Survival threat to the Flora of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, India: An Assessment based on Regeneration Status

C. Sudhakar Reddy and Prachi Ugle

Forestry & Ecology Division, National Remote Sensing Agency, Balanagar, Hyderabad - 500 037, India Email: <u>csreddy_nrsa@rediffmail.com;</u> <u>drsudhakarreddy@gmail.com</u> Tel: 040 23884219

ABSTRACT: The present study investigates the regeneration status in tropical dry and moist deciduous forests of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Western Ghats, India. A total of 124 tree species were recorded in tropical deciduous forest system. Out of the 104 species (young and mature trees) recorded 28.8% showed good regeneration, 5.8% represented fair, 33.7% poor, 29.8% showed no regeneration and 6 (5.8%) were considered as new arrivals in moist deciduous forest. In the case of dry deciduous forest out of 86 (young and mature trees) 33.7% showed good regeneration, 3.5% fair, 16.3% poor, 17.4% showed no regeneration and 9 species (10.5%) were considered as new arrivals. Absence of Younger type of most of the species infers impact of anthropogenic disturbances such as recurrent forest fires, cattle grazing and biological invasion of exotic weeds on natural regeneration. The basic analysis may be considered here to be driven by two criteria: Species endemism and degree of threat, and therefore survival threat to the flora of the Mudumalai wildlife sanctuary was studied. [The Journal of American Science. 2009;5(1):74-84]. (ISSN: 1545-1003).

KEYWORDS: Regeneration, Dry deciduous, Moist deciduous, IVI, forest fires, Mudumalai, India.

INTRODUCTION

The degradation of tropical forests and destruction of habitats due to anthropogenic disturbances are a major cause of decline in global diversity. To compensate this decline, in many areas, restoration of degraded ecosystems is being taken up on a priority basis which will help in long term conservation of biodiversity of protected areas. Floristic inventory is an essential component in proper management measures so that a systematic monitoring process can be evaluated for changes that may have taken place in the protected areas due to biotic pressure from surrounding human influences.

The present study deals with the regeneration status of tree species in dry and moist deciduous forest types of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, which is a part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and is also under consideration by the UNSECO as World Heritage site. Tropical deciduous forests assume unusual significance for conservation since they are the most used and threatened ecosystems, especially in India (Janzen, D.H, 1986). In accordance with the International effort of large scale permanent plots, Indian Institute of Science and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) established a 50 ha plot in Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary for studying dry forests dynamics in 1988 (Sukumar *et al.* 1992, Joshi *et al.* 1997, Condit *et al.* 2000, Plotkin, 2000). The fire frequency in the sanctuary has been studied by Kodandapani *et al.* (2004). The flora of the sanctuary was prepared by Sharma (1977) and Suresh *et al.* (1996). Except these studies, the detailed assessment of regeneration status has not been studied so far in the whole sanctuary. This basic lack of information hampered the conservation prioritization of the area from various threats (Sudhakar & Reddy 2005) and according to the IUCN category of protected areas Mudumalai falls under category IV (Habitat/Species conservation) so such study was considered as significant with regard to the aspect of species conservation.

In general, regeneration of species is affected by anthropogenic factors (Khan and Tripathi 1989; Barik *et al.* 1996). Studies related to this field will contribute in planning, conservation and decision making in natural forest resource management. Natural regeneration is important as it addresses mainstream biodiversity concerns. (Ramesh *et al.* 2006). Such studies are relevant for studying natural regeneration mechanism. So, an attempt has been made to assess the regeneration status of Mudumalai wildlife sanctuary with reference to dry and moist deciduous forests.

