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Research

Chrysopogon shrirangii sp. nov. (Poaceae: Andropogoneae) from Karnataka, India

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Chrysopogon shrirangii, a new species of *Chrysopogon* Trin. (Poaceae) is described and illustrated from the Belgaum district of Karnataka, India. It is similar to *Chrysopogon fulvus* (Spreng.) Chiov. and *C. serrulatus* Trin. but differs by having shorter culm, very narrow (0.8–1.2 mm wide), conduplicate, ensiform, adaxially puberulous, acuminate leaves, shorter panicle, shorter sessile and pedicelled spikelets, and lower glume of sessile spikelet with prominent 4 nerves in two pairs.

Keywords: *Chrysopogon shrirangii*, Karnataka, new species, Poaceae

Introduction

The genus *Chrysopogon* Trin. belongs to the tribe Andropogoneae of Poaceae (Trinius 1820) and comprises by about 49 species (POWO 2019). It is distributed throughout the tropics and subtropics of the old world (Clayton et al. 2006). In India the genus *Chrysopogon* is represented by 24 species (POWO 2019). Several new species have recently been added, namely *Chrysopogon castaneus* (Veldkamp and Salunkhe 2000), *C. purushothamanii* (Ravi et al. 2000), *C. copei* (Ravi et al. 2001) and *C. narayanii* (Sunil et al. 2017). Up to now, 13 species of *Chrysopogon* have been reported from Karnataka state of India: *Chrysopogon aciculatus*, *C. asper*, *C. fulvus*, *C. gryllus*, *C. hackelii*, *C. lawsonii*, *C. nodulibarbis*, *C. orientalis*, *C. pseudozeylanicus*, *C. serrulatus*, *C. velutinus*, *C. verticillatus*, *C. festucoides* and *C. zizanioides* (DFK 2019). However, during extensive floristic exploration of Karnataka, we came across a hitherto unknown species which is described and illustrated below (Fig. 1).

Chrysopogon shrirangii Tarbej, Pooja & Potdar sp. nov. (Fig. 2)

A species very similar to *Chrysopogon fulvus* (Spreng.) Chiov. and *C. serrulatus* Trin. but differing by having shorter culms, very narrow (0.8–1.2 mm wide), conduplicate, ensiform, adaxially puberulous, acuminate leaves, shorter panicle, shorter sessile and pedicelled spikelets, and lower glume of sessile spikelet with prominent 4 nerves in two pairs (Table 1).

