

Wetland floral diversity of Devagad Island

*Divya Viswambharan¹, P. Laxmilatha², Miriam Paul Sreeram³

Mangalore Research Centre of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Mangaluru

Madras Research Centre of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Chennai

ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi

*e-mail: divyavis@yahoo.co.in

There are eight islands around Karwar in the Uttara Kannada District of Karnataka which are located between 14° 45' N to 14° 55' N and 74° 00' to 74° 07' 30" E. The Devagad Island, regionally known as Devagadagudda Island, is one such island with a reserve forest that covers 2.5 sq. km. with 41m elevation above Mean Sea Level (MSL). The climate is wet monsoon type, with average total rain fall of around 3000 mm/year and temperature range between 20 °C to 38 °C. Post-monsoon survey was conducted in the island for 5 months during September 2015 to January 2016 and a monsoon survey during August 2016 to assess the diversity of wetland flora associated with the island. The vegetation in the island is similar to that found in the Western Ghats. A small rock pool near the north

western side of the island harbours the single mangrove species *Avicennia officinalis* (Family Avicenniaceae) present in the Island. Along with this mangrove, seven mangrove associates were present (Table 1).

Table 1. Mangrove associates in Devagad Island

Common name	Scientific Name	Family
Rattle Pod	<i>Crotalaria sagittalis</i>	Fabaceae
Poison Wine	<i>Derris trifoliata</i>	Fabaceae
Portia Plant	<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	Malvaceae
Crown Flower	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>	Apocynaceae
Flat Edges	<i>Cyperus malaccensis</i>	Cyperaceae
Bush-Grapes	<i>Cayratia trifolia</i>	Vitaceae
Glory-Bower	<i>Volkameria inermis</i>	Lamiaceae