

Floristic Assessment Of Kherai Range Forest Of Megharj District Aravalli, North Gujarat,India

Hasmukh kharadi

Dept of Botany

Sir P. T. Science College, Modasa (North Gujarat), India

Abstract- The present work has been done to collect the information about different plant species of Megharj range forest in particular zone of Kherai. The data obtained from these studies have botanical importance of the particular zone Kherai. During my field work we have consisted of total 67 Agiospermic families are belonging 220 genera and 326 species were collected and recoeded. Herbs are dominated with 126 and 87 shurbs, 35 climbers and 78 trees. We have also noted 4 ptreidophytes and 3 bryophytes. The dominant species are *Acacia nilotica* and, *Holarrhena antidysenterica*, *Tactona grandis*, *Butea monosprma* etc.

Keywords- Floristic composition, dominant species, Megharj-Kherai.

I. INTRODUCTION

Floristic studies have acquired increasing importance in recent years in response to the need of developing and under developing countries to assess their plant wealth. the rich botanical wealth of this Megharj range forest in particular zone Kherai is being continuously over exploited for timber and non timber forest products such as fodder, grasses, gums, grazing etc. The earlier work on floristic part of North Gujarat has been carried out Sexton & Sejweek (1918). Later on there was on gap were from 1917 onward Patel (2000), Ant (2001), Jangid (2003), Desai (2007). They were worked in selected different area of North Gujarat. During our field trip visit were taken various photographs rare plant species in Kherai forest. From this region we have reported 326 plant species. In view of the regional importance of the particular zone of Kherai forest flora so that present study was under taken.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Aravalli district is situated in the North West part of Gujarat between latitudes 20 13' 15" and 24 34' 30" North and Longitudes 72 47' 0" and 73 37' 30" east. Part of the western Aravallis Mountain in Aravalli. The Kherai forest is situated on latitude 23 30' 40" North and Longitude 73 30' 40" North and Longitude 73 30' 40" east.

The present work is the output of the our continuous field study during the season winter 2009 to 2010. Collected plant species were identified with the help of "The flora of Gujarat state" and flora of "The Presidency of Bombay".

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The total number of 67 Agiospermic families are belonging 220 genera and 326 species reported from this area. we have also noted the dominant species are *Acacia nilotica* and, *Holarrhena antidysenterica*, *Tactona grandis*, *Butea monosprma* etc.. in particular region Kherai.

Table 1 : Floral richness of the Kherai forest.

Categories of Angiosperms	Genera	Species	Families
Dicots	201	300	58
Monocots	19	26	9
Total	220	326	67

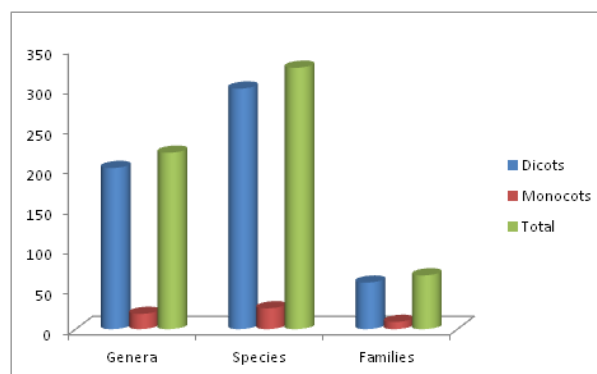


Fig. A. Floral richness of the Kherai forest

Table 2 : Dominant plant in the Kherai forest

Families	Plant name	Total number of plant (approx.)
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	1220
Apocynaceae	<i>Holarrhena antidysenterica</i>	892
Verbinaceae	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	866
Fabaceae	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	694

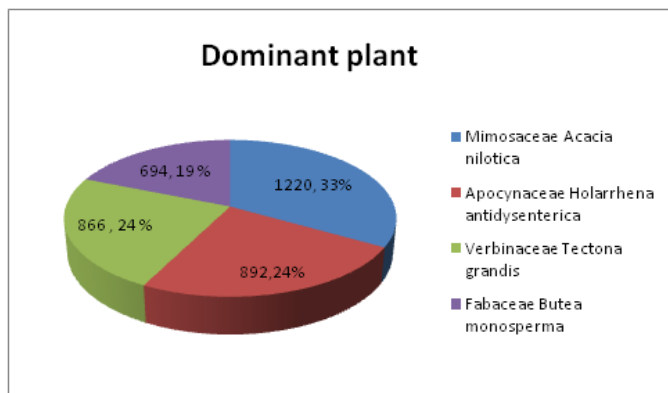


Fig. B. Dominant plant in the Kherai forest

Table 3: Plant diversity of Kherai

Types of species	Tree	Shrubs	Herbs	Climbers
Number of species	78	87	126	35

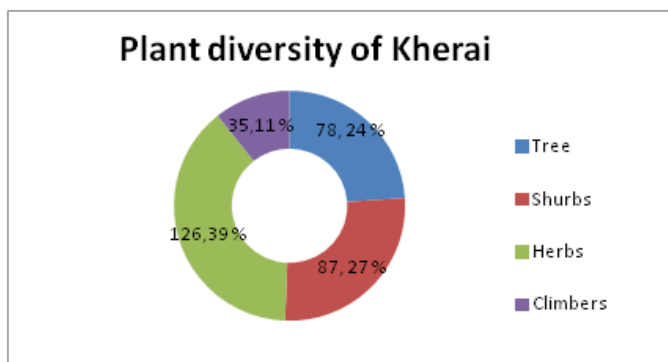


Fig. C. Plant diversity of Kherai

We have recorded 201 genera of Dicots and 19 genera of Monocots, 300 species of Dicots & 26 species of Monocots, belonging to 58 dicot & 9 monocot families. (table-1 & fig. A). Table 2 and Fig. B shows dominant families and plant and also shows that approximately no. of plant in particular zone Kherai. Table 2 and fig. B shows that 4 genera are dominant in the Kherai range forest. Table 3 and Fig. 3 shows plant diversity of Kherai zone. Fig. 3 indicates that 39% of herbs, 27% shrubs, 24% trees and 11% of climbers.

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