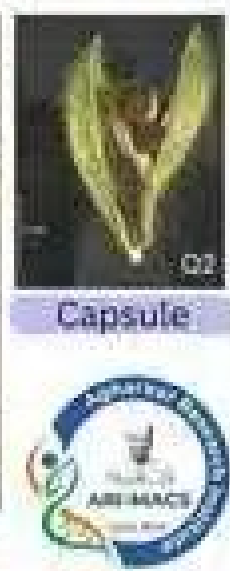


Dicliptera Polymorpha

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Dicliptera polymorpha Dharap, Shigwan & Datar



About *Dicliptera Polymorpha*:

- It is a distinctive species, notable for its **fire-resilient, pyrophytic habit** and its unusual dual-blooming pattern.

- In addition to its typical post-monsoon flowering, the species exhibits a **second, vigorous burst of flowering** triggered **by the grassland fires** commonly set by locals in the region.
 - This species is taxonomically unique, with **inflorescence units** (cymules) that develop into spicate inflorescences.
 - It is the only known Indian species with this spicate **inflorescence structure**, with its closest allied being found in Africa.
 - The species was named *Dicliptera polymorpha* to reflect its diverse morphological traits.
 - It **thrives on** slopes in **open grasslands of the northern Western Ghats**, an area exposed to extreme climatic conditions such as summer droughts and frequent human-induced fires. Despite these harsh conditions, the species has adapted to **survive and bloom twice a year**.
 - The first flowering phase occurs from post-monsoon (early November) to March or April, while the second flowering phase in May and June is triggered by fires.
 - During this second phase, the woody rootstocks produce dwarf flowering shoots, leading to a more abundant but shorter flowering period.
 - The species' unique adaptation to fire and its limited habitat range in the Western Ghats highlight the need for careful management of grassland ecosystems.
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Q1: What are bryophytes?

Bryophytes is the informal group name for mosses, liverworts and hornworts. They are non-vascular plants, which means they have no roots or vascular tissue, but instead absorb water and nutrients from the air through their surface (e.g., their leaves).

News: Scientists discover a new fire-resilient, dual-blooming species of *Dicliptera* in the Northern Western Ghats of India

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/dicliptera-polymorpha/>

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