

STUDY OF WEED FLORA IN DIBRUGARH DISTRICT, ASSAM, NE INDIA

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Abstract: *The present study was undertaken to document the diversity of weed flora in different regions of Dibrugarh district, Assam. Data was collected through observation during the months of spring, summer and winter in the year 2020. In this investigation 62 plant species belonging to 36 families were found to exist as weeds in the fields, by the side of the roads and also in the household gardens.*

INTRODUCTION

Weeds are the unwanted wild plants that have little or no economic and aesthetic value. These species grow uncontrollably in the fields and gardens etc. and cause inconvenience. They can grow almost anywhere and in large numbers. In crop fields they grow and affect the crops by taking up space and nutrition and thereby harming the crops.

Dibrugarh is a city in the state of Assam in the North-eastern region of India. The region is a biological hotspot with many rare and endemic plant and animal species in the fertile river valleys surrounded by mountains and hills. The favorable growth conditions also encourage the growth of a large variety of weed species, which find their way through any surface like all types of soil, water bodies, grasslands, roadsides, walls, roofs of houses etc.

The present study reports the commonly occurring weed species in different regions of Dibrugarh, Assam.

Materials and methods

The present study was conducted mainly in the villages of Nauholia (tengakhat), TiloI nagar (khowang) and Borpather (barbaruah block) in Dibrugarh district.

Data was collected through observation.

Results

During the study the following weed species were observed to exist in Dibrugarh district.

Fig: Table showing scientific names of weeds, their families and local names.

Scientific name	Family	Local name
1. <i>Acmella oleracia</i>	Asteraceae	Malkathi
2. <i>Ageratum conizoides</i>	Asteraceae	Gundhua bon
3. <i>Agyreia nervosa</i>	Convolvulaceae	-
4. <i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>	Amaranthaceae	Matikaduri
5. <i>Axonopus compressus</i>	Poaceae	-
6. <i>Boerhavia diffusa</i>	Nyctaginaceae	Punonowa
7. <i>Cassia alata</i>	Caesalpineaceae	Khor gos
8. <i>Cassia tora</i>	Leguminaceae	Horu medelua

9. <i>Centella asiatica</i>	Apiaceae	Bor manimuni
10. <i>Chenopodium album</i>	Chenopodiaceae	Jilmil
11. <i>Clerodendrum colebrookianum</i>	Verbenaceae	Nefafu
12. <i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Lamiaceae	-
13. <i>Colocasia esculanta</i>	Araceae	Kosu
14. <i>Commelina benghalensis</i>	Commelinaceae	Kona himolu
15. <i>Crotolaria junci</i>	Leguminaceae	Jhunjhuna bon
16. <i>Cuphea carthagenensis</i>	Lythraceae	Pani jetuka
17. <i>Curcuma zedoaria</i>	Zingiberaceae	Ketkuri
18. <i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Poaceae	Dubori bon
19. <i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>	Cyperaceae	-
20. <i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	Cyperaceae	-
21. <i>Datura stramonium</i>	Solanaceae	Kola datura
22. <i>Digitaria ciliaris</i>	Poaceae	-
23. <i>Drymaria cordata</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Lai jabori
24. <i>Eichornia crassipes</i>	Pontederiaceae	Meteka
25. <i>Elsholtzia blanda</i>	Lamiaceae	Bon tulakhi
26. <i>Enhydra fluctuans</i>	Asteraceae	Helechi
27. <i>Eupatorium odoratum</i>	Asteraceae	Germany bon
28. <i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	Euphorbiaceae	-
29. <i>Floscopa glabrata</i>	Commelinaceae	-
30. <i>Fragaria indica</i>	Rosaceae	Goru ghis
31. <i>Hydrocotyle rotundifolia</i>	Araliaceae	Horu manimuni
32. <i>Imerata cylindrica</i>	Poaceae	Ulu bon
33. <i>Impatiens balsamina</i>	Balsaminaceae	Dam deuka
34. <i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Convolvulaceae	Kolmou
35. <i>Jasminum angustifolium</i>	Oleaceae	Bon khorikajai
36. <i>Lantana camara</i>	Verbenaceae	Gubon
37. <i>Laportea crenulata</i>	Urticaceae	Surat paat
38. <i>Leonurus sibiricus</i>	Lamiaceae	-
39. <i>Leucas aspera</i>	Lamiaceae	Drun bon

