PREFACE

The present volume is the third report of "Flora of Eastern Himalaya" and is a continuation of the first two reports compiled by Prof. Hiroshi Hara, which were published on 31 December 1966 and 31 March 1971. This volume includes results of taxonomic studies mainly based on the collections by the Fifth Botanical Expedition to Eastern Himalaya in 1972 organized by the University of Tokyo and those by Dr. Hiroo Kanai during his stay in Nepal from 1969 to 1971 as a Colombo Plan Advisor to the Department of Medicinal Plants, H.M.G. of Nepal. It also contains data supplementary to the preceding two reports, which were published on the basis of our Expeditions in 1960, 1963 (two times), 1964, 1967, and 1969. The main purposes of the present research were stated in the first volume, and critical comparative studies on corresponding taxa in Japan and Himalaya have continued, though a number of results of our investigations were published elsewhere, as cited in the Systematic Enumeration or Bibliography in the former and present volumes.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of India for providing us with facilities during our trips. Thanks are especially due to Dr. P. R. Pande of the Ministry of Forests, H.M.G. of Nepal, and Dr. P. N. Suwal and Dr. S. B. Malla of the Department of Medicinal Plants, H.M.G. of Nepal, for their kindness in helping our Expedi-

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We are indebted to Dr. Hiroo Kanai, now the Curator of Phanerogam Herbarium in the National Science Museum, Tokyo, who was an Associate Professor of the University of Tokyo and the leader of the Fifth Botanical Expedition to Eastern Himalaya. Without his warm encouragement and leadership, the expedition could not have been carried out successfully.

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