STUDY AREA:

Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary lies on the northwestern side of Nilgiri hills about 80 km north – west of Coimbatore in the western part of Tamil Nadu, on the interstate boundaries with Karnataka and Kerela states in South India. It is situated between 11°32'-11°43'N, 76°22'-76°45'E. Originally 60 sq kms, the sanctuary was enlarged to 295 km² in 1956 and subsequently to its present size of 321 km². The park is contiguous with Bandipur National Park (874 km²), Wynad Wildlife Sanctuary (344 km²), Sigur and Singara reserve forests. Its topography is extremely varied and comprises of Hills, valleys, Ravines, Water courses and Swamps. The Moyar River finds its way through this sanctuary, gifting it a number of awesome cascades. The main forest types in Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary are Dry deciduous and Moist deciduous. Semi-evergreen, riparian and Scrub types are localized in distribution and represents minor part of the study area.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Phytosociological studies were carried out using quadrat method since it is the most widely used technique for the plant census. The data was collected from 36 and 25 randomly selected quadrats of 0.1 ha size with a sampling intensity of 0.03% for dry deciduous and moist deciduous types respectively. Trees measuring <30 cm GBH were considered as young ones (saplings) and >30 cm as mature (adults). One quadrat of 10 x 10 m was laid within 0.1 ha quadrat for recording number of young trees. Herbarium specimens were prepared and identified with the help of floras and confirmed with the specimens deposited at Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore. The spatial location (latitude, longitude and altitude) of each quadrat was collected using a Global Positioning System (GPS). Care has been taken to cover different elevation, slope, aspects, drainage density, rainfall and temperature gradients to study overall spectrum of tree species diversity and regeneration.

The data collected were analyzed to determine Relative values of density, frequency and abundance. The Importance Value Index for each species was also computed as the sum of the relative frequency, relative density and relative basal area (Cottam and Curtis, 1956; Phillips, 1959). The different indices such as Shannon diversity index (Shannon-Weaver, 1949), Simpson dominance index (Simpson, 1949) along with Margalef Species richness index (Margalef, 1958) was determined. Similarity between the two forest types was determined using Sorenson's index of similarity (Sorenson, 1948).

Regeneration status of species was determined based on population size of young ones (saplings) and matured trees (Khan *et al.* 1997; Uma Shankar, 2001; Ashalata *et al.* 2006). If a species is present only in adult form it is considered as not regenerating. Species are considered as 'new' if the species has no adults, but only young ones.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The present study focuses on the dry deciduous and moist deciduous forest types. To understand the status of regeneration, information on young ones (saplings) and mature trees was taken into account. Species endemism and degree of threat was also considered as one of the aspects to understand the survival threat to the flora of Mudumalai wildlife sanctuary.

A total of 124 tree species were recorded in tropical deciduous forest system. Of the 124 species recorded 104 species were of moist deciduous forest type, within this category 89 were belonging to mature stratum and 21 species to young category. 86 species were belonging to dry deciduous forest type 64 mature trees category and 22 species are belonging to young category.

The highest Shannon and Weiner index was observed for moist deciduous (4.90) followed by dry deciduous (3.94). The high value of 4.90 in case of Moist Deciduous was probably due to the association of various species in and along the riverine tracts. The highest Simpson Index of Dominance also observed for moist deciduous Forest (0.94) followed by dry deciduous (0.86). The highest Margalef index of Species richness was observed for moist deciduous (8.31) followed by dry deciduous type (6.28). Similarity index reveals that 83.9 % of floristic composition of dry deciduous forest is similar with moist deciduous forest. The stand density was 407 ha⁻¹ for moist deciduous followed by 406 ha⁻¹ for dry deciduous type and mean basal area was 36 m² ha–1 (table1). Growth forms, namely young and mature trees when considered with reference to density, young species were less abundant.

Out of the 104 species (young and mature trees) 28.8% showed good regeneration, 5.8% represented fair, 33.7% poor, 29.8% showed no regeneration and 6 species (5.8%) were considered as new arrivals in moist deciduous forest. In the case of dry deciduous forest 33.7% showed good

regeneration, 3.5% fair, 16.3% poor, 17.4% showed no regeneration and 9 (10.5%) species were considered as new arrivals.(table: 3).Complete absence of young tree species in a forest indicates poor regeneration, while presence of sufficient number of young individuals in a given species population indicates successful regeneration (Saxena and Singh 1984). In the present study under investigation out of the 104 species, 70 species showed no young category in moist deciduous type indicating that 67.3% indicating the overall regeneration status of the forest as poor and 44 species were not found in mature category (42.3%) in moist deciduous type and 76 species (88.4%) of mature trees were not found in dry deciduous forest type.