40. <i>Ludwigia hyssopifolia</i>	Onagraceae	-
41. <i>Melastoma melabatricum</i>	Melastomataceae	Phutkala
42. <i>Micania scandens</i>	Asteraceae	Prem lota
43. <i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Leguminaceae	Lajuki bon
44. <i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	Nephrolepidaceae	Bilongoni
45. <i>Oldenlandia corymbosa</i>	Rubiaceae	Bon jaluk
46. <i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Oxalidaceae	Tengesi
47. <i>Paederia foetida</i>	Rubiaceae	Bhedai lota
48. <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Asteraceae	-
49. <i>Phyllanthus niruri</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Bon amlokhi
50. <i>Piper beteloid</i>	Piperaceae	Aaoni paan
51. <i>Polygonum chinensis</i>	Polygonaceae	-
52. <i>Polygonum glabrum</i>	Polygonaceae	-
53. <i>Polygonum hydropiper</i>	Polygonaceae	-
54. <i>Portuleca oleracea</i>	Portulacaceae	Malbhog khutora
55. <i>Saccharum spontaneum</i>	Poaceae	Kahi bon
56. <i>Senna occidentalis</i>	Leguminaceae	-
57. <i>Solanum indicum</i>	Solanaceae	Tita bhekuri
58. <i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Solanaceae	Los kochi
59. <i>Solanum torvum</i>	Solanaceae	Hati bhekuri
60. <i>Torenia bicolor</i>	Linderniaceae	-
61. <i>Urena lobata</i>	Malvaceae	Hunborolua
62. <i>Xyris laxifolia</i>	Xyridaceae	-
63. <i>Zingiber chrysanthum</i>	Zingiberaceae	-

Discussion

In this study 63 plant species were recorded. These plants belonged to 36 different families. The families Asteraceae and Poaceae were found to be most common with 6 and 5 different species respectively, existing as weeds in a large number of places. Four species each of the families Leguminaceae, Lamiaceae and Solanaceae were observed. Three species belonged to Polygonaceae and two species each of Convolvulaceae, Commelinaceae, Cyperaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Rubiaceae, Verbinaceae and Zingiberaceae. The rest of the plants were distributed one species each in the rest of the families.

These weed species cause a lot of inconvenience to the people by growing in different places and surfaces and also to the other plant species by using up their resources.

However, some of these species are seen to possess useful medicinal properties and are used by the local people in preparation of herbal medicine. Some of the weed species are also

utilized by the local population as food.

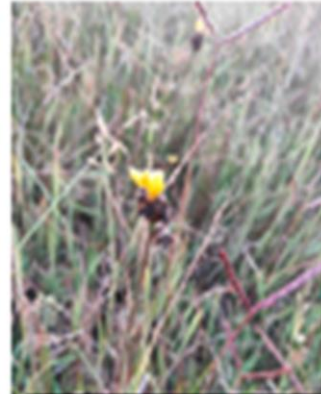
PHOTO GALLERY



Cuphea carthagenensis



Clinopodium alpinum



Xyris laxifolia



Malostoma malabatricum



Mimosa pudica



Cyperus crogroatis



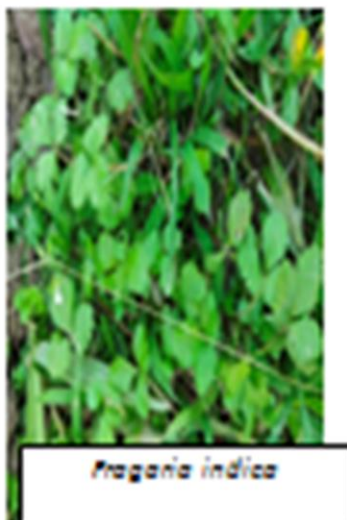
Cassia alata

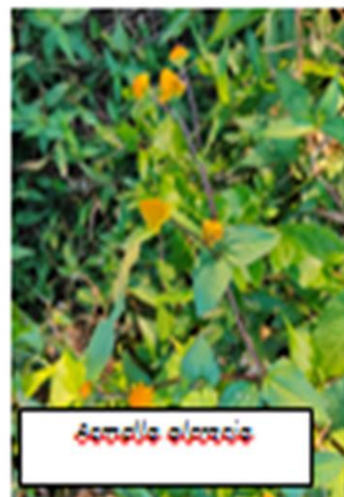


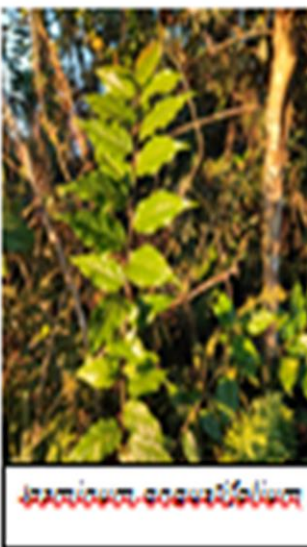
Miconia scandens



Eupatorium odoratum







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