

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE VASCULAR FLORA, BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES OF YEOOR HILLS AND ITS ENVIRONS

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ABSTRACT

The flora and fauna of Yeoor hills was observed over a period of two years in all seasons and it was noticed that the flora and fauna here is very interesting. Hence an effort was made to study the same. Number of species of different group found include trees-81, shrubs-20, herbs-65, climbers-25, ferns-6, birds-42, insects including butterflies-64.

Key words: Yeoor hills, flora and fauna

Introduction

In the Yeoor hills number of hill ranges are sprawled extending from Thane to Borivali. It is a part of Sanjay Gandhi National Park (latitude 72°50N, longitude 19°10E and altitude 1200-1400 feet). This is a reserved forest under the Wild Life Protection Act. It spreads over an area of about 103 sq. km. adjoining the two cities Thane and Northern part of Mumbai in the state of Maharashtra, India.

Climate

Climate in this region is warm, moist with equable three distinct seasons that are summer (February to May), monsoon (June to September) and winter (October to January). The hills have a dry deciduous forest.

Distribution

In the rainy season it is richly covered with the green vegetation forming a mat of herbs, climbers and the seasonal vegetation having the ^{perennating} penetrating organs, the underground stems. The vegetation becomes so dense that it is often difficult to find the path through the forest.

Moreover the forest shows its storied forms with tall trees of Ain (*Terminia*) towering along with Sag (*Tectona*) and Vavhala (*Holoptelea*), with the shrubs of Acacia, Cassia, Ficus, and herbs of Pogostemon, Solanum, Andrographis, Barleria etc. and variety of grasses and the ferns on the floor of the forest along with the red stems of Costus and Curcuma.

Among the animal fauna butterflies like bluetiger, mormon, sailor, jezabel, immigrant are abundantly spotted. Variety of birds like spotted dove, green pigeon, golden oriole, sunbird, flower pecker, crimson breasted barbet, woodpecker etc. are also found.

By the end of rainy season butterflies start appearing. Under almost every leaf the eggs are laid and caterpillars are busy eating the leaves in a systematic manner.

Observation

The trail into the hills from the Thane end starts by the forest check post. Following data are collected over a period of two years from 1998-2000. The vascular plants ^{was} are listed under the categories as follows: Trees, Shrubs, Herbs, Climbers and Ferns.

Trees

<i>Acacia catechu</i>	Mimosae
<i>Acacia leucocephala</i>	Mimosae
<i>Acacia suma</i>	Mimosae
<i>Adenantha pavonia</i>	Mimosae
<i>Adina cordifolia</i>	Rubiaceae
<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i>	Simarubaceae
<i>Albizia lebek</i>	Mimosae
<i>Albizia procera</i>	Mimosae
<i>Anthocephalus indica</i>	Rubiaceae
<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>	Meliaceae
<i>Barringtonia racemosa</i>	Myrtaceae
<i>Balanites roxburghi</i>	Simarubiaceae
<i>Bauhinia malabarica</i>	Caesalpiniae

Bauhinia variegata
Bauhinia purpurea
Bauhinia racemosa
Bombax malabarica
Borassus flabellifer
Bridelia retusa
Bridelia squamosa
Buchnania lanzun
Butea monosperma
Careya arborea
Ceiba pentandra
Celastrus paniculata
Cocos nucifera
Cordia sebestina
Cordia dichotoma
Daibergia latifolia
Daibergia sissoo
Derris brevipes
Desmodium triquetrum
Dillenia indica
Erythrina indica
Ficus asperima
Ficus gibbosa
Ficus glomerata
Ficus mysorensis
Ficus religiosa
Ficus rumphii
Grewia heterophylla
Grewia laevigata
Grewia microcos
Grewia tiliifolia
Holorrhena antidysentrica
Holoptelea integrifolia
Homonea riparia
Hymenodictyon excelsum
Lannea coromandelica
Lagerstroemia nana
Madhuca indica
Madhuca longifolia

Caesalpinae
 Caesalpinae
 Caesalpinae
 Bombacaceae
 Palmae
 Euphorbiaceae
 Euphorbiaceae
 Combretaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Myrtaceae
 Bombacaceae
 Celastraceae
 Palmae
 Boraginaceae
 Boraginaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Dilleniaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Urticaceae
 Urticaceae
 Urticaceae
 Urticaceae
 Urticaceae
 Urticaceae
 Urticaceae
 Tilliaceae
 Tilliaceae
 Tilliaceae
 Tilliaceae
 Apocyanaceae
 Urticaceae
 Euphorbiaceae
 Rubiaceae
 Anacardiaceae
 Lythraceae
 Sapotaceae
 Sapotaceae