Absence of saplings of most of the species infers impact of anthropogenic disturbances such as recurrent forest fires, cattle grazing and biological invasion of exotic weeds (mainly *Lantana camara*) on natural regeneration. (Chandrasekhar *et al*). Six species were new (*Bauhinia racemosa, Bridelia crenulata, Cinnamommum* sp., *Croton oblongifolius, Murraya koenigii and Vernonia arborea*) which were not recorded in mature stratum in the moist deciduous type. But, *Murraya koenigii* is a small tree, which may not attain a girth of 30 cm and beyond. In the case of dry deciduous type *Acacia leucophloea, Atalantia monophylla, Casearia graveolens, Cordia wallichii, Lagerstroemia parviflora, Miliusa tomentosa, Soymida febrifuga, Tamarindus indica and Terminalia paniculata* were found to be new. Invasion of 'new' species indicates a possible outcome of co-existence.

The dominant tree species (which had higher values of IVI) for dry deciduous forest type are *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Tectona grandis*, *Terminalia alata* and *Phyllanthus emblica*. (table: 2). In young category *Anogeissus latifolia* (n=203), *Terminalia alata* (n=69) and *Tectona grandis* (n=36) represents fewer individuals. In the case of mature tree category *Anogeissus latifolia* (n=143), *Tectona grandis* (n=81) and *Terminalia alata* (n=61) represents high number of individuals.

The dominant tree species for moist deciduous forest are *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia microcarpa*, *Grewia tilifolia*, *Terminalia alata* and *Syzygium cumini*. (table 2). Analysis of young and mature tree species categories in this forest type also shows interesting results. Young trees showed Tectona grandis (n=52), *Grewia tilifolia* (n=56) with fewer individuals and *Lagerstroemia microcarpa* (n=72). In the case of mature trees *Tectona grandis* (n=59), *Lagerstroemia microcarpa* (n=46) and *Grewia tilifolia* (n=34) (table 3). Based on the relative proportion of young and mature trees the future community structure and regeneration status of dry and moist deciduous forest type could be predicted. Greater number of young category indicates that these species will persist and may determine the future composition of forest type.

In dry deciduous forest, *Shorea roxburghii* represents 1075 individuals in young category, but mature trees are about13. It indicates that in the past, *Shorea roxburghii* was exploited for timber (table 3).

Overall, regeneration was poor indicated by fewer young species in the forest. This may lead to the reduction of mature trees and hence change in the structure of the forest. Due to the less number of the young individuals there may be threat to the most of the tree species in near future. The species diversity was more, however, only a few species had more number of individuals as compared to the other species. Many rare, localized and old growth 'specialists' species may decline over time and regeneration can be adversely affected so there is a need for continuous monitoring of population dynamics on a long term basis in order to know whether a species is increasing, stable or declining. Grazing by resident as well as migratory livestock in and around the forest corridors, have adversely affected the forest regeneration and helped proliferation of weed species such as Lantana camara, Casia tora, C. occidentalis and Ageratum conyzoides. Livestock grazing, a major biotic interference in this forest corridor, originates from seven settlements of the Masinagudi group of villages on the eastern and the southeastern fringes of the sanctuary and this interference may in long run hamper the ecodevelopment which may affect long term conservation of species population. The endemic species found here include Cinnamomum sp, Ehretia canarensis and Glohidion velutinum, Actinodaphne malabarica, Bridelia crenulata, Deccania pubescens, Eriolaena quenquelocularis, and Terminalia paniculata, Dolichandrone arcuata, Syzygium malabaricum, Antidesma menasu, Lagerstroemia microcarpa, Litsea coriacea and Phyllanthus indofisheri. These species when correlated with regeneration status showed interesting results with in which Glochidion velutinum showed poor regeneration status, Ehretia canarensis as good followed by Cinnamomum s as new, Actinodaphne malabarica showed poor regeneration, Deccania pubescens and Eriolaena quenquelocularis as not regenerating, Terminalia paniculata as good, and Bridelia crenulata as new arrival. Syzygium malabaricum showed no regeneration and Antidesma menusa showed poor where as Dolichandrone

arcuta showed no regeneration. *Lagerstroemia microcarpa* was showing good regeneration followed by *Litsea coriacea* and *Phyllanthus indofisheri* showed poor regeneration.

