

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF LEAF TRICHOME IN DIVERSE HABIT OF SOME CASSIA SPECIES

SWATI J. JANE¹, SUPRIYA D. WAGHMARE²

Department of Botany, Chintamani College of Science, Pombhurna Dist- Chandrapur 442918. (M.S.)

swatiikhe@gmail.com

DOI: 10.63001/tbs.2025.v20.i02.S.I(2).pp124-127

KEYWORDS

Cassia Species,
Trichomes,
Glandular,
Non-granular,
Taxonomy,
Phylogeny Diverse Habit

Received on:

18-03-2025

Accepted on:

12-04-2025

Published on

20-05-2025

ABSTRACT

Epidermal trichomes are often seen in the surface view of the leaf lamina. They are diverse structure and functions. Trichome plays crucial role in the identification of plants. They may be unicellular or multicellular and are further classified on the basis of absence or presence of glands. They are a defence for plants against natural hazards such as herbivores, plants from extreme high or low temperature, drought, ultraviolet (UV) radiations, pathogen attacks and reduce excessive transpiration Wang *et al.* (2021). In the present study 6 species belonging to the genus *Cassia* were selected. It includes two herb species *C. absus* L., *C. uniflora* Mill., in shrub *C. occidentalis* L., *C. alata* L. and in tree *C. siamea* Lamk., *C. surattensis* Burm. In these species diversity of trichomes, their structural morphological differences were studied. This review provides reference towards Taxonomic, Anatomical Study, Phylogeny and relationship among species of *Cassia* genus.

INTRODUCTION

Morphological characters are given important both for producing classification and for diagnostic purpose. Such character can be seen easily, morphology must go hand in hand with other fields in the establishment of phylogenetic relationship and for expressing classification and even these have been largely restricted to the reproductive phase when dealing within angiosperm. Plant surface shows spectacular differences in the shape, size, location function and origin. (Werker 2000). Trichomes are distributed all over the surface on various organs in different plants, exhibiting diverse morphologies. Trichomes were among the first anatomical features of plants to be recognized by early microscopist and they have played a key role in plant Taxonomy Behnke (1984). In angiosperm, Trichomes may occur on leaves, Petals, Stems, Petiole, Peduncles and seed coat depending on the species. GSTs Glandular secreting trichomes are found on 30% of vascular plants. Dell and MC Comb (1978); Phan (2000). Trichomes are generally classified into single celled or multicellular, branched or unbranched and glandular or nonglandular on the basis of characteristics and functions. Trichomes also have distinct shapes, such as head, star, hook and scale. Theobald (1980) and Barthlott (2009) further divided trichomes into three categories based on the distribution on the leaves: Large, Small and Glandular trichomes. Trichome have been employed very frequently for systematic comparison because their diversity, universal presence in the angiosperm and their easy preparation. Dead trichomes may continue to function as water absorption, seed dispersal and abrasion protection. Werker (2000) Solereder (1908), Netowtzky (1932), and Metcalf and Chalk (1950) have supplied useful information on the diverse

structure function and classification of trichomes with their significance in comparative anatomical studies. Comparative morphology of trichomes among the species of genus *cassia* are not extensively studied and thus, leave the scope for in depth study. In the present study a detail work carried out of the morphology of trichomes of some *Cassia* species.

Material and Methods: -

Material: - For present study 6 Taxa representing *Cassia* genus of subfamily Cesalpiniaceae of Leguminaceae were selected.

Herbs: - *Cassia absus* L., *Cassia uniflora* Mill.

Shrub: - *Cassia occidentalis* L., *Cassia alata* L.

Tree: - *Cassia siamea* Lamk., *Cassia surattensis* Burm.

The plants were identified with reference to floras.

