

List of Figures

Figure	Title	Page No.
1	Location map of Sikkim	28
2	Map showing the study sites for <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim, India	79
3	Distribution pattern of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in selected population in Sikkim	80
4	Distribution pattern of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in selected population in Sikkim	81
5	Availability of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> along altitudinal gradient in Sikkim	82
6	Occurrence of microhabitat of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in different populations of Sikkim	83
7	Distribution pattern of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in identified microhabitats in Sikkim	84
8	Frequency of occurrence of microhabitat of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim	84
9	Effect of site exposure on the availability of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim	85
10	Difference in total plant dry biomass amongst populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim	105
11	Coefficient of variation in morphological characters in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> (rosette) in Sikkim	106
12	Variation in morphological characters in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> (reproductive) in Sikkim	107
13	Variation in total plant biomass in population of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim	108
14A	Dendrogram based on average linkage (between groups) method and Pearson correlation in rosette form of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim	109
14B	Dendrogram based on average linkage (between group) method and Pearson correlation in reproductive form of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> in Sikkim	109
15	Seed germination response to various microhabitats and temperatures in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	120
16	Microhabitat and temperature effect on germination rate and germination recovery rate in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	121
17	Effect of storage period on seed germination in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	129
18	Effect of storage period on mean germination time in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	129
19	Effect of storage period on seed germination and mean germination time in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	130
20	Seedling emergence <i>Swertia chirayita</i> as a result of direct sowing in natural habitat	144
21	Effect of different substrate combinations on seedling onset, T ₅₀ , final emergence and emergence rate in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	144

22	Effect of different substrate combinations on seedling emergence and mean emergence time in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	145
23	Effect of different substrate combinations on number of leaves, largest leaf length and leaf width in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	146
24	Effect of different substrate combinations on collar diameter and number of roots in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	147
25	Effect of different substrate combinations on seedling biomass and seedling vigour in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	148
26	Storage effect on onset and final seed germination in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	159
27	Effect of storage conditions and storage period on seed germination in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> ; A: 4 ⁰ C; B: -15 ⁰ C; C: Room temperature	160
28	Effect of storage conditions and storage period on mean germination time in populations of <i>Swertia chirayita</i> ; A: 4 ⁰ C; B: -15 ⁰ C; C: Room temperature	161
29	Seed viability as affected by storage period and storage condition in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	162
30	Climatic variations at Pangthang (Sikkim) during the study period	177
31a	Effect of growing conditions on average leaf length in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> (rosette form)	177
31b	Effect of growing conditions on average leaf width in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> (rosette form)	178
32	Effect of growing conditions on plant height in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	178
33a	Effect of growing conditions on average leaf length in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> (vegetative stem form)	179
33b	Effect of growing conditions on average leaf width in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> (vegetative stem form)	179
34	Weekly climatic properties at Pangthang (Sikkim) during the 3 rd growing season	180
35a	Phenological observations (third year) in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> grown in shrubberies	181
35b	Phenological observations (third year) in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> grown in forest slope	181
35c	Phenological observations (third year) in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> grown in open slope	182
35d	Phenological observations (third year) in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> grown under tree canopy	182
35e	Phenological observations (third year) in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> grown under temperature controlled green house	183
35f	Phenological observations (third year) in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> grown in open bed	183
36	Effect of growing conditions on different growth parameters in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	184
37	Growth and biomass in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> as affected by growing	184

	condition	
38	Effect of different seed sources and pre-sowing chemical treatments on seedling emergence in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	209
39	Effect of pre sowing chemical treatments on number of leaves, largest leaf length and width in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	210
40	Effect of pre sowing chemical treatments on collar diameter, root diameter, root length in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	211
41	Effect of pre sowing chemical treatments on seedling dry biomass and seedling vigour in <i>Swertia chirayita</i>	212
42	Effect of growing conditions on the total biomass/plant and survival in <i>Swertia chirayita</i> cultivated at Pangthang (ca. 2000m asl), Sikkim (India)	229