Similar studies in other tropical forests shows reversible tendency as compared with present study. Konthoujam Lairembi sacred grove in North-East India, out of the 55 species, 15% showed good regeneration, 22% fair, 22% poor and 16% were not regenerating, while14 species (25%) were represented only by seedlings or saplings. The species falling under the last category were regarded as the new arrivals in this grove. In Mahabali grove out of 38 species, 7 (19%) showed good regeneration, while 6 (16%) and 5 (13%) species exhibited fair and poor regeneration, respectively. Two species (5%) showed no regeneration and 18 species (47%) were 'new' to this grove (Ashalata *et al.* 2006). However in the present study area higher percentage (47.1%) showed no regeneration in moist deciduous forest type emphasizing the need to evaluate the reasons for such higher percentage.

CONCLUSIONS:

The overall population structure of tree species reveals that mature populations dominate young populations and the fluctuation in population density is related to the anthropogenic factors. The population size of species that lack young trees may decline in the coming years. The forest type (moist deciduous and dry deciduous) which is characterized by abundance of mature tree strata of the species or absence or very low individuals of young type are expected to face local extinction if species conservation are not given priority at the earliest. Moreover, poor regeneration of tree species due to the existing anthropogenic factors endangers the future maintenance of the tree species which pose survival threat to the Flora of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary.

The present study suggests that high level of disturbances such as extraction of trees for timber, forest fire has brought a decline in plant communities. Regeneration is important as it addresses mainstream biodiversity concerns. In areas where protection measures are strictly employed, successful regeneration of natural forests is necessary, and therefore this study was carried out to know the regenerative capacity of natural forests.

Description	Dry Deciduous	Moist Deciduous	Total
No. Of Sample Points	36	25	61
No. of Tree Species	66	83	124
Density (stems/ha ⁻¹)	406	407	407
Basal area (m²/ha ⁻¹)	25	49	36
Species Diversity Index H'	3.94	4.90	4.42
Simpson Index	0.86	0.94	0.9
Margalef Species Richness Index	6.28	8.31	7.3
Similarity Index :			
Dry deciduous	-	83.9	
Moist Deciduous	-	-	

Table 1: Consolidated details of species inventory in dry and moist deciduous forest types of Mudumalai
Wildlife sanctuary, Western Ghats

		Dry Deciduous							
Sl.no.	Species	Relative Density	Relative Frequency	Relative Dominance	IVI				
1	Anogeissus latifolia	35.2	14.4	30.8	80.4				
2	Tectona grandis	19.8	11.52	33.9	65.3				
3	Terminalia alata	15.1	10.7	13.0	38.8				
4	Phyllanthus emblica	1.92	5.76	0.84	8.51				
5	Lagerstroemia microcarpa	1.98	4.9	1.31	8.23				
6	Shorea roxburghii	3.22	3.7	1.02	7.94				
7	Dalbergia latifolia	1.23	4.12	2.53	7.88				
8	Radermachera xylocarpa	1.57	2.06	2.57	6.20				
9	Ziziphus xylopyrus	1.98	3.29	0.47	5.75				
10	Buchanania lanzan	1.03	3.29	0.56	4.88				
			Moist Deciduo	us					
1	Tectona grandis	14.6	7.35	21.1	43.0				
2	Lagerstroemia microcarpa	11.4	6.53	15.2	33.2				
3	Grewia tiliifolia	8.26	6.94	9.37	24.6				
4	Terminalia alata	8.55	6.12	8.96	23.6				
5	Syzygium cumini	7.28	6.12	8.47	21.9				
6	Anogeissus latifolia	7.28	4.08	3.62	15.0				
7	Radermachera xylocarpa	4.03	2.45	5.66	12.1				
8	Schleichera oleosa	2.65	3.67	4.96	11.3				
9	Cassia fistula	5.21	3.67	0.41	9.30				
10	Bambusa arundinacea	5.51	2.04	0.40	7.94				

