

Weed Flora of Kashmir Valley



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WEED FLORA OF KASHMIR VALLEY

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M.K. KAUL

SRINAGAR,
Nov. 26, 1985.

FOREWORD

Weeds are defined as plants growing where they are not wanted. With the intensive culture of crop plants, where maximum yield is the sole criterion; weeds have been found to be one of the important causes of reduction in yield. The study of weeds—their identity, habitat, morphology and life history; have assumed great importance recently, especially so in India. In Kashmir their importance is all the more greater, since local economy is practically dependent upon the crops grown in limited summer season.

The book is practically the first definitive work on the subject and is specially indispensable for the Kashmir region. Author has done a marvellous work by presenting a weed flora of agricultural crops in and around the valley. The Valley of Kashmir which is endowed with great scenic beauty, is also known since ancient times for specialised crops, i.e., saffron and vegetables grown on floating islands.

The book contains critical taxonomic treatment of 401 weed species belonging to 251 genera distributed over 56 families of Angiosperms. It is represented by 223 natives and 178 introduced species. Proper keys for identification and important phenological data has been provided. There are a number of new records for Kashmir and some for the country as a whole. Illustrations of 100 common weed species, made by the author himself, are also provided.

It is hoped that the book will be useful to the students of botany, amateur collectors and agriculturists.

SRINAGAR,
June 14, 1985.

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