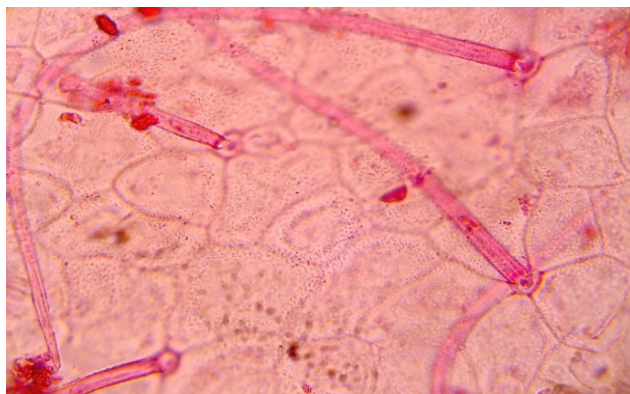
Methods: -

Plant material for the present investigation were collected from diverse habitat.

For the study, integrated picture of Trichome types and their organographic distribution, epidermal peels were removed from mature leaflets by scraping with scalpel whenever possible. In case of difficult material peels were separated and cleared by treating with aqueous sodium hydroxide followed by 2% Acetic acid. After washing with distilled water trichomes were stained with saffranine (1 % aqueous) and mounted with glycerin. The observation was made directly under compound microscope. The Microphotograph of selected slides and measurement of each trichome were obtained by using Coslab (Scope image 9.0) Digital PC-Microscope camera focus through the eyepiece. Measurement of each trichome were taken place.

Observations:

In *C. absus* trichomes of adaxial surface are nonglandular, unicellular trichome, moderately present, body straight, conical, elongated, pointed apex. Seated upon 5-6 straight wall basal cells. Trichomes on Adaxial surface



cells. In abaxial surface nonglandular, unicellular moderately present body elongated apex pointed seated upon 5-6 basal cells. (Fig 1.)

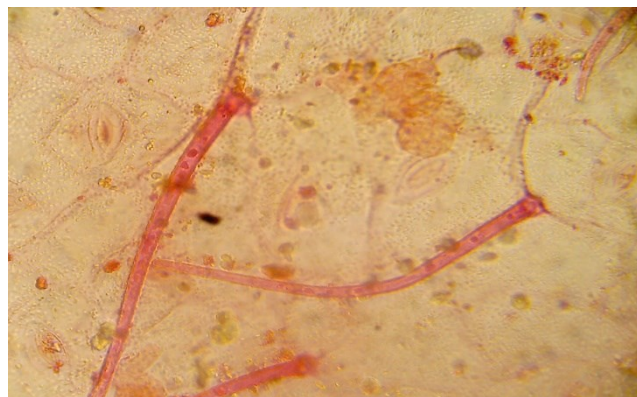
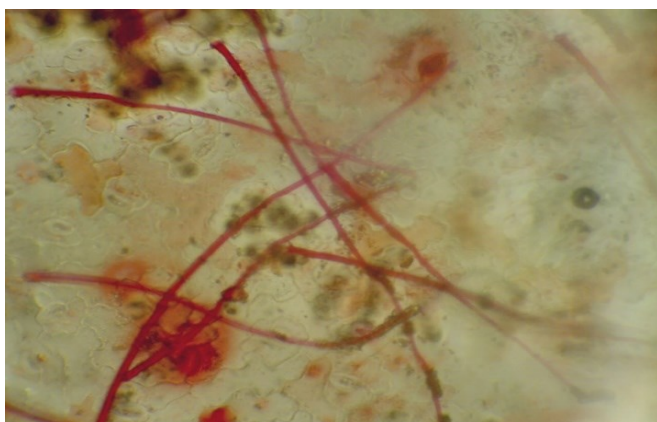


Figure 1. *Cassia absus* L.

In *C. uniflora* on both surfaces trichomes non-glandular multicellular, uniseriate long cell with vary shape and size, 2-4

Trichomes on Adaxial surface



cells seated upon 5-6 basal cells with wavy walls, body straight, pointed apex (Fig. 2).