 Table 2: Ecological dominance of top ten species in dry deciduous and moist deciduous forest types of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Western Ghats

 Table 3: Percentage proportion of young and mature trees in dry and moist deciduous forest types of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary

			Moist I	Deciduou	is Forest		Dry Deciduous Forest					Total	
SL	Species	Your	ıg	Mature	Mature trees		You	ing	Mature trees		Status		
		NO.	%	NO.	%		NO.	%	NO.	%		NO.	%
1	Acacia chundra	1	7.1	-	-	Р	6	39.7	7	51.6	F	14	100
2	Acacia ferrugenia	-	-	1	12.9	N	6	71.7	1	17.9	G	8	100
3	Acacia leucophloea	-	-	-	-	-	3	100	-	-	NEW	3	100
4	Albizia amara	-	-	-	-	-	8	90.9	1	9.1	G	9	100
5	Actinodaphne malabarica	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
6	Albizia odoratissima	4	52.8	1	13.2	G	3	36.7	-	-	-	8	100
7	Anogeissus latifolia	8	2.1	30	7.7	F	203	52.9	143	37.3	G	383	100

8	Atalantia monophylla	1	32.7	-	-	Р	3	90.9	-	-	NEW	3	100
9	Anthocephalus chinense	1	100	-	-	Р	1	100	-	-	Р	1	100
10	Antidesma menasu	1	100	-	-	Р	_	-	-	-	-	1	100
11	Aporosa lindleyana	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
12	Bauhinia racemosa	28	63.9	-	-	NEW	14	31.7	2	4.4	G	44	100
13	Bambusa arundinacea	436	77.5	22	4.0	G	100	17.8	4	1	G	562	100
14	Bauhinia malabarica	1	50	-	-	Р	-	-	1	42	N	2	100
15	Bombax ceiba	-	-	1	100	N	1	100	-	-	Р	2	100
16	Bridelia crenulata	16	100	-	-	NEW	-	-	-	-	-	16	100
17	Bridelia montana	1	20	-	-	Р	3	55.6	1	11.1	G	5	100
18	Buchanania lanzan	4	5.5	1	1.4	G	64	88.2	4	5.8	G	72	100
19	Butea monosperma	28	84.9	1	3.0	G	3	8.4	1	4.2	G	33	100
20	Callicarpa tomentosa	1	33.3	2	66.6	F	-	-	-	-	-	3	100
21	Careya arborea	80	77.1	2	1.9	G	19	18.7	3	2.7	G	104	100
22	elliptica	2	53.6	1	26.8	G	3	74.4	1	14.9	G	4	100
23	esculenta	1	50	-	-	Р	1	28	-	-	Р	2	100
24	Casearia graveolens	1	25	-	-	Р	3	69.4	-	-	NEW	4	100
25	Cassia fistula	356	70.3	21	4.2	G	128	25.2	1	0.3	G	506	100
26	Cassine glauca	-	-	1	50	Ν	1	50	-	-	Р	2	100
27	Celtis tetrandra Celtis	12	80.0	2	10.6	G	1	6.7	-	-	Р	15	100
28	timoriensis	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
29	Cinnamomum sp Chionanthus	108	99.1	-	-	NEW	1	0.9	-	-	Р	109	100
30	malabarica Chloroxylon	-	-	5	26.1	N	14	69.7	1	4.2	G	20	100
31	swietenia Chukrasia	1	9.23	-	-	Р	6	51.3	5	48.7	G	11	100
32	tabularis	-	-	2	48	N	1	20	2	40	F	5	100
33	patulus Condin	1	50	-	-	Р	1	50	-	-	-	2	100
34	Cordia macleodii	-	-	2	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	2	100
35	Cordia obliqua	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
36	Cordia wallichii Croton	1	25	-	-	Р	3	69.4	-	-	NEW	4	100
37	oblongifolius Dalbergia	20	100	-	-	NEW	-	-	-	-	-	20	100
38	lanceolaria Dalheraja	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
39	latifolia	16	33.3	5	9.9	G	22	46.3	5	10.4	G	48	100
40	pubescens	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
41	montana	8	66.7	4	33.3	G	-	-	-	-	-	12	100
42	Dolichandrone arcuata	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	Ν	1	100

