

TAXONOMIC STUDY OF THE WATER SPINACH (*IPOMOEA AQUATICA* FORSK. CONVULVULACEAE)

TARBEJ J. SHAIKH*

*(M.Sc. Botany), Dept. of Zoology, Dr. B. A. M. University, Aurangabad, (M.S.), India.

ABSTRACT

Ipomoea is the largest genus in the flowering plant family Convolvulaceae, The most widespread common name is glories family.

The genus includes food crops; the tubers of sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*) and the leaves of water spinach (*I. aquatica*) are commercially important food items and have been for millennia. The water spinach (*I. aquatica*) commonly found in ponds, cultivated for stem and leaves used as vegetables.

The study of Anatomical as well as morphological character is the key aspect of various Classification systems which is the basic unit of Taxonomy.

The present study was conducted on the genus *Ipomoea* from Marathwada, reported a variation in Morphology, Anatomy, Pollen Morphology, Stomatal Morphology, Trichome structure as well as Maceration study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

PLANT MATERIAL

Plant materials of *Ipomoea aquatica* was collected from Jalna city (N 19° 50' 59.2351" E 75° 53' 2.0741).

The plant material were collected in Wet condition for anatomy (Root, Stem, Leaf, Flowers) and Dry condition for morphology (Flowering twig) both form.