Macaranga peltata
Mangifera indica
Mellotus philippinensis
Mellotus repandus
Mimusops hexandra
Morinda tinctoria
Morinda parviflora
Mitragyna parviflora
Oroxylum indicum
Phoenix robusta
Pithecolobium saman
Pithecolobium dulce
Pongamia pinnata
Prosopis spæcegera
Pterocarpus marsupium
Pterospermum acerifolium
Sapindus sps
Semidicarpus ancardium
Sizygium jambolana
Sterculia colorata
Sterculia urens
Strobilus asper
Tectona grandis
Terminalia tomentosa
Terminalia bellerica
Terminalia chebula
Tremma orientalis
Wrightia tinctoria

Shrubs :

Breynia patens
Cassia tora
Calycopteris floribunda
Capparis sepiaria
Carvia callosum
Gardenia lucida
Helicteris isora
Helieteris isora
Hibiscus micranthus
Jatropha curcas

Euphorbiaceae
 Anacardiaceae
 Euphorbiaceae
 Euphorbiaceae
 Sapotaceae
 Rubiaceae
 Rubiaceae
 Rubiaceae
 Bignoniaceae
 Palmae
 Mimosae
 Mimosae
 Papilionaceae
 Mimosae
 Papilionaceae
 Bignoniaceae
 Sapindaceae
 Anacardiaceae
 Myrtaceae
 Sterculiaceae
 Sterculiaceae
 Urticaceae
 Verbenaceae
 Combretaceae
 Combretaceae
 Combretaceae
 Urticaceae
 Apocynaceae

Euphorbiaceae
 Caaesalpinae
 Combretaceae
 Capparidaceae
 Acanthaceae
 Rubiaceae
 Sterculiaceae
 Sterculiaceae
 Malvaceae
 Euphorbiaceae

Jatropha gossipifolia
Jatropha multifida
Leea sps
Morinda citrifolia
Pavetta indica
Randia brasildisii
Woodforida floribunda
Zizyphus oenoplia
Zizyphus jujba
Zizyphus trinervia
Zizyphus rugosa

Herbs :

Abutilon indicum
Acanthospermum hispidus
Acanthus ilicifolius
Achyranthus aspara
Aegeratum conyzoides
Altemanthera sessilis
Amorphophalus campanulatus
Amorphophalus commutatus
Amorphophalus sps
Andrographis paniculata
Anisomeles indica
Argemone mexicana
Barleria cristata
Barleria pratensis
Blumea camphora
Blepharis oppositifolia
Brassica juncea
Celosia argentea
Centrantherus hispidum
Cleome viscosa
Cleome chelidonii
Coix lachryma-jobi
Commelina nudiflora
Corchorus capsularis
Cosmos bipinnatus
Costus speciosa
Crotalaria juncea

Euphorbiaceae
Euphorbiaceae
Vitaceae
Rubiaceae
Rubiaceae
Rubiaceae
Lythraceae
Rhamnaceae
Rhamnaceae
Rhamnaceae
Rhamnaceae

Malvaceae
Asteraceae
Acanthaceae
Amaranthaceae
Asteraceae
Amaranthaceae
Araceae
Araceae
Araceae
Acanthaceae
Labiatae
Papaveraceae
Acanthaceae
Acanthaceae
Asteraceae
Rubiaceae
Cruciferae
Amaranthaceae
Asteraceae
Capparidaceae
Capparidaceae
Graminae
Commelinaceae
Tiliaceae
Asteraceae
Zingiberaceae
Papilionaceae

Cuculigo orchiaedes

Curuma aromatica

Cyperus rotundus

Eclipta alba

Elephantopus scaber

Eranthemum roseum

Flemingia sps

Glofiosa superba

Heliotropium indicum

Hemidesmus indicus

Hibiscus hirtus

Hygrophila indica

Impatiens balsami

Indigophera tinctoria

Ipomoea aquatica

Jussiaea suffruticosa

Leea macrophylla

Loranthus longiflorus

Melochia corchorifolia

Oscimum americanum

Parthenium sps

Pogostemon parviflorus

Phyllanthus niruri

Phyllocephalum scabidrum

Rhoea discolor

Rungia sps

Sesamum indicum

Sida acuta

Sida rhombifolia

Sida cordifolia

Smithia sps

Solanum violaceum

Solanum xanthocarpum

Sopubia delphinifolia

Tephrosia sps.