43	Ehretia canarensis	3	188	2	100	G	-	-	-	-	-	2	100
4.4	Elaeocarpus	4	76.0	1	22.0	C						-	100
44	Eriolaena	4	/6.9	1	23.0	G	-	-	-	-	-	5	100
45	quenquelocularis	-	-	1	100	Ν	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
46	Erythrina suberosa	4	90.9	1	22.7	G	-	-	-	-	-	4	100
47	Erythrina	4	05.5	1	21.2	G	1	21.4			Б	-	100
47	Euodia lunu-	4	85.5	1	21.5	G	1	21.4	-	-	P	5	100
48	ankenda Figur	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
49	benghalensis	-	-	1	100	Ν	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
50	Ficus hispida	4	55.6	3	44.4	G	-	-	-	-	-	7	100
51	Ficus mysorensis	1	50	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
52	Ficus racemosa	4	66.7	1	16.6	G	1	16.6	-	-	Р	6	100
53	Ficus tsjakela	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
54	Ficus virens	1	50	-	-	Р	1	50	-	-	Р	2	100
55	Firmiana colorata	2	200	1	100	G	-	_	-	-	-	1	100
50	Flacourtia			1	100	N						1	100
56	montana Gardenia	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
57	gummifera Candonia	4	80.0	1	20.0	G	-	-	-	-	-	5	100
58	latifolia	1	20	-	-	Р	3	55.6	1	20	G	5	100
59	Givotia rottleriformis	1	50	-	-	Р	-	-	1	28	N	2	100
60	Glochidion	1	100			D						1	100
00		1	100	-	-	r D	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
61	Gmelina arborea	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
62	Grewia tiliifolia Heterophragma	56	54.3	34	32.5	G	11	10.8	3	2.4	G	103	100
63	roxburghii	2	200	1	100	G	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
64	integrifolia	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
65	Ilex malabarica	1	25	-	-	Р	3	69.4	-	-	NEW	4	100
66	Kydia calycina	4	22.0	2	11.0	G	8	45.7	4	21.3	G	18	100
67	Lagerstroemia microcarpa	72	48.4	46	31.2	G	22	14.9	8	54	G	149	100
	Lagerstroemia				0112	5			0	0.1			100
68	parviflora Linociera	1	25	-	-	Р	3	69.4	-	-	NEW	4	100
69	malabarica	-	-	1	60	Ν	1	50	-	-	Р	2	100
70	Litsea coriacea	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
71	deccanensis	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
72	Madhuca indica	1	50	-	-	Р	-	-	1	42	N	2	100
73	Mallotus intermedius	-	-	1	100	Ν	-	-	_	-	-	1	100
74	Mallotus philippensis	12	80.0	2	16	G	1	6.7	-	-	Р	15	100
75	Mallotus			1	100	N	1	50			P	2	100
15	tetracoccos Mangifera	-	-	1	100	N	1	50	-	-	Р	2	100
76	indica Meliosma	4	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	4	100
77	pinnata	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	Ν	1	100

