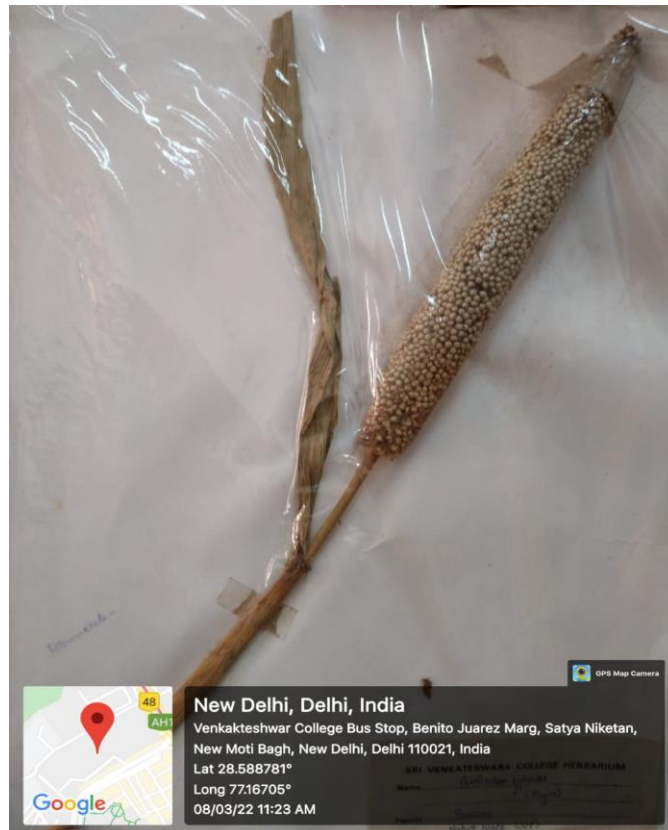


# *Pennisetum typhoides*



**Common Name:** Bajra, Pearl millet

**Scientific Name:** *Pennisetum typhoides*

**Family:** Poaceae

Pearl millet is the most important millet crop of India. It is grown almost all over the country except Assam for its palatable and nutritious grains.

It is an annual herb, 1- 2.5 m tall, with a solid, unbranched stem. The leaves are long, scabrous, linear-lanceolate with wavy margins. The inflorescence is a dense panicle about 8-16 cm long and about 2.5 cm in diameter. Each spikelet consists of two florets, the lower usually male and the upper hermaphrodite. It has high tillering and is tolerant to drought and heat.

**Economically Important Part:** Grains

**Economic Importance:** Its nutritive value is comparable to that of rice and wheat. Grains are ground into flour for making bread. Green ears are roasted and eaten. Grains are also suitable for making malt and it is also grown for green fodder. The straw is utilised as roughage for livestock, for thatching and as a fuel.