

Humboldtia nairiana

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Humboldtia nairiana Latest News

Researchers have discovered a new evergreen tree species from the southern Western Ghats of Kerala and have officially named it as Humboldtia nairiana.

About Humboldtia nairiana

- It is a new **evergreen tree species** belonging to the **genus Humboldtia**.
- The species identified in the riparian forests of the **Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary**.

Features of Humboldtia nairiana

- It is a medium-sized evergreen tree that **grows between 5 to 8 metres in height**.
- It possesses stable and distinguishing features including a unique warty, pale brown bark with a distinct creamy-white blaze; angled, glabrous branchlets.
- It has distinctly shorter, sparsely hairy, isometric stipules and appendages;

- It consists of **larger flowers with comparatively long pedicels**, and produces elliptic-oblong fruits with a shorter beak.
- It is strictly endemic to Kerala and is **presently known only** from the biodiversity-rich **Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve** at an elevation of about 300 meters.

Key Facts about Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Location:** It is located in the southern part of the Western Ghats **in Kerala**.
- It forms part of the **Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve**.
- **Terrain:** Most of the Sanctuary area is hilly and interspersed with ravines.
- **Rivers:** The major rivers are Shendurney, Kazhuthuruthy, and Kulathupuzha, which join together to form the Kallada River.
- **Vegetation:** The vegetation primarily consists of **tropical evergreen forests, semi-evergreen forests, and moist deciduous forests**.

Source: **TH**

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