	Miliusa												
78	tomentosa	-	-	1	7.0	N	14	97.2	-	-	NEW	14	100
79	Mitragyna parvifolia	-	-	-	-	-	3	76.9	1	23.1	G	4	100
80	Murraya koenigii	24	100	-	-	NEW	-	-	-	-	-	24	100
81	Nothopegia beddomei	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	-	-	Р	1	100
82	Olea dioica	8	47.2	8	49 5	F	_	-	1	33	N	17	100
02	Ougeinia	0	77.2	0	47.5	1			1	5.5	11	17	100
83	ougenensis	4	43.0	3	30.1	G	-	-	3	26.9	N	9	100
84	Persea macrantha	-	-	2	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	2	100
85	Phyllanthus emblica	8	4.78	4	2.6	G	147	87.9	8	4.6	G	167	100
86	Phyllanthus indofisheri	1	7.69	-	-	Р	11	85.5	1	4.3	G	13	100
87	Premna tomentosa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	100	N	2	100
88	Pterocarpus marsupium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	Ν	1	100
80	Pittosporum floribum dum			1	100	N						1	100
89	Radermachera	-	-	1	100	IN	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
90	xylocarpa	-	-	16	72.0	N	-	-	6	28.0	Ν	23	100
91	Santalum album	-	-	-	-	-	11	62.5	7	37.5	G	18	100
92	candolleana	-	-	1	50	Ν	1	50	-	-	Р	2	100
	Schefflera												
93	venulosa Schleichera	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
94	oleosa Schrabara	24	62.0	11	27.9	G	3	7.2	1	2.9	G	39	100
95	swietenioides	2	16.7	1	10	G	6	46.3	3	27.8	G	12	100
96	Scolopia crenata	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
97	Shorea roxburghii	-	-	2	0.2	N	1075	98.7	13	1.2	G	1090	100
98	Soymida febrifuga	_	_	_	_	-	6	100	_	_	NEW	6	100
99	Sterculia guttata	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
100	Sterculia villosa	-	-	4	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	4	100
101	Stereospermum			1	79.0	N						1	100
101	Stereospermum	-	-	1	78.2	IN	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
102	personatum	4	66.7	2	33.3	G	-	-	-	-	-	6	100
103	Stereospermum suaveolens	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
104	Strychnos potatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	N	1	100
105	Syzygium operculatum	1	50	-	-	Р	-	-	1	28	N	2	100
106	Syzygium cumini	28	48.6	30	51.3	F	-	-	-	-	-	58	100
107	Syzygium malabaricum	-	-	1	100	Ν	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
108	Tamarindus indica	-	-	-	-	-	3	90.9	-	-	NEW	3	100
109	Tamilnadia uliginosa	1	1.04	-	-	Р	92	95.5	3	2.6	G	96	100
110	Tectona grandis	52	22.8	59	25.9	F	36	15.8	81	35.4	F	228	100
111	Terminalia alata	20	10.8	35	18.7	F	69	37.5	61	33.0	G	185	100
112	bellirica	4	61.0	2	30.5	G	-	-	1	8.5	Ν	7	100

	Terminalia												
113	paniculata	4	16.8	3	11.7	G	17	70.2	-	-	NEW	24	100
114	Toona ciliata	-	-	1	100	N	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
115	Trewia nudiflora	-	-	1	100	Ν	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
116	Trichilia connaroides	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
117	Vernonia arborea	4	100	-	-	NEW	-	-	-	-	-	4	100
118	Viburnum punctatum	1	73.8	-	-	Р	-	-	1	41.0	N	1	100
119	Vitex peduncularis	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
120	Vitex altissima	1	100	-	-	Р	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
121	Xylosma longifolium	1	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	1	100
122	Wendlandia thyrsoidea	-	-	1	100	Ν	-	-	-	-	-	1	100
123	Ziziphus mauritiana	1	16.4	-	-	Р	6	90.9	1	9.1	G	6	100
124	Ziziphus xylopyrus	12	9.9	1	0.8	N	100	82.7	8	6.7	G	121	100

F - Fair regeneration G - Good regeneration P - Poor regeneration N - No regeneration and

- Absence of young tree / mature tree.

Fig 1. Location map of Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary



8/7/2008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Authors are thankful to Dr. P.S. Roy, Deputy Director (RS&GIS-AA) and Dr. M.S.R. Murthy, Head, Forestry and Ecology Division, National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad for suggestions and encouragement. The authors also wish to thank Ministry of Environment and Forests for funding support.

