

DISTRIBUTION OF SEDGES NEAR JAIKWADI DAM IN AURANGABAD DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT

The results of field studies provide a general account of the distribution of cyperaceous plants in the Flora of Marathawada, Maximum cyperaceous plants were collected from wetland and river. Frequent visits were made during September to January near of Jaikwadi dam and specimens were collected and processed. The specimens were identified with the help of floras and available literature. Sedge vegetation can be categorized in different ecological groups which are discussed in the present paper.

Keywords: Distribution, Cyperaceae, Near the Jaikwadi dam.

INTRODUCTION

Cyperaceae (Commonly Called sedge family) is the second largest family among monocotyledons and stands next to grasses. Cyperaceae is one of the most intricate families represented by 70-80 genera and 4000 species distributed throughout the world with about 28 genera and 500 species in India. Due to minute to smaller size of flower, least economic importance and intricacy due to narrow generic and specific delimitation, extreme variation in vegetative and floral parts (Khan, 1983; 1998; 1999 and 2000) the sedges have been neglected by most taxonomists. This is probably the reason, why studies could not progress as compared to other families such as grasses. Thus taxonomically Cyperaceae are neglected group of flowering plants in India. Therefore it needs to have been given specialized treatment from different angles and different aspects for the preparations of accounts. Jaikwadi dam is constructed on river Godavari, about 50 kms away from Aurangabad, at Paithan. The water body of the dam is named as "Nathsagar". The water body of dam is so huge that it covers 339.80 square kms. The dam shows aquatic and semi aquatic and terrestrial diversity of Angiosperms (Anilkumar M. Deshmukh 2015). In present investigation collected specimens from the near Jaikwadi dam is identify by various literature

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the present work an attempt is being made to document the occurrence of sedges of the near Jaikwadi dam frequent visits were made during September to January to study region and 70 species belonging to 8 genera were collected and processed as per the method described by (Prain, 1996; Rao and Verma, 1990 and Prasad and Singh, 2002). The specimens were identified with the help of floras by (Clarke, 1893; 1902 and 1909; Fischer, 1928; Cooke, 1908; Hooper, 1976 and Sedgwick, 1918; Wadoodkhan M. A. 2015) and available literature (Karthikeyan, 1989; Kern, 1974; Sharma *et al.*, 1996. and Koyama, 1985) and identification is confirmed in herbaria of R. B. Attal College Georai Dist. Beed.

DISSCUSIONS

Inland sedge vegetation can be categorised in different ecological groups as under

Oligotropic Habitat

The common swamp and marshy sedges with excess of moisture. The characteristic members are *Cyperus alopecuroides*, *C. digitatus*, *C. exaltatus*, *C. pilosus*, *C. procerus*, *C. scariosus*, *Fimbristylis miliacea*, *F. tertragona*, *Fuirena sp.*, *Kyllinga brevifolia*, *Pycreus sanguinolentus*, *P. diaphanus*, *P. flavidis*, *P. polystachyos*, *P. stramineous* and *Scripus praelongatus*.

Eutrophic Habitat

Cyperus bifax, *C. alulatus*, *C. esculentus*, *C. difformis*, *C. squarrosus*, *C. corymbosus*, *C. distans* var. *pseudonutans*, *Kyllinga melanosperma*, *Fimbristylis albiviridis*, *F. microcarya*, *F. complanata*, *F. bisumbellata*, *F. tomentosa*, *F. adenolepis* several forms of *F. dichotoma*, *Scirpus lateriflorus*,

Mixed Dry Land Sedges

Many types of sedge are found even in semidry soil or localities providing comparatively less moisture. The common ones are *Cyperus scompressus*, subsp. *compressus*, *C. distans* ssp. *pseudonutans*, *C. iria*, *C. pygmaeus*, *C. squarrosus*, *C. teneriffae*, *C. rotundus*, *C. stoloniferous*, *C. compactus*, *Fimbristylis tenera*, *F. ovata*, *F. polytrichoides*, *Bulbostylis barbata*, *Kyllinga bulbosa*, *Scirpus kyllingoides*, *Scleria lithosperma*.

Marginals

Characteristically a few sedges are found along the margins of rivers, lakes, streams and similar other water bodies the notable ones *Cyperus corymbosus*, *C. pangorei*, *C. bifax*, *C. articulatus*, *C. nutans* subsp. *eleusinoides*, *C. alopecuroides*, *C. exaltatus*, *C. difformis*, *C. teneriffae*, *C. articulatus*, *Pycreus flavidus*, *Fimbristylis dichotoma*, *F. miliacea*, *Scirpus littoralis* and *S. corymbosus*.

Grass Land Sedges

Characteristically a few sedges are found in wet open grass-lands or marshy grass-lands. They are *Fimbristylis dichotoma*, *F. merrillii*, *F. quinquangularis*, *Fuirena ciliaris*, *F. umbellate*, *Cyperus iria*, *C. compactus*, *C. pseudokyllingioides*, *Scirpus juncooides*,

Among the small grass such *Pycreus pumilus*, *Cyperus cuspidatus*.

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