



Phytodiversity of Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary

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Abstract

The floral diversity in the Wild life Sanctuary is immense. The present documentation indicates the presence of 95 tree species, 57 shrubs, 28 climbers and 23 species of grasses. The main tree species are Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Asna (*Terminalia alata*), Sheesham (*Dalbergia sissoo*), Bel (*Aegle marmelos*), Kusum (*Schieuchera oleosa*), Ficus spp and semal (*Bombax ceiba*), etc. The main grass species occurring in the area are Kaans (*Saccharum spontaneum*) and Moonj (*Saccharum munja*). Calamus tern.

Keywords:- Katarniaghat wildlife sanctuary, Bahraich, Flora, Phytodiversity

Introduction

The Katarniaghat wildlife sanctuary is located in the Nanpara Tehsil of District Bahraich. The Indo-Nepal border constitutes the northern boundary of the WLS. The entire area, totaling 40009.35 ha. is situated between 28° 06' N and 28° 24' N latitude and 81° 02' E and 81° 19' longitude. The sanctuary, together with the adjoining 15002.75 ha. of reserve forest, which serve as buffer, constitutes one ecological unit. It is one of the few remnants of the rich and diverse tarai ecosystems. Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the most significant representative of highly rich, diverse and fragile tarai ecosystems, presently under threat if not zealously guarded against anthropogenic pressures. The rich soils of tarai coupled with heavy monsoon downpour results in immense floral diversity, which rise to a mosaic of diverse habitats. The whole of the area is subjected to the climate variation typical of the plains of northern India with their extremes of heat and cold. The winter nights are very cold and foggy and heavy dews fall regular, with the result that the vegetation remains damp

for most of the day. The days at this time of year are cool and bright. Frost occur generally in January. The nights remain cool and dew falls until late in spring, the hot weather commencing in April and lasting until the rains break towards the end of June. Heavy monsoon rains fall from then onwards until October and give with the winter rains, an average annual fall of about 1300 mm. The prevailing winds are from the east, but during the hot weather there are often strong west winds and mild hurricanes from the north and west accompanied by showers. Since no study was conducted earlier to catalogue the range of biodiversity available in the same sanctuary and to conserve the known range of biodiversity with emphasis on endangered threatened and rare elementary floras the present work was undertaken to study the flora.

Materials and Method

The regular survey of the forest area under study was made and sample was collected in separate polythene bags so as to identify the same at rest home or head quarters with the help of available floras Hookers, 1972-1897, Duthie, 1994; Cooke, 1998. The herbarium were prepared as recommended by Jain and Rao, 1967; Jain, 1989; and Rao, 1989.

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Results and Discussion

The floral diversity in the wild life sanctuary is immense. The present documentation indicates the presence of 95 tree species, 57 shrubs, 28 climbers and 23 species of grasses. The most common plants found in the sanctuary are enumerated as below with their local names.

Trees

Mangifera indica, Linn. (Am), *Cassia fistula*, Linn. (Amaltas), *Emblica officinalis*, Goertn. Syn. *Phyllanthas embilica*, Linn. (Aonla), *Lagerstroemia parviflora*, Roxb. (Asidh, Dhauri), *Terminalia tomentosa*, W. and A. (Asan, Sian), *Acacia arabica*, Willd. (Babul), *Terminalia bellerica*, Roxb. (Bahera), *Crataeva unilocularis*, (Biabarna), *Ficus benghalensis*, Linn. (Bargad), *Aegle marmelos*, Correa. (Bel), *Salix tetrasperma*, Roxb. (Bhainsh), *Semecarpus anacardium*, Linn. f. (Bhilawa), *Hymenodictyon excelsum*, Wall. (Bhurkul, Baurang), *Pterocarpus marsupium*, Roxb. (Biiaisal), *Casearia tometosa*, Roxb. (Chilla), *Butea monosperma* (Lamk) Taub, Syn. *B. frondosa*, Roxb. (Dhak), *Grewia vestita*, Wall. (Dhaman), *Anogeissus latifolia*, Wall. (Dhau 'Bakli'), same as Asidh (*L. parviflora* Roxb.) (Dhauri), *Ficus rumphii*, Bl. (Gaihar), *Ficus glomerata*, Roxb. (Gular), *Trewia nudiflora*, Linn. (Gutal), *Adina cordifolia*, Hook. f. (Haldu), *Terminalia chebula*, Retz. (Harra), *Tamarindus indica*, linn. (Imli), *Syzygium cumini*, Linn. Skeels. Syn. *Eugenia jambolana*, Lamk. (Jamun), *Lanneca corromandolica*, Houtt. Merr. Syn. *L. Grandis*, Engl. (Jigna jhingan'), *Bavhinia variegata*, Linn. (Kachnar), *Anthocephalus cadamba*, Miq. (Kadam), *Mitragyna pervifolia*, Roxb. Korth, *Stephygyne parvifolia*, Korth. (Kaim 'Phaldu'), *Saccopetelum tomentosum*, HK, F. and T. (Kairauta), *Garuga pinnata*, Roxb. (Kakar 'Kaikar'), *Celtis tetrandra*, Roxb. (Kakai), *Gmelina arborea*, Linn. (Kambhar), *Holoptelea integrifolia*, Planch. (Konju), *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, Lamk. Syn. *A. Integra*, Thunb, Me-rr (Kathal' Jack fruit'), *Acasia catechu*, Willd. (Khair), *Bridelia retusa*,

