

HYDROPHYTE VEGETATION OF JHALUKBARI

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ABSTRACT

A study of hydrophyte vegetation of the area mentioned above is made and the plants are enumerated and arranged under the system of classification of Bentham and Hooker.

14 dicot families with 27 species and 12 monocot families with 38 species are represented. In all monocots exceed the dicots in number, though more dicot families are present. Among the monocots Cyperaceae is the largest with 9 species, while Nymphaeaceae and Scrophulariaceae rank first and second among the dicots with 6 and 5 species respectively.

Jhalukbari is a village reclaimed by the Gauhati University authorities. It is situated on the Assam Trunk Road between Maligoan and Hatmari, the distance from Gauhati being about 10 km. There are many ponds and water-logged places rich in vegetation, which formed the collecting spots. There is no evidence of any previous work undertaken in this area. The present paper deals with the enumeration of the flora.

In the present paper the term 'Hydrophyte' includes plants in and around water-logged places, including marsh lands as suggested by Biswas & Calder (1955). The plants are enumerated and arranged according to the system of classification of Bentham & Hooker.

NAME	FAMILY
1. <i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Ranunculaceae
2. <i>Nymphaea stellata</i>	Nymphaeaceae
3. <i>N. lotus</i>	"
4. <i>N. Cyanea</i>	"
5. <i>N. rubra</i>	"
6. <i>Eurale ferox</i>	"
7. <i>Nelumbium speciosum</i>	"
8. <i>Jussiaea suffruticosa</i>	Onagraceae
9. <i>J. repens</i>	"
10. <i>Ludwigia parviflora</i>	"
11. <i>Limnanthemum cristatum</i>	Gentianaceae
12. <i>L. nymphaeoides</i>	"
13. <i>Hydrolea zeylanica</i>	Hydrophyllaceae
14. <i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae
15. <i>Utricularia stellaris</i>	Lentibulariaceae
16. <i>Limnophila heterophylla</i>	Scrophulariaceae
17. <i>Bonnaya repens</i>	"
18. <i>Stemodia viscosa</i>	"
19. <i>Scoparia dulcis</i>	"
20. <i>Mazus rugosa</i>	"
21. <i>Asteracantha longifolia</i>	Acanthaceae
22. <i>Phila nodiflora</i>	Verbenaceae
23. <i>Leucas aspera</i>	Labiatae
24. <i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>	Amaranthaceae
25. <i>Polygonum tomentosum</i>	Polygonaceae
26. <i>P. serrulatum</i>	"
27. <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Ceratophyllaceae
28. <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrocharitaceae
29. <i>Boottia cordata</i>	"

NAME	FAMILY
30. <i>Ottelia alismoides</i>	Hydrocharitaceae
31. <i>Lagarosiphon roxburghii</i>	"
32. <i>Monochoria hastata</i>	Pontederiaceae
33. <i>M. vaginalis</i>	"
34. <i>Eichornia speciosa</i>	"
35. <i>Commelina bengalensis</i>	Commelinaceae
36. <i>Cyanotis axillaris</i>	"
37. <i>Calamus erectus</i>	Palmeae
38. <i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Typhaceae
39. <i>T. elephantina</i>	"
40. <i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Aroideae
41. <i>Colocasia antiquorum</i>	"
42. <i>C. esculenta</i>	"
43. <i>Lemna minor</i>	Lemnaceae
44. <i>Wolffia arrhiza</i>	"
45. <i>Sagittaria sinensis</i>	Alismataceae
46. <i>Alisma plantago</i>	"
47. <i>Najas foveolata</i>	Najadaceae
48. <i>Eriocaulon sieboldianum</i>	Eriocaulaceae
49. <i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	Cyperaceae
50. <i>C. haspan</i>	"
51. <i>C. corymbosus</i>	"
52. <i>C. distans</i>	"
53. <i>Scirpus articulatus</i>	"
54. <i>S. grossus</i>	"
55. <i>S. squarrosus</i>	"
56. <i>Fimbristylis diphylla</i>	"
57. <i>Eriophorum dichotomum</i>	"
58. <i>Elaeocharis capitata</i>	"
59. <i>Oryza sativa</i>	Gramineae
60. <i>Leersia hexandra</i>	"
61. <i>Centotheca lappacea</i>	"
62. <i>Oplismenus burmanni</i>	"
63. <i>Chrysopogon aciculatus</i>	"
64. <i>Sporobolus diander</i>	"
65. <i>Eleusine indica</i>	"

In conclusion the following are the inferences:

- There are 65 species among 26 families.
- Though there are 38 monocotyledons and 27 dicotyledons, the number of Monocotyledonous families is greater than that of dicotyledonous (14 dicot & 12 monocot families).

- iii. This work is by no means claimed as complete, as some plants might have been omitted by mistake.

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