Trichomes on Abaxial Surface

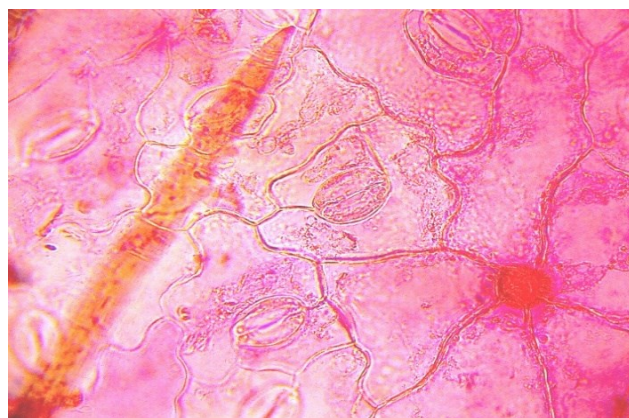
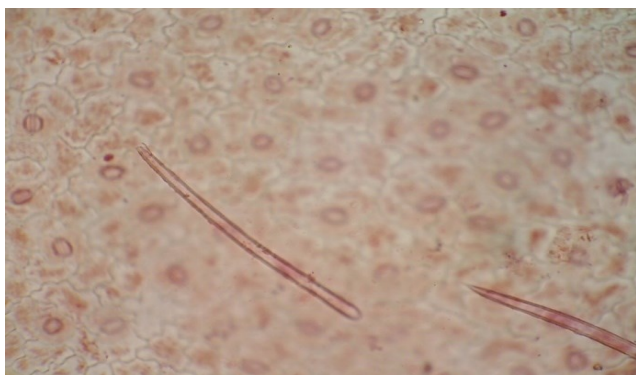


Figure. 2 *Cassia uniflora* Mill.

In *C. occidentalis* adaxial trichomes absent but druses are present abaxially trichomes non-glandular types sparsely distributed, Trichomes on Adaxial Surface



stalk multicellular type. Druses and crystal sand are present. Glandular trichomes present on leaf margin. (Fig. 3).

Druses on Abaxial Surface



Glandular Trichomes on Leaf Margin

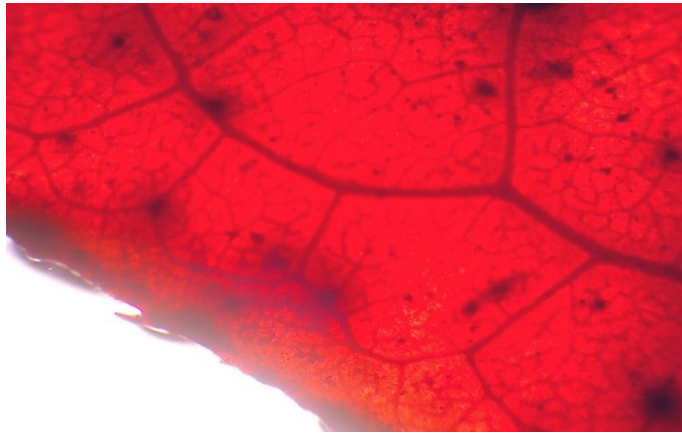


Figure. 3 *Cassia occidentalis* L.

In *C. alata* adaxial trichome non-glandular are present multicellular uniseriate more abundant than Adaxial Trichomes on Adaxial surface

surface. Abaxial non-glandular sparsely distributed, multicellular, uniseriate, druses of Calcium oxalate are present (Fig. 4).
Trichomes on Abaxial Surface

