SALIENT FINDINGS
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In the present revisionary work 58 species and 15 varieties have been recognized under the genus *Agapetes* (Ericaceae) in India.

Apart from the external morphological studies, different aspects such as anatomy, pollen morphology and pollination have also been included based on literature.

Thus there is an addition of 32 species and 15 varieties to the Flora of British India.

A detailed description with illustrations, live photographs, complete citations, basionyms, synonyms, typification, vernacular names, distribution with maps, habitat, flowering, fruiting, etymology, uses, critical notes and specimens examined have been given for all available species.

The following genera in part *Vaccinium sensu* Griffith (1854), *Ceratostema sensu* Roxburgh (1814, 1832), *Ceratostema sensu* Griffith (1854), *Thibaudia sensu* Griffith (1848, 1854) and *Gaylussacia sensu* Griffith (1848, 1854) are reduced as synonyms under the genus *Agapetes*.

A new subseries *Parviflorae* is described. Series *Robustae*, subseries *Coriaceae*, *Longifoliae* and *Cuneatae* are reduced to series *Agapetes*, subseries *Agapetes*, *Gracies* and *Longifiles* respectively.

The study does not recognize the two subseries viz., *Bullatae* and *Planifoliae* under the series *Pteryganthae* as both the subseries are having intermediate characters and treated them as synonyms under series *Pteryganthae*.

The following species are transferred from one series to other i.e. *A. miniata* from earlier recognized *Robustae* to *Gracies*, *A. serpens* and *A. miranda* from *Gracies* to *Pteryganthae*.

3 new species and 4 new varieties are described.

7 species and 3 varieties have been recorded for the first time from India.

About 200 specimens of *Agapetes* found misidentified or unidentified in different Indian herbaria are determined during present work.

*A. borii* and *A. bhutanica* are collected after their type collection.
*A. leucocarpa* is collected for the first time in flower and *A. linearifolia* in fruits.

Herbarium, literature and field studies revealed that nearly 28 species and 2 varieties are endemic in India.

*A. aborensis*, *A. nana*, *A. parishii* var. *cultrata*, *A. kanjilali*, *A. subansirica*, *A. anonyma* and *A. spissa* are known by only Type collection and found to be rare.

The following species have been found to be conspecific and therefore reduced as synonyms e.g. *A. muscorum* under *A. praestigiosa*, *A. similis* under *A. atrosanguinea*, *A. xizangensis* under *A. griffithii*, *A. macrophylla* under *A. miniata*, *A. burmanica* under *A. megacarpa*.

The following varieties are found similar to their nearest species and therefore reduced as synonyms under them like, *A. odontocera* var. *pulcherrima* is reduced under *A. odontocera*, *A. serpens* var. *stenophylla* is reduced under *A. serpens*.

Three new combinations are made like, *A. burmanica* var. *ob lanceolata* is found to be a variant of *A. grandiflora* and is recognized as *A. grandiflora* var. *ob lanceolata* (Airy Shaw) Banik & Sanjappa, *A. macrantha* is found to be variant of *A. grandiflora* and is recognized as variety of *A. grandiflora* var. *macrantha* (Hook.) Banik & Sanjappa, *A. variegata* var. *bhareliana* is found to be a distinct species and therefore recognized as *A. bhareliana* (Airy Shaw) Banik & Sanjappa.

In *A. linearifolia*, *A. miniata* and *A. griffithii* basal part of the filaments are found to be united.

The identity of the following species recorded in different Floras are corrected e.g. *A. salicifolia* reported in Flora of Assam is identified as *A. odontocera* and *A. mitrarioi des* reported in the same Flora is identified as *A. buxifolia*. *A. griffithii*, reported by Argent *et al.* (1980) is identified as *A. subsessilifolia*.

*A. kindonitis* showed characters intermediate between *A. smithiana* and *A. borii* and *A. flava* is intermediate between *A. incurvata* and *A. hookeri*.

The present study revealed that 44 species and 3 varieties of *Agapetes* from all four series are distributed in Arunachal Pradesh including 19 endemic species and a variety.

*A. mutans* reported by Burkill as endemic to Abor hill, is found distributed also in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh.

The present study also revealed that *A. grandiflora* is distinctly different from *A. variegata*. 

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