



Second Species of the Genus Allmania

Why in News?

Recently, a new species of the genus Allmania named Allmania multiflora has been identified.

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What are the Key Highlights about the New Species?

▪ About:

- *Allmania multiflora* grows to a height of about 60 cm and is only the second species of this genus discovered to date.
 - The first species, *Allmania nodiflora*, was originally published under the genus *Celosia* as *Celosia nodiflora* in 1753. Specimens found in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) were first described as *Allmania nodiflora* in 1834.
 - Shorter tepals and wider gynoeceum (parts of the flower), shorter bracts and in the diameter of the seeds are among the characteristics that distinguishes it from *Allmania nodiflora*. Flowering and fruiting occurs from May to September.
- The species is quite special from both the botanical and conservation points of view.
- *Allmania multiflora* has been so named for having a higher number of florets within an inflorescence.
- *Allmania multiflora* is an annual herb, erect, with branches arising from the base.
- The stem is **red to violet at the base and green above.**

▪ Protection Status:

- **IUCN:** Critically Endangered.

▪ Threats:

- It could be accidentally exploited by local people as a vegetable along with amaranths.
- Its habitat, granite hillocks, too faced various forms of threats today.

[Source: TH](#)