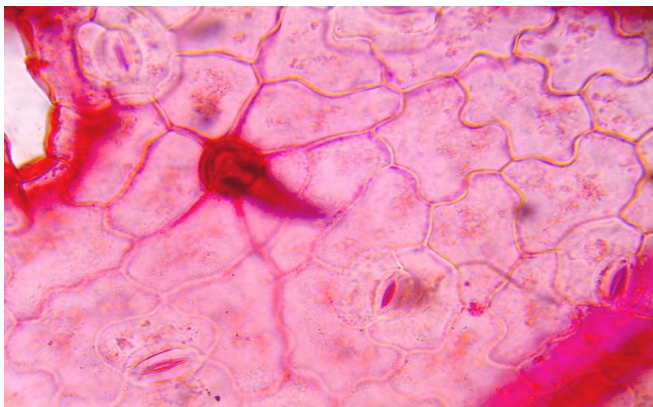
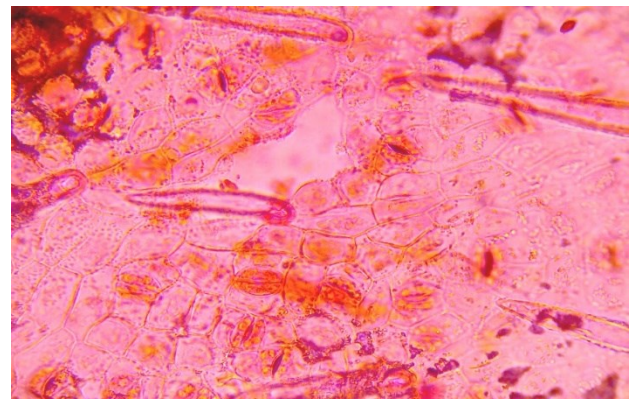
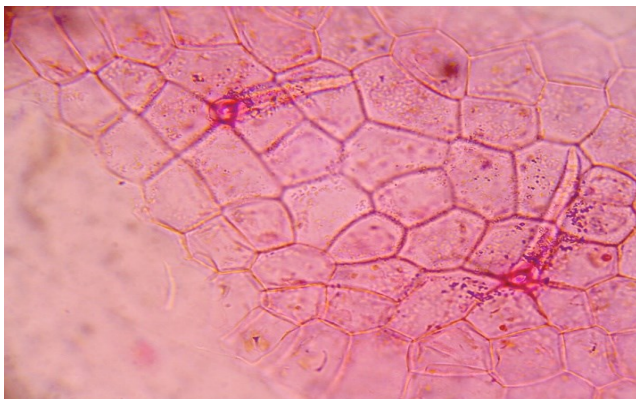


Figure. 4 *Cassia alata* L.

In *C. siamea* on both surfaces trichomes, nonglandular, unicellular, sparsely distributed may be conical or papillose, wall,

varrucose type. Body straight conical, elongated pointed apex, Seated upon 7-8 straight wall basal cell (Fig. 5).



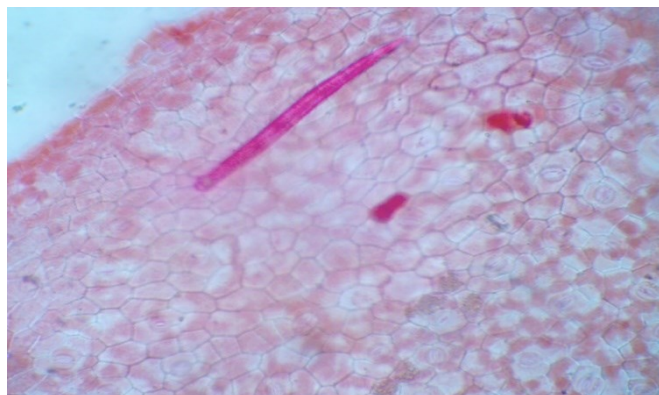
Trichomes on Adaxial Surface Trichomes on Abaxial Surface

Figure. 5 *Cassia siamea* Lamk.

In *C. surattensis* on both surface trichome non-glandular, unicellular, moderately present verrucose type of trichomes,

body straight conical, elongated pointed apex. Seated upon 7-8 Straight wall basal cells (Fig. 6).

Trichomes on Adaxial Surface



Trichomes on Abaxial surface

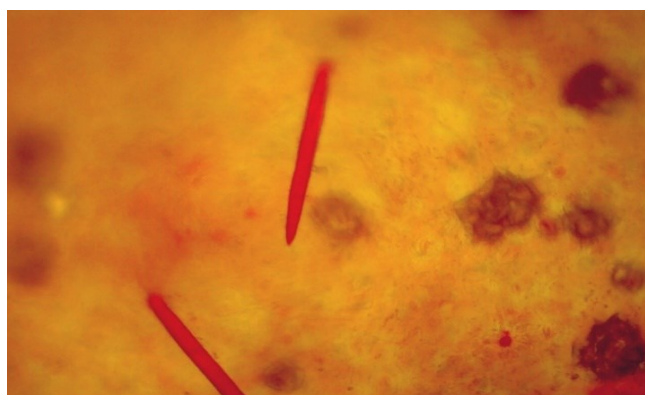


Figure. 6 *Cassia surattensis* Burm.
Table 1: Measurement of Trichomes on Leaflet

Sr. No.	Name of Taxa	Adaxial Surface	Abaxial Surface
1	<i>Cassia absus</i> L.	179.498×5.126 µm	83.801×2.778 µm
2	<i>Cassia uniflora</i> Mill.	220.741-228.548×2.458 µm	320.963-420.541×3.589 µm
3	<i>Cassia occidentalis</i> L.	Absent	135.173×8.782 µm Glandular Trichome on leaflet margin 151.048×17.855 µm
4	<i>Cassia alata</i> L.	18.137×5.261 µm	41.633×3.821 µm
5	<i>Cassia siamea</i> Lamk.	24.130-36.580×5.981 µm	30.124×5.320 µm
6	<i>Cassia surattensis</i> Burm.	98.625×5.758 µm	97.431×6.456 µm

Result and Discussion: -

All the above morphological variations of trichomes were noted among the herb, shrub, and tree species of *Cassia* genus. From the present study observed that non-glandular trichomes were present in all species except *Cassia occidentalis* in addition to non-glandular, glandular trichomes, large and clubshaped, visible to the naked eye found on the margin of leaf this has been recorded previously by Metcalfe and Chalk (1950). In *C. occidentalis* on abaxial surface druses and crystal sands were also noted. In *C. alata* on abaxial surface druses of calcium oxalate were observed.

CONCLUSION

To conclude the present work found as significant contribution towards the taxonomic study of this genus *Cassia* that is variations were noticed regarding the trichome morphological features. Detailed morphological information can help the systematics and also taxonomist for interpreting phylogeny and relationship of the taxa. Since the genus is medicinally important data can tremendously help Pharmacognostic studies also.

REFERENCES

- Barthlott et al. (2009). Classification of Trichome types within species of the waterfern *Salvinia*, and Ontogeny of the Egg-Bitter Trichomes. *Botany*. 87(9): 830-6.
- Behnke HD. (1984) Plant trichomes structure and ultrastructure; general terminology, taxonomic applications and aspects of trichome-bacterial interaction in leaf tips of *Dioscorea* In: Rodriguez E, Healey PL, Mehta I, eds. *Biology and Chemistry of plant trichomes* New York: Plenum press, Pg 1-21.
- Dell B, MC Comb AJ. 1978. Plant Resins- their formation, secretion and possible functions. *Advances in Botanical Research* 6: Pg-227-316.
- Fahn A. 2000. Structure and Function of secretory cells, *Advances in Botanical Research* 31: Pg 37-75.
- Metcalfe, C. R. and L. Chalk, (1950). *Anatomy of the dicotyledons*. Vols. I and II Clarendon Press, Oxford.

- Netowtzky, F. (1932). In handbuch der Pflanzenanatomic (ed. k Linsbaucr). Abt.1. Teil 2. Hautgewebe Band- IV. Die Pflanzenhaare Gebruder Borntrager. Berlin.
- Solereder, H. (1908). Systematic Anatomy of the Dicotyledons (Transl. L.A. Boodle and F E. Fritsch), Oxford Univ. Press, London.
- Theobald et al. (1980). Trichome Description and Classification. *Anatomy of dicotyledons* I. Oxford: Clavendon Press; Pp- 40-53.
- Wang et al. (2021). Analysis and Review of trichomes in Plants. *BMC Plant Biology*. Pp 1-11.
- Werker E. 2000. Trichome diversity and development. *Advances in Botanical Research* 31; Pg. 1-35.