain
C99	Elymus (Hook. f.) Melderis
D1	Olea L.
D10	Utricularia L.
D11	Rhus L.
D12	Sarcococca hookeriana Baill.
D13	Tsuga dumosa (D.Don) Eichler
D14	Abies pindrow Royle
D15	Deutzia staminea R.Br. ex Wall.
D15	Euonymus L.
D10	Ficus Blume
D17 D18	Viburnum nervosum D.Don
D10	Colquhounia coccinea Wall.
D1 D2	Helixanthera ligustrina (Wall.) Danser
D2 D20	Viburnum L.
D20 D21	Picea smithiana (Wall.) Boiss.
D21 D22	Rhododendron anthopogon D.Don
D22 D23	Rhododendron lepidotum Wall. ex G. Don
D23 D24	Rhododendron campanulatum D.Don
D24 D25	Sorbus microphylla Wenz.
D25 D26	Rhododendron Wall. ex G. Don
D20 D27	
	Acer pectinatum Wall. ex Pax
D28	Gaultheria (C. B. Clarke) Airy Shaw
D29	Hydrangea heteromalla D.Don Celtis L.
D3	
D30	Ribes griffithii Hook.f. & Thomson
D31	Berberis thomsoniana C.K.Schneid.
D32	Lonicera L.
D33	Rhododendron Wall. ex G. Don
D34	Meconopsis horridula Hook.f. & Thomson
D35	Abies spectabilis (D.Don) Mirb.
D36	Juniperus L.
D37	Prunus rufa Hook.f.
D38	Sorbus L.
D39	Sorbus L.
D4	Tree
D4	Tree
D40	Prunus L.
D41	Ribes himalense Royle ex Decne.
D42	Acer pectinatum Wall. ex Pax
D43	Hippophae salicifolia D.Don
D44	Quercus L.
D45	Rhamnus L.
D46	Ilex L.
D47	Tree
D48	Fraxinus L.
D49	Euonymus L.

D5 Ulmus L.

D50	Celtis L.
D50 D51	Aesculus indica (Wall. ex Cambess.)
Hook.f.	Acseulus indica (wan. ex cambess.)
D52	Pure conthe granulate (D. Don) M. Boom
-	Pyracantha crenulata (D.Don) M.Roem.
D53	Symplocos Wall. ex G. Don
D54	Cotoneaster Medik.
D55	Ligustrum L.
D56	Zanthoxylum L.
D57	Cornus capitata Wall.
D58	Climber
D59	Taxus L.
D6	Sarcococca hookeriana Baill.
D60	Rhododendron arboreum Sm.
D61	Viburnum L.
D62	Cardiocrinum giganteum (Wall.) Makino
D63	Grewia optiva J.R.Drumm. ex Burret
D7	Leptodermis Wall.
D8	Myrica L.
D9	Osbeckia stellata BuchHam. ex D.Don
E1	Spiranthes Rich.
E10	Umbelliferae
E11	Dioscorea deltoidea Wall. ex Griseb.
E12	unknown
E12 E12	Epipactis Zinn
E12 E13	Heracleum L.
E13 E14	Goodyera R.Br.
E14	Silene L.
E15 E16	Achyranthes L.
E10 E17	Stellaria L.
E17 E18	Orchidaceae
E19	Bupleurum Wall. ex DC.
E2	Halenia elliptica D.Don
E20	Umbelliferae
E21	Umbelliferae
E22	unknown
E23	Polygonaceae
E24	Androsace L.
E25	Platanthera Rich.
E26	Astragalus Klotzsch
E27	Parochetus communis BuchHam. ex
D.Don	
E28	Epilobium L.
E29	Umbelliferae
E3	Corallodiscus lanuginosus (Wall. ex DC.)
Burtt	
E30	Swertia L.
E31	Cyananthus lobatus Wall. ex Benth.
E32	Pleurothallis
E33	Euphrasia L.
E34	Gentiana ornata (G. Don) Griseb.
E35	Koenigia L.
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E36	Bistorta vaccinifolia (Wall. ex Meisn.)
Greene	
E37	Polygonaceae
E38	Swertia speciosa D Don
E39	Gentiana L.
E4	Orchidaceae
E40	Swertia cuneata D.Don
E41	Swertia L.
E42	Umbelliferae
E43	Cortia depressa (D.Don) C.Norman
E44	Saxifraga L.
E45	Gentiana venusta (G. Don) Griseb.
E46	Orchidaceae
E47	Koenigia L.
E48	Polygonum R. Br.
E49	Pratia nummularia (Lam.) A.Braun &
Asch.	
E5	Platanthera Rich.
E50	Swertia cordata (G. Don) C. B. Clarke
E51	Umbelliferae
E52	Orchidaceae
E53	Vitaceae
E54	Swertia angustifolia BuchHam. ex D.Don
E55	Erythrina arborescens Roxb.
E56	Rubiaceae
E50 E6	Artemisia verlotiorum Lamotte
E7	Orchidaceae
E8	Satyrium nepalense D.Don
E9	Thalictrum L.
F1	Polypodium L.
F10	Fern
F11	Fern
F11 F12	
	Fern
F13	Fern
F14	Fern
F15	Fern
F16	Fern
F17	Fern
F18	Fern
F19	Fern
F2	Gymnocarpium Newman
F20	Fern
F21	Fern
F22	Fern
F3	Pyrrosia Mirb.
F4	Fern
F5	Polystichum Roth
F6	Fern
F7	Fern
F8	Fern
F9	Fern