

Crotalaria phulei

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Crotalaria phulei Latest News

Indian botanists recently identified a previously unknown species of flowering plant named *Crotalaria phulei* from forests of Nagpur.

About *Crotalaria phulei*

- It is a new species of **flowering plant**.
- It was discovered in the **Khairi-Umred forest** near **Nagpur, Maharashtra**.
- It was named in **honour of Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule, India's first woman teacher** and one of India's most influential **social reformers**.
- Belonging to the Fabaceae family, *Crotalaria phulei* is an **undershrub** that grows up to 1.5 metres in height.
- **Young branches** are **covered with silvery silky hair**, while the plant bears **large bright yellow flowers** measuring 3.4 to 3.5 centimetres.
- It **produces pods containing seeds** of a distinctive mottled **creamy-olive colour**, which researchers identified as unique within the genus.

- The species flowers between November and January and fruits between December and January.
- The species most closely **resembles Crotalaria juncea, commonly known as sunhemp,** and **Crotalaria shrirangiana from the Western Ghats** of Maharashtra.
- The species has been assigned a preliminary conservation status of **Data Deficient** under the **IUCN criteria.**

Source: TOI

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/crotalaria-phulei/>

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