Corresponding Author:

Dr. C. Sudhakar Reddy Scientist-SD, Forestry and Ecology Division, National Remote Sensing Agency, Balanagar, Hyderabad, India – 500037. Email: <u>csreddy_nrsa@rediffmail.com</u>; <u>drsudhakarreddy@gmail.com</u> Tel: 040 23884219

LITERATURE CITED

- 1. Anitha, K., P. Bala Subramanian and S.N. Prasad, 2007. Tree community structure and regeneration in Anaikatty Hills, Western Ghats. Indian Jour. Forestry 30(3): 315-324.
- Ashalata D, K. M.L. Khan and R.S. Tripathi. 2006. Biodiversity conservation in sacred groves of Manipur, northeast India: population structure and regeneration status of woody species. Biodiversity and Conservation 15:2439–2456.
- Barik S.K., P. Rao, R.S. Tripathi and H.N. Pandey, 1996. Dynamics of tree seedling population in a humid subtropical forest of northeast India as related to disturbances. Can. J. Forest Res. 26: 584–589.
- 4. Champion, H.G. and S.K. Seth, 1968. Revised Survey of Forest Types of India, New Delhi. Govt. of India.
- 5. Chandrashekar S., *et al.* Assessment of livestock grazing pressure in and around the elephant corridors in Mudumalai wildlife sanctuary vol.10, 1572- 9719 (online). Biodiversity and conservation journal.
- 6. Indu, K.M, K.S. Murali, G.T. Hegde, P.R. Bhat and N.H. Ravindranath. 2002. A comparative analysis of regeneration in natural forests and joint forest management plantations in Uttara Kannada district, Western Ghats. Curr. Sci. 83(11): 1358-1364.
- 7. Janzen, D.H. 1986. Biodiversity (ed. Wilson, E.O.), National Academy Press, Washington, 1986, pp. 130–137.
- Khan M.L. and R.S. Tripathi, 1989. Effects of stump diameter, stump height and sprout density on the sprout growth of four tree species in burnt and unburnt forest plots. Acta Oecol. 10(4): 303–316.
- Khan M.L., J.P.N. Rai and R.S. Tripathi, 1987. Population structure of some tree species in disturbed and protected sub-tropical forests of north-east India. Acta Oecol–Oec. Appl. 8(3): 247–255.
- Kodandapani, N., M.A. Cochrane and R. Sukumar, 2004. Conservation Threat of Increasing Fire Frequencies in the Western Ghats, India. Conservation Biology 18(6): 1553–1561.
- 11. Margalef, R .1958. Information theory in ecology. General Systematics. 3:36-71.
- Ramesh P., S. Mali, J.P. Tripathi, K. Vijay and M. Srinivas. 2006. Regeneration of teak forests under joint forest management in Gujarat. *Int. J. Environment and Sustainable Development* 5(1): 85-95.
- 13. Saxena A.K. and J.S. Singh, 1984. Tree population structure of certain Himalayan forest associations and implications concerning their future composition. Vegetation 58: 61–69.
- 14. Saxena A.K., S.P. Singh and J.S. Singh, 1984. Population structure of forest of Kumaon Himalaya: implications for management. J. Environ. Manag. 19: 307–324.
- 15. Shannon, C. E. and W. Weaver, 1949. The mathematical theory of communication, University Illinois press, Urbana, IL.
- 16. Sharma, S.D., Shetty, B.V., Vivekanandan, K., Radhakrishnan. N.C. 1978. Flora of Mudumalai Wildlife sanctuary, Tamil nadu. Jour. Bombay Natl. Hist. Soc. 75:13-42.
- 17. Simpson. E. M. 1949. Measurement of diversity. Nature, 163: 688.
- 18. Sorenson, T. 1948. A method of establishing groups of equal amplitude in a plant based on similarity of species content. K Dan. Vidensk. Selsk. 5: 1 34

- Sudhakar, S. and C.S. Reddy, 2005. Conservation of Ecologically Sensitive Areas Hotspots of India – An Integrated Approach through Remote Sensing and GIS, RSAM, ISRO, Bangalore. pp 68.
- 20. Suresh. H.S., H.S. Dattaraja and R. Sukumar, 1996. Tree flora of Mudumalai Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu, Southern India. Indian Forester, 122: 507 -519.
- Uma Shankar, 2001. A case study of high tree diversity in a Sal (*Shorea robusta*) dominated lowland forest of Eastern Himalaya: Floristic composition, regeneration and conservation. Curr. Sci. 81: 776–786

8/7/2008