Tridax procumbens

Urena lobata

Vernonia antihelmintica

Amaryllidaceae

Zingiberaceae

Cyperaceae

Asteraceae

Asteraceae

Acanthaceae

Papilionaceae

Liliaceae

Boraginaceae

Asclipediaceae

Malvaceae

Acanthaceae

Balsaminae

Papilionaceae

Convolvulaceae

Onaraceae

Vitaceae

Loranthaceae

Sterculiaceae

Labiatae

Asteraceae

Labiatae

Euphorbiaceae

Asteraceae

Commelinaceae

Acanthaceae

Pedaliaceae

Malvaceae

Malvaceae

Malvaceae

Papilionaceae

Solanaceae

Solanaceae

Scrophulariaceae

Papilionaceae

Asteraceae

Malvaceae

Asteraceae

Climbers

Aspidopteris sps
Bridelia scandens
Carfissa carundus
Carrissa spinarum
Cissampelos villosus
Spocculus villosus
Combretum sps
Clitoria biflora
Cryptolepis gigantia
Desmodium sps
Derris trifoliata
Dioscorea bulbifera
Gnetum scandense
Ipomoea digitata
Ipomoea grandiflora
Ipomoea quamoclit
Marsdenia volubis
Meyna laxiflora
Periploca aphylla
Piper nigrum
Thunbergia sps
Tinospora cordifolia
Vigna capensis
Vitis pallia

Ferns

Adiantum sps
Lygodium sps
Nephrodium sps
Pteridium sps
Pteris sps
Selaginella sps

Birds

Bengal vulture
 Blue rock pigeon
 Brahminy kite
 Cattle egret (in breeding plumage)

Malpighiaceae
 Euphorbiaceae
 Apocynaceae
 Apocynaceae
 Menispermaceae
 Menispermaceae
 Combretaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Asclepiadaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Dioscoreaceae
 Gnetaceae
 Convolvulaceae
 Convolvulaceae
 Convolvulaceae
 Asclepiadaceae
 Rubiaceae
 Asclepiadaceae
 Piperaceae
 Acanthaceae
 Menispermaceae
 Papilionaceae
 Vitaceae

Polypodiaceae

Polypodiaceae

Polypodiaceae

Polypodiaceae

Selaginellaceae

Accipitridae

Columbidae

Falconidae

Ardeidae

Chestnut headed bee-eater
Cormorant
Crimson breasted barbet
Crow
Crow pheasant^a
Drongo
Fly catcher
Golden oriole
Goldenback woodpecker
Green bee-eater
House sparrow
Indian robin
Kite
Lap wing
Large barbet
Little blue kingfisher
Little egret
Magpie robin
Munia
Myna
Pariah kite
Parrot
Pond heron
Purple sunbird
Ring dove
Rosering parakeet
Ruffoseback woodpecker
Shrike
Spotted dove
Swallows
Swift
Tailor bird
Tickle's flowerpecker
Tree pie
Warbler
Whiskered bulbul^k
White breasted kingfisher
White breasted water hen

Meropidae
Phalacrocoracidae
Capitonidae
Corvidae
Phasianidae
Dicuridae
Campephagidae
Oriolidae
Picidae
Meropidae
Ploceidae
Turdinae
Falconidae
Jacanidae
Capitonidae
Alcedinidae
Ardeidae
Turdinae
Ploceidae
Sturnidae
Falconidae
Psittacidae
Ardeidae
Nectariniidae
Columbidae
Psittacidae
Picidae
Laniidae
Columbidae
Hirundinidae
Apodidae
Turnidae
Dicaeidae
Corvidae
Campephagidae
Campephagidae
Alcedinidae

Insects (Butterflies and other insects)

Angeled pierro	Great egg fly
Atlas moth	Great orange tip
Baronet	Grey pansy
Blister beetle	Hawkmoth larva
Blue tiger	Hooded grasshopper
Brimstone	Immigrant
Cabbage white	Jewel beetle
Chocolate pansy	Leopard
Click beetle	Monkey puzzle
Commander	Moon moth
Common bush brown	Oak leaf blue
Common cerulean	Orange tip
Common crow	Owl moth catterpillar
Common five ring	Panther
Common gull	Peacock pansy
Common jizabel	Pioneer
Common mormon	Praying mantis
Common pierro	Psyche
Common rose	Red pierro
Common tiger	Robber fly
Common yellow	Sailor
Damsel fly	Skipper
Danid egg fly	Stone fly
Darkbank bushbrown	Stripped tiger
Day flying moth catterpillar	Tailed jay
Dragon fly	Technid fly
Fire ant	Trotoise shell beetle
Frog leg beetle	Tussock moth catterpillar
Giant woodspider	Wanderer
Glossy tiger	Wooly bearmoth catterpillar
Gram blue	Yamp fly
Grass demon	Yellow orange tip

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