

# B. tumakurense – a new species of Orchid

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**In news-** A new plant of the Brachystelma R.Br. genus has been found in Tumkur, Karnataka.

## **More information-**

- It has been named after the district Tumkur, from where its type material was collected.
- 'B. tumakurense' comes from a **tuber** and belongs to the **Apocynaceae family** (a family of flowering plants).
- Brachystelma R.Br. is the second largest genus in the tribe Ceropogieae with over 116 species distributed in the old-world tropics.
- They are slender stemmed with a brilliant display of colours in their flowers, especially in their corolla and coronal structures.
- They are **mainly distributed in Peninsular India in dry hill ranges**.
- There are seven species from Karnataka, where all of them exhibit erect stems and are non-climbing in nature.
- The flowering season is from June to July and fruiting from August to September.
- The species is a lesser known plant and **has pollen similar to orchids**.
- The **tubers are edible** in nature.