

Ophiorrhiza Echinata

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Ophiorrhiza echinata Latest News

A new coffee plant species named *Ophiorrhiza echinata* was recently found in the Western Ghats.

About *Ophiorrhiza echinata*

- It is a **new species of coffee** plant.
- It was discovered in the highly biodiversity-rich **shola forests of the Western Ghats** at Devikulam in the Idukki District of **Kerala**.
- It grows in the **ecotone region between evergreen forest and grassland** vegetation at an elevation of 1,630 m above sea level and **may have medicinal potential**.
- It belongs to the **family Rubiaceae** and is closely related to the genus *Ophiorrhiza mungos*, which is a key ingredient in cancer treatment and antidote preparations.
- *Ophiorrhiza echinata* has so far only been collected from the type locality.
- The area of occupancy is estimated to be less than four square kilometres, and the known populations contain a maximum of only 35 plants.

Source: TOI

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/ophiorrhiza-echinata/>

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