

New addition of *Neottia bicallosa* X.H. Jin for the Flora of India

In a remarkable expedition deep into the rugged terrain of Arunachal Pradesh's Dibang Valley, researchers from CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur made a groundbreaking discovery. They discovered a *Neottia bicallosa* X.H. Jin for the first time from India which was earlier reported from China only. It is a high-altitude Himalayan species belonging to the genus *Neottia*, commonly called the Bird's Nest Orchid. Nestled within alpine meadows at elevations ranging from 3790 to 4200 meters, this orchid species adds to the rich biodiversity of the region. The genus comprises around 79 known species worldwide. Of these, India now reported by 20 species, including seven that are found nowhere else. This discovery not only underscores the importance of rigorous field exploration but also emphasizes the need for continued conservation efforts to protect these delicate ecosystems. This study has been published in *Vegetos* (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s42535-024-00963-8>).



Reference:

Kumar, V., Kumar, R. *Neottia bicallosa* X.H. Jin, a new distributional record of bird's nest orchid for India. *Vegetos* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42535-024-00963-8>