Spreng. (Khaia), *Phoenix sylvestris*, Roxb. (Khajur) *Careya arborea*, Roxb. (Kumbhi), *Schleichera oleosa*, Lour, Oken. Syn. *S. Trijuga* Willd. (Kusum), *Coridia dichotoma*, Forst. F. Syn. *C. Myxa*, Auct. Plur. Non Linn. (Lisora), *Madhuca indica*, Gmel. Syn. *M. Latifolia*, Roxb. Macbride. (Mahua), *Azadirachta indica*, Juss, Syn. *Melia azadirachata*, Linn. (Neem), *Stereospermum suaveolens*, DC. (Padal), *Ougenia dalbergioides*, Benth. (Panan 'Sandan'), *Putranjiva roxburghii*, Wall. (Patju), Same as Kaim (Phaldu), *Buchanania lanzan*, spreng, Syn. *B. latifolia*, Roxb. (Pial), *Eugenia operculata*, Roxb. (piaman), *Ficus religiosa*, Linn. (Papal), *Kydia calycina*, Roxb. (Pula), *Tectona grandis*, Linn. f. (Sagon 'Teak'), *Morus australis*, Poir. Syn. *Morus acidosa*, Griff. (Sahtut), *Shorea robusta*, Goertn. (Sal), Same as Panan (Sandan), *Salmalia malabarica*, DC. Schott. and Endl. Syn. *Bombax malabaricum*, DC. (Semal), *Dalbergia Sissoo*, Roxb. (Shisham), *Streblus Asper*, Lowr. (Sihor), *Albizia species*. (Sir-is), *Diospyros tomentosa*, Roxb. (Tendu), *Cedrela toona*, Roxb. (Tun), *Sterculia villosa*, Roxb. (Udala).

Shrubs

Dillenia pentagyna, Roxb. (Agai), *Adhatoda vasica*, Nees. (Arusa), *Pogostemon plectranthoides*, Desf. (Bantulsi), *Zizyphus mauratiana*, Lamk. Syn. *Z. Jujuba*, Lamk. *Ardisia solanaces* (poir) Roxb. *Ardisia humilis*. (Bhakmal 'Majrawa'), *Clerodendrum viscosum*, Vent, Syn. *Clerodendron infortunatum*, Auct. Non Linn. (Bhant), *Ehretia leavis*, Roxb. (Chamror), *Gardenia turgida*, Roxb. (Churga), *Zizyphus xylopyrus*, Willd. (Chittaina), *Glycosmis pentaphylla*, Correa. (Guturu), *Nyctanthes arbortristis*, Linn. (Harsinger), *Barrigtonia acutangula*, Goertn. (injur), *Tamarix dioica*, Roxb. (Jhau), *Carissa opaca*, Staph. (Karaunra), *Miliusa velutina*, HK. f. and Thom. (Kari 'Dom-Sal'), *Moghania brevipes* Syn. *Flemingia chappar* (Kasrout), *Murraya koenigii*, spreng (Mitha neem), *Holarrhena antidysenterica*, R. Br. (Kura), *Jatropha gossypifolia*, Linn. (Lal arand),



Calotropis procera, Br. (Madar), *Randia dumetorum*, Linn. (Maniphal), *Helictres isora*, Linn. (Marorphal), *Colebrookia oppositifolia*, Sm. (Pichera), *Clausena pentaphylla*, DC. (Ratanjot), *Mallotus philippensis*, Syn. *M. philippinensis*, Muell. Arg. (Rohini), *Piliostigma malabaricum*, Syn. *Bauhinia malabarica*, (Sihuli).

Scandent shrubs and Climbers

Acacia pennata, Willd. (Alis), *Dendrophthoe falcata*, Linn. F. Ettin. *Sny. Loranthus longiflorus*, Derr. (banda), *Calamus tenuis*, Linn. Roxb. (Bent), *Ichnocarpus frutescens*, Br. (Dudhi- bel), *Milletia auricullata*, W & A. Baker. (Gauj), *Tinospora codifolia*, Miers. (Gulod), *Tiliacora aouminata*, Lamk. Miers. *Sny. T. Racemosa*, Colebr. (Karwanth), *Zizyphus oenoplia*, Juss. Mill. (Makoi), *Banhinia vablii*, Linn. W & A. (Maurain), *Vitis latifolia*, Linn./ Roxb. (pani-bel), *Piper longum*, Linn. (Pipal), *Smilx nolifera*, Roxb. (Ram Dataum).

Grasses

Eulaopsis binata, Retz. C. E. Hubb. Syn. *Ischaemum angustifolium*. Hack. (Baib), *Dendrocalamus strictus*, Nees. (Bens), *Imperata cylindrica*, Linn. Beae. Syn. *Imperata arundinacea*, Cyrill. (Charni 'Puhs'), *Cynodon dactylon*, Pers. (Dub), *Saccharum spontaneum*, Linn. (Kans), *Bambusa bamos*, Syn. B. *Rundinacea*, Willd. (Kanta bans), *Vetiveria zizanioides*, Staph. (Khas), *Arundo donax*. (Kilak), *Erianthus munja* (Muni),

Pharagmites Karka, Trin. (Narkul), *Heteropogon contorus*, Roem. (Parua 'Paura'), *Typha elephantina*, L, Roxb. (Pater), *Sclerostachya fusca*, Roxb. A. *Camus* (Retwa), *Bothriochloa intermedia*, A. *Camus*, Syn. *Andropogon intermedius*. (Sandhar), *Themeda arundinacea*, Roxb. A. *Camus*, Syn. *Anthistiria Arundinacea*, Roxb